

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 31, 2001 (approved)

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The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met at 2:00 PM on October 31, 2001 in Capen 567 to consider the following agenda:

1. [Approval of the minutes of October 17, 2001](#)
2. [Report of the Chair](#)
3. [Report of the President/Provost](#)
4. [Update on the Athletics Program – Director Robert Arkeilpane](#)
5. [Report of the SUNY Senate meeting in Fredonia](#)
6. [Old/New Business](#)

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of October 17, 2001

The minutes of October 17, 2001 were approved.

Item 2: Report of the Chair

The Chair reminded the Executive Committee that Dr. Douglas Lederman, Managing Editor of The Chronicle of Higher Education, will be speaking at the November 6 meeting of the Faculty Senate. He will discuss challenges facing American higher education. The Chair has asked in particular that Dr. Lederman address issues arising from campus diversity and assessment; also, he has asked Dr. Lederman to discuss issues facing public versus private higher education. After his remarks, Dr. Lederman will respond to questions.

- Senators might want to have questions prepared to ensure a dialogue (Professor Nickerson)
- will ask about the use of adjuncts (Professor Cohen)
- seems to be a discrepancy in the figures for part time faculty as cited by Jean Dickson of the UUP

and the administration; what is the correct number? (Professor Malone)

· Faculty Senate Budget Priorities Committee is looking at the use of part time faculty; should distinguish between the Medical School's use of geographic part time faculty and other part time faculty (Provost Capaldi)

The Chair reported that he had dinner with students in Governor's Hall at the invitation of Professor Nickerson, Chair of the Student Life Committee. The Chair found it an interesting experience (though high cholesterol) and the students charming.

Item 3: Report of the President/Provost

The Provost reported that she has been busy raising money. She has gotten lots of support and commitments, but so far no firm money. Federal lobbying has been going well, and she hopes to see several bills emerge. New York continues to add to its budget, and she expects UB to benefit from that process. She has also been working with the private sector.

She attended a meeting on the implementation of the SUNY General Education requirements. As ground, SUNY Central has completed a study of the reality of transfer within SUNY, i.e., the number of transfer students in SUNY, academic success and time to graduation. In fact, transfers do well. SUNY Central has also committed itself to finding a way to track transfer students' progress in meeting the General Education requirements that will remove the onus of doing so from the individual campuses. She announced that Steve Poskanzer has been appointed Interim President of SUNY New Paltz. His absence at SUNY Central will be felt; he has been wonderful to work with.

She then ceded the floor to Associate Vice Provost Grant who presented a revision of the Spring Semester 2002 academic calendar in response to the Executive Committee's request for a reconsideration of the original calendar. He first noted that while the original calendar complied with SUNY Board of Trustees' regulations requiring a semester of 14 weeks, it did not comply with TAP regulations requiring a 15 week semester, inclusive of exams nor provide the 45 instructional hours for 1 hour of credit required by the Commissioner of Education. More importantly faculty have difficulty teaching within the shortened time frame.

At meetings of the Associate Vice Provost and Professors Baumer and Fournier, three approaches to the problem were initially discussed: leaving the calendar as it was, beginning the Spring Semester

one week early, or moving commencement weekend forward one week. The first approach was discarded. The second and third approaches had associated costs of \$200/250 K because of the need to have dorms and other services available for the extra week. Neither passing that cost on to students in the form of a surcharge nor the University absorbing the cost were palatable. The third alternative had the additional difficulty of being very disruptive of already made plans of students, families, and faculty and of UB's summer commitments.

A fourth approach seemed less objectionable, although not perfect, viz. scheduling an extra week of classes by eliminating reading days. Making the decision now would give students adequate notice. Conflicts arising from religious obligations can be handled using normal practices. This is the approach being recommended.

- those who teach on Mondays will lose one class (Professor Sridhar)
- if passed by the Faculty Senate, the Class Absence Policy would make this approach smoother (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- this semester is short one Thursday, a problem compounded by the canceling of classes on Tuesday September 11; Spring recess should be scheduled mid-semester, not set to coincide with Easter (Professor Boot)
- in my role as calendar maven, will gratefully receive any suggestions to make upcoming schedules better; will attempt to schedule equal numbers of weekdays; will follow the calendar of religious holidays promulgated by President Greiner (Associate Vice Provost Grant)
- will exams be scheduled all day on Saturday May 4 and Sunday May 5? (Dr. Coles)
- yes; will, however, attempt to have exam schedules included in the course schedule (Associate Vice Provost Grant)

There was a motion (seconded) to approve the revised calendar for Spring Semester 2001. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: Update on the Athletics Program

The University's athletics program, like its academic programs, is subject to outside certification. Robert Arkeilpane, Director of the Division of Athletics, described the National Collegiate Athletic Association's Division I Athletics Certification Program

<<http://www.ubathletics.buffalo.edu/certification/>>.

In 1993 UB underwent its first certification and is now preparing for its second in 2003. Certification is a high profile, institution wide effort. A Steering Committee, chaired by Dean Ricotta, is overseeing a thorough self-study. The Steering Committee has four subcommittees: the Subcommittee on Fiscal Integrity; the Subcommittee on Academic Integrity; the Subcommittee on Governance and Rules Compliance; and the Subcommittee on Equity, Welfare and Sportsmanship. By Fall 2002 a report will be submitted to an external peer review team appointed by the NCAA. The review team will come to campus to verify the report and will then decide whether to certify UB.

- NCAA accreditation is very akin to and as complicated as the Middle States review (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- delayed UB's NCAA certification to coincide with the Middle States review (Director Arkeilpane)
- at what point would you decide that compliance with NCAA requirements was too arduous to be worthwhile; I thought the requirement to build a 30K seat stadium qualified (Professor Boot)
- decision on continued participation in the NCAA is an institutional decision (Director Arkeilpane)
- NCAA did not require building the stadium, but rather imposed attendance requirements; UB chose the strategy of building the stadium (Professor Fournier)
- stadium was actually built for the World University Games and only expanded because of NCAA issues (Professor Adams-Volpe)
- are additional, large capital expenditures anticipated? (Professor Shibley)
- no mandatory ones; will rely on private philanthropy to fund future expansions and upgrades (Director Arkeilpane)

Director Arkeilpane then turned to possible changes in the requirements for membership in Division I A. For example, an institution may be required to offer a minimum of 16 sports; UB currently offers 20. An institution may be required to offer a specific number of grants in aid; UB is now above the minimum being discussed. An institution may be required to schedule a minimum number of Division IA games in its stadium; UB now gets four because of its membership in the Mid American Conference, and that number will increase to 5. An institution may be required to have an average attendance of 15K. UB is weakest in this area; while attendance is currently averaging 15K, attendance will drop as the weather changes.

- attendance will increase as the team gets better; are there plans to develop ice hockey at UB?

(Professor Sridhar)

- current attendance is a good indicator that, when our record is better, we will have adequate attendance; for equity reasons would have to offer both men and women's ice hockey, and because of the expense we have no plans to do so (Director Arkeilpane)
- how do you recruit athletes? (Professor Cohen)
- differs by sport; recruit first within New York to encourage local fan support; out of state recruits may be brought to UB's attention by alumni, coaches, etc.; look at a recruit's academic as well as sport skills because we want our athletes to do well and graduate; often there is a correlation between the two skills (Director Arkeilpane)
- student-athletes in my Gen. Ed. Class have aggressively pressured me to change grades to allow them to continue playing (Professor Noble)
- the faculty representative to Athletics should have been informed so the matter could have been pursued; that kind of behavior could lead to expulsion from Athletics (Professors Malone and Fournier)
- important that our student-athletes be held to the same standard as any other student (Director Arkeilpane)
- my experience with UB student-athletes is that they are usually good students; in another institution where I previously taught, that was not the case (Professor Sridhar)
- have a very strong academic advising component to support the students (Director Arkeilpane)
- many students take six years to graduate; how many years is a student eligible to play? (Professor Cohen)
- four years within a five/six year window (Director Arkeilpane)
- how many coaches do we have? (Professor Boot)
- fifteen coaches who each have at least one assistant; football has nine assistants; all coaches have a Bachelor's degree, most also have a Master's (Director Arkeilpane)
- most of UB's out of state undergraduates are athletes (Professor Fournier)

Professor Michaels, Assistant Athletic Director, is responsible for intramural and recreational sports. There are five categories of intramural and recreational sports of which open, or drop-in, recreation is the most popular. There are also structured, fee based sports; for example, UB FIT is the faculty/staff wellness program. Intramural sports are usually officiated and are league play in nature,

leading to championships. Last year 9K students participated in the intramural program. Sport clubs are initiated and managed in part by students, receiving assistance from Athletics for scheduling, finances, and risk management policies. Recreational instruction is a large program, offering some 55 classes in specific sport skills or in lifetime recreation skills for academic credit. 1,500 students register each semester although UB has no athletics requirement. Also offered are four theory classes leading to certification for coaching in New York schools.

- when was the athletic requirement dropped? (Professor Cohen)
- 8 years ago; was an administrative decision; glad that we continue to offer courses as electives (Professor Michaels)
- are there Summer programs? (Dr. Durand)
- offer much the same programs in the Summer with the addition of softball; year round do community outreach, primarily at Clark Hall (Professor Michaels)
- why is the Clark Hall pool available to faculty and staff for many fewer hours than the North Campus pool? (Professor Noble)
- usage of Clark Hall is only 20% that of North Campus facilities; will look at the situation to see if we can do better (Professor Michaels)
- what are the plans for athletic development along the Lee Road Corridor (Dr. Coles)
- a stand alone sports facility with no connection to intercollegiate athletics is being discussed; would contain facilities for fitness, wall climbing, racquetball, squash, water slides and an enhanced pool; such facilities are available on many campuses and on average cost \$24/26 M.; need at least 200K sq. ft. to satisfy campus needs (Professor Michaels)
- the Fitness Center and the dressing rooms in the Alumni Arena should be air conditioned in the Summer (Professor Hopkins)
- with added housing on campus, recreational needs have increased; most Division I A schools have such recreation centers (Professor Sridhar)
- consider not charging faculty/staff for using athletics facilities (Professor Boot)
- faculty/staff pay \$150 annually which is very affordable; additionally faculty/staff can use the facilities from 7-8 AM and from 12-1 PM without charge; students, however, pay about \$300 in athletic fees; politically it would be difficult to waive all fees for faculty/staff (Professor Michaels)
- would student fees increase to support a recreation facility? (Professor Farkas)

- students would be assessed a fee to pay for construction and/or operations; Athletics has a break even budget much of which comes from fees (Professor Michaels)
- UB's athletics fees are mid-range among peer institutions in the Mid American Conference (Director Arkeilpane)
- would require \$2.6 M. just to meet the capital and interest costs of building a \$26 M facility; prorating to \$150/student (Professor Baumer)
- broad consultation would occur before deciding to build a recreation facility (Professor Michaels)

Item 5: Report of the SUNY Senate meeting in Fredonia

Professor Nickerson reported on the October 26-October 27 meeting of the SUNY Senate:

Ø the SUNY Senate has established a web site

<<http://www.SUNYCGCC.edu/faculty/jones/UFS/index.CFM>>

Ø Steve Poskanzer, formerly SUNY Senior Vice Provost, has been replaced by Don Steven

Ø the Board of Trustees' Academic Standards Committee, chaired by Trustee de Russy, will be looking at issues of excellence and faculty development

Ø four additional teaching faculty will be added to SUNY's General Education Assessment Review Group (GEAR) which assesses teaching and learning; each campus is required to submit a plan to Albany for assessing its teaching and learning, which plan must have been approved by the institution's Faculty Senate; the deadline for submitting reports has been extended to March 31

Ø only 15% of AA and AS graduates from the SUNY two year colleges transfer to SUNY four year institutions; initiatives to raise that percentage are planned

Ø SUNY's zero based budgeting formula has worked to UB's benefit; other campuses have not done as well but have been held harmless from budget losses; the negative consequences of that policy are now becoming evident

Ø SUNY Central will add an incentive of 20% to the total of an institution's sponsored research as funded through the Research Foundation, based on a three year weighted average of direct costs

Ø David DeMarco, SUNY's chief financial officer, reported that the hiring freeze imposed on State agencies does not apply to SUNY; however, he is consulting with the Division of the Budget as to ambiguities in the law

Ø a retirement incentive is likely, but it may differ from previous incentives which allowed SUNY to keep the lines vacated by retirement

Ø there is no indication of a undergraduate tuition increase though the tuition for some professional programs has been increased

Ø Jon Wergin, Virginia Commonwealth University, gave an excellent presentation entitled "Academic Program Review: What We've Learned"

Ø the Senate passed a resolution recommending that the President of the University Faculty Senate or his designee be invited to serve on all System Administration committees, task forces, and other consultative bodies

Ø the Senate passed a resolution adopting the Guide for the Evaluation of Undergraduate Programs which governs the reporting out of local assessment to SUNY

Ø the call letter from the Division of the Budget indicates that next year there will be no increase in state support for SUNY, including no additional funding for contractual salary increases

· that would be the equivalent of a budget decrease (Dr. Coles)

Ø the Senate defeated a resolution calling on the Chancellor to support a tuition increase for 2002/2003

Item 6: Old/New Business

The Chair noted that the call for nominations has gone out for the election of a new Secretary. He announced that he and previous Chairs of the Faculty Senate will be meeting with the Provost to discuss the Educational Programs and Policy Committee.

There being no other old/new business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn McMann Kramer

Secretary of Faculty Senate

Present: Chair: M. Cohen

Secretary: M. Kramer

Parliamentarian: D. Malone

Architecture: R. Shibley

Arts & Sciences: W. Baumer, J. Bono, C. Fournier

Dental Medicine: J. Zambon

Engineering & Applied Sciences: R. Sridhar

Graduate School of Education: L. Malave

Health Related Professions: G. Farkas

School of Informatics: J. Ellison

Management: J. Boot

Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: C. Granger, B. Noble, A. El Sohl

Pharmacy: A. Luzier

SUNY Senators: J. Adams-Volpe, J. Boot, H. Durand, P. Nickerson

University Libraries: J. Hopkins

University Officers:

E. Capaldi, Provost

Guests: L. Stewart, Office of Equity, Diversity and Affirmative Action

R. Patel, Programming Coordinator, Graduate Student Association

W. Coles, Chair, Professional Staff Senate

S. Wuetcher, Reporter

S. Paulson, The Spectrum

K. Purdy, The Spectrum

R. Arkeilpane, Director, Division of Athletics

E. Michaels, Associate Director, Division of Athletics

K. Grant, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Excused: Medicine & Biomedical Sciences: S. Spurgeon