

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting  
September 27, 2017  
567 Capen Hall

Attendance:

All proceedings of the meeting are recorded.

Meeting called to order by Chair pro-term, F. Doloresco at 3.00pm

Susan Dow raised a point of order: Motion to put the matter of 'censure resolution' on the agenda.

The Chair requested that the members refrain from discussing any details pertaining to this matter and called the question:

Should the matter of censure resolution brought forward by Susan Dow be added to the agenda as 'New Business'.

A secret ballot was carried out. Yay: 9 votes

Nay: 4 votes

Abstain: 2 votes

The motion was added to the new business on the agenda.

The agenda with the added new business was approved with 8 yay votes and 6 abstain.

Minutes of 5/24/2017 was approved unanimously.

**1. Chair's Report**

- a. On October 3, 2017 the Office of Shared Governance will conduct continuing education classes on 'safe zone and cultural competency training' at 107 Capen Hall, 1.30-4 pm. Reservations are required. The goal of this training is to create safe and affirming environments for all members of our community.
- b. In response to the bad press received by UB regarding Dennis Black and Andrea Constantino, President Tripathi informed the Faculty, Staff and students that Laura Hubbard spoke about systems of checks and balances in the UB financial system, fraud protection and whistle blower policies at the UB council meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>. She has been invited to repeat the presentation at upcoming FS and FSEC meetings.
- c. UB has been selected to host the spring 2018 UFS Plenary April 19-21<sup>st</sup>

- d. 1 Capen in North campus is open and functional, 'a one stop for student essential services offices.' The sister complex in south campus is 1 Dusseldorf. Scott Weber and Lee Melvin have been invited to update the FS and FSEC on the developments.
- e. Faculty Senate resolution passed unanimously to protect non-US citizens of the UB community was presented to President Tripathi. Professors Jim Lenker and Glick met with representatives from the President and Provost's office to reach a resolution regarding suggested changes.
- f. SUNY's 4<sup>th</sup> Campus Governance Leaders leadership conference will be held on October 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Albany.
- g. SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and the University Faculty Senate will be hosting a conference entitled "Engaging Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity in the Classroom, Campus and Community: Celebrating a Decade of Transformational Diversity Leadership" on November 29-December 1, 2017 at Albany.
- h. To help in the recovery process in wake of the devastation by hurricanes Harvey and Irma, please go to [Charity Navigator.org](http://CharityNavigator.org) for the list of best charities. Everyone was encouraged to be generous.
- i. SUNYSA will be co-sponsoring a rally on October 28 in support of the legislation for Governor Cuomo to sign the legislation to fully fund the SUNY MOE Bill.
- j. On October 19 and 20, the UB SUNY UFS Senators, CGL's will be will be attending the Fall UFS 177 Plenary meeting in Delhi NY.
- k. Suggestion was brought forward that all controversial resolutions should be subject to secret vote in the Senate. An FSEC or FS member can raise the issue by a "point of order" and ask for a vote by secret ballot, (RRO 10ed, section 45, item other methods of voting: .... ").

The report was unanimously accepted.

2. The Parliamentarian, Dr. James M Hassett presented his report. He spoke about FS, FSEC and standing orders. He said that the bylaws could change based on the changing requirements and the fabric of what happens at that point in time. A discussion ensued in response to which the Parliamentarian said that to get a topic on the agenda one should send it to the Chair ahead of time. It was noted that resolutions should be perfected before it is sent to the Senate. The Parliamentarian continued that it was a dynamic environment and it was up to the Chair to decide whether to change or modify.

3. Provost report: The Provost spoke about the protest by students on the North campus regarding graduate level stipends. He emphasized the importance of the PhDs who are the next generation scholars and that they are a vital part of the University. He gave data regarding the PhD stipends that were currently dispersed to the graduate students (38,000/yr) and mentioned that UB is ranked 12<sup>th</sup> among the general AAU organizations. He stated that there was a growing concern that the stipends are decided at the School/Department level and therefore variable depending on the flexibility in the Department/School.

Negotiations were ongoing to decide the best road to take to clarify the issue:

- a. whether to increase the stipend and decrease the number of graduate students making it more competitive
- b. to ask the graduate students to complete in a shorter time frame
- c. Either of these bringing another question to the forefront: how these changes were going to effect the undergraduate classes where the graduate students play an important role.

He also mentioned that educating graduate students was important to achieving our mission.

Graham Hammill, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, who was also present in the meeting, spoke about the 'Living wage movement'. He also agreed with the Provost as to the negotiations and the initiatives that were being considered to circumvent this glitch. They were working with the Dean and the Students of the English Department as a pilot study and will report the data by the end of October after which decisions on how to proceed will be considered. The other factors taken into account include:

- a. Effect on institutional reputation
- b. Undergraduate education
- c. Cost of attendance regarding financial aid needs clarification
- d. Analysis of adjunct pay.

Robert Granfield, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, will talk to the Senate about the data accrued. No date has been set.

Discussion followed as to graduate students as primary instructors, faculty retention, quality of research, minimum wage (which was corrected as the university give graduate students stipends and not wages).

4. Dr Beth Tauke (Architecture) presented objectives that she felt could improve the current system.

Her suggestions include:

a. Orientation for new members prior to first FSEC meeting.

b. Access of previous materials for the new members.

Dr Tauke suggested she add the discussion to her presentation and present it at the next meeting.

5. The new business was postponed to the next scheduled FSEC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4.30 pm.

Submitted by Jessy Alexander, Secretary of the Faculty Senate,  
September 27th, 2017

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