

Senators Present: C. Agranoff, R. Baxandall, A. Blasius, L. Camnitzer, M. Casaccio, L. Collantes, J. Collett, M. Derby, M. Dolan, C. Etheridge, M. Feder-Marcus, J. Fernandez, C. Franco, K. Hall, N. Hegde, S. S. Hickey, R. Hoyte, J. Llana, S. Mahmoud, C. McIntyre, P. McKeegan, A. Mickens, R. Mukherji, M. Mulhare, President Pettigrew, N. Rosenthal, G. Seidman, A. Smith, S. von Winbush

Visitors Present: M. Bishop, J. Conforti, T. DelGiudice, K. Doll, O. Estes-Hicks, E. Ewen, E. Garrity, W. Goldstein, P. Impollonia, G. Johnson, C. Jones, M. Keizer, S. Khan, R. McVeigh, M. Metlay, L. Mund, J. O'Neill, A. Rabil, G. Wachman, P. Welcher, V. Wolfe, R. Zebroski

1. Minutes of April 23 Senate meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Samuel von Winbush proposed that the Senate proceed immediately with a special order of business. The Senate agreed. He then presented a resolution that the Faculty Senate request the Chancellor to grant the Chief Administrative Officer a twelve month sabbatical leave and to select an interim CAO "to work with the faculty to put the College at Old Westbury back on its track of being 'A Special Place.'" Ros Baxandall moved to table the motion. The vote to table was 20 for, 2 opposed, and 2 abstained.

3. Chair's Report Runi said she has just received the report of the visiting team from the State Faculty Senate and would distribute it as soon as copies are made.

4. Curriculum and Academic Planning Committee Maureen Feder-Marcus presented the first two items:

a. Degree in Criminology. The only issue was concern about the major being limited to transfer students who have already taken basic courses at other institutions. If the major is expanded to include students who begin their work at Old Westbury, then additional resources will be required. The vote on the resolution (FS-28) to approve the new degree: 20 for, 2 opposed, 2 abstained.

b. CAP proposed a resolution establishing minors at the College in order to increase options for students. The proposal includes restrictions on what kind of minors are possible: for example, they can only be offered by registered degree programs. Concern was expressed that some of the issues raised were the province of the Academic Policy Committee. CAP agreed to withdraw the resolution for now, and will consult with APC for any policy implications and bring back a joint resolution if necessary.

c. Gloria Young Sing represented CAP on the matter of the Language and Literature degree. English Language Studies raised the issue again of their proposal not being duly considered by the faculty. Naomi Rosenthal pointed out that ELS has not shown consideration for the Comparative Humanities Program, which teaches most of the courses that would be in the degree. Charshee McIntyre responded that ELS has agreed to take out all CH courses and circulated an outline of such a degree. After further discussion, Ros Baxandall proposed the following resolution:

"Whereas the ELS registered proposal for a B.A. in Language and Literature can enrich the curricular offerings at the College,

Be it resolved that the Old Westbury Senate approve the proposal as registered for implementation in Fall, 1993."

Onita Estes-Hicks then described the strengths of the ELS proposal, noting its emphasis on "new literary perspectives" that would appeal to Old Westbury students and prepare graduates to make an important contribution in the field.

Gloria Young Sing pointed out that the new proposal, minus CH courses, is commendable, but not the one registered by the State Education Department. On behalf of CAP, she offered a two-track degree, to be shared by ELS and CH, which would have a common core of courses and then an option for students to follow an ELS or a CH track.

Michler Bishop said that the ELS Program does not want a degree if it is passed merely out of pity for its members.

Narayan Hegde quoted from the ELS proposal on multiculturalism, then cited a course on the literature of India, which he described as colonialist, since it was limited to literature written in English.

Naomi Rosenthal expressed concern that our move to disciplinary programs will probably hurt the interdisciplinary programs, in this case CH. She proposed as a substitute resolution the resolution from CAP previously mailed to Senators providing for "a common core of courses and two degree options, one to be administered by English Language Studies and the other by Comparative Humanities." Gloria added that she believes the proposal offers a richer major for students and would be fair, since everyone is giving up something from their earlier positions.

Marie Metlay was concerned that we accept the substitute resolution so that we can stay within the parameters of the SED-approved degree. Liz Ewen argued against the substitute motion, saying that CH only became interested when it became a matter of "turf."

The question was called by a vote of 19 for, 1 opposed, and 1 abstained. The substitute resolution (FS-29) was approved by a vote of 16 for, 8 against.

5. Senate Committee on Faculty University Awards Bob Hoyte presented a revised version of the proposal for a new committee to recommend nominees for the various Distinguished Professorships and Excellence in Teaching Award. The core committee of 9 has been made more flexible, so that Associate Professors of at least 12 years service might serve. In addition, procedures to avoid possible conflicts of interest for the student member of the committee have been added.

Two additions were proposed at the meeting: 1. at the end of the paragraph on the Core Committee, the sentence, "In conformance with university guidelines, one of the nine members must be the Old Westbury Faculty Senate Chair or his/her

designee"; 2. at the end of the paragraph on the Expanded Committee, the sentence, "In addition there will be one member designated by the President to act in an ex officio capacity, in conformance with university guidelines."

There was further discussion of the composition of the committee and a suggestion that the whole matter might more appropriately be handled by RP&T. Bob Hoyte's resolution (FS-30) that the committee be established and that the bylaws be appropriately amended passed by voice vote, with one opposed.

7. Academic Policy Committee Tom Del Giudice, chair of the committee, proposed five policies (previously distributed to Senators):

a. a resolution for an alternative path to the residency requirement: a minimum of 12 summer credits would count as one semester towards the three semester requirement. Arguing that we should try not to encourage less than three full semesters, Naomi Rosenthal argued that this option should be judged on a case-by-case basis. Tom responded that the numbers involved would make this a very time-consuming and probably not very effective way to discourage students. The resolution (FS-31) was approved unanimously.

b. a resolution limiting the amount of credit/no credit courses a student could take to one for every 30 credits completed at Old Westbury. Comments on the proposal were largely disapproving, mainly on the basis that this changes an Old Westbury tradition, where students are encouraged to try out new areas of study without the pressure of letter grade. It was pointed out that individual departments can limit credit/no credit. The issue had been raised in the Middle States report. The resolution was defeated by voice vote, with one abstention.

c. a resolution for a readmissions policy which requires students not in good academic standing when they left the college to be evaluated for readmission by the Academic Standing Committee. Students who have been away from the College for five years or less will re-enter under the academic requirements in place at the time they were initially admitted. Students away from the College for more than five years will be subject to the requirements found in the Catalog at the time of their readmission. An amendment was offered that the readmission policy be applied to students who are returning after two or more semesters, not one. The resolution (FS-32), as amended, passed unanimously.

d. a resolution for a "forgiveness" policy that would allow students who have been away from the college for at least a year to apply for a purge of their previous GPA, if below 2.00, after they have completed 24 credits in good standing since readmission. Vice President Hall asked why not purge at the point of reentry to avoid a very low cumulative average that might

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automatically lead to suspension again. Tom responded that they will be flagged on reentry, but do have to prove that they are worthy of forgiveness. Ken Hall recommended that financial aid, the registrar, veteran's benefit representatives, etc., together work out procedures to prevent this problem.

Maureen Dolan was concerned that this policy was unfair to the A student who may want earlier C's purged. Tom responded that the original grades for readmits will still be on the transcript, but not computed towards GPA. Bob Hoyte noted that we might need two separate GPA's for internal and external audiences.

The Senate approved the resolution (FS-33) in principle, but asked the APC to work out procedures, taking into account the points raised in the discussion.

e. a resolution to confer degrees at the end of August for all students who have completed their graduation requirements by the end of the summer sessions. This resolution (FS-34) passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15.