



University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
March 25, 2015

CHAIR:

Ezra B. W. Zubrow

SECRETARY:

Cynthia Tysick

ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:

Ernest Sternberg (excused)

ARTS & SCIENCES:

Alex Anas

Michael Cowen

Stephen Dyson

Peter Morgan

Paul Zarembka (excused)

DENTAL MEDICINE:

Michael Hatton

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:

Joseph Mollendorf

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:

Lynne Yang

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Jim Lenker

LAW:

TBD

MANAGEMENT:

Larry Sanders

MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Michael Chaskes

Peter Elkin (excused)

Richard Gronostajski
Gabriela Popescu

NURSING:

Grace Dean

PHARMACY:

Fred Doloresco

SOCIAL WORK:

Robert Keefe (excused)

SUNY SENATORS:

Henry Durand (excused)

Kathleen Kielar

Robert Van Wicklin

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

Glendora Johnson-Cooper

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

Richard Gronostajski

GUESTS:

Ann Marie Landel, Professional Staff Senate

Chair-elect Phil Glick, Medicine

Ashley In Kumsah, the Spectrum

Tom Dink, the Spectrum

Dr. James Jensen, Engineering

1. Minutes from 3/4/15 approved
2. Chair's Report:
 - Attended National Education Association & National Association of Teachers joint conference
 - Common Core is drifting into public higher education
 - Economists & financial experts at the conference discussed the corporatization of pension funds like TIAA-CREF
 1. Public pensions managed by corporate entities take 2% management fee and 20% off all profits made on the funds.
 2. TIAA-CREF, when pressed, said that different states had different rules as to how much of the profits a funds management company could take.
 - Withholding public higher education funds-there was considerable debate/talk about a governor's right to withhold a portion of funds already earmarked for public higher education and use it as a political bargaining chip to get what s/he wants.
 - Diversity policies as a way to close a campus. A couple of cases were highlighted where tenured faculty were let go by questioning how representative of the student body they were. In those cases the campus was closed for a short period of time and all faculty had to re-apply for their jobs, now non-tenured, while the students did not have to re-apply to the school they were automatically allowed back. This has happened in 4-5 states.
3. Faculty Senate Teaching and Learning Committee Report (Dr. James Jensen)
 - Fall the committee had begun tackling issues that they had discussed at the end of the previous semester when the Undergraduate General Education Reform resolution suddenly came up. The committee then had numerous meetings with Andy Stott. The members brought issues and concerns back to Andy to address in the new program. Some of those issues were around the thematic clusters and experiential learning.
 - This spring the committee is back to focusing on the issues we had earmarked last year such as the Upcoming CEI events (October), addressing the lack of defined experiential learning at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and the content for the General Education two sequence course, Communication Literacy I and II.
 - Kielar: The Governor has a line in the budget for experiential learning and the Chancellor is looking at UB's new Undergraduate General Education curriculum as a model for embedding experiential learning.
 - Molledorf: What is the definition of experiential learning?
 1. Jensen: Students interacting in a meaningful way within the tenets of their discipline.

- Glick: Doesn't Mara Huber define it as solely an internship? After all, the governor has says he wants people employed.
 1. Jensen: We are an academic institution and as such some disciplines like Philosophy may not easily lend itself to an internship model for experiential learning, but they can come up with ways for their students to meaningfully engage and interact with the faculty and tenets of their chosen field.
 - Hatton: Medicine, dentistry, nursing are examples that already have benchmarking. How do you measure outcomes?
 1. Jensen: faculty in the department must be involved in determining how to measure outcomes and must be committed to mentoring their students.
 2. Tysick: mentioned the group had heard that some consider the ePortfolio as experiential because students use that throughout their four years here to document and reflect on their education and the process they went through.
 - Popescu: How do you decide on what to work on?
 1. Jensen: the co-chair and I host an annual brainstorming session at the end of the academic year to ask committee members what we should work on for the upcoming year. Sometimes big issues come up like the definition of experiential learning and General Education and sometimes members just have things that have been brought up by their colleagues, like educational technology needs of faculty. The committee is always open to suggestions from faculty senators.
 - Ezra: this committee has always been one of the best organized and productive.
 - Glick: asked Jensen to come back more regularly to report what's going on and get direction from FSEC.
 1. Tysick: reminded Glick that as a member of FSEC she is the designated liaison to the committee and has reported on the committees work this past academic year.
4. Bylaws Committee (Dr. Richard Gronostajski)
- Was charged by FSEC to determine how to do business when there is no quorum.
 - Membership is Dr. Hassett (Medicine) and Dr. Glick (Medicine)
 - The committee came up with 10 ways to improve the faculty senate and faculty senate executive committee but whittled it down to three.
 - Limit questions and comments to 2 minutes per person (someone can yield their time to another person).
 - Limit the reports from the President, the Provost, and the Chair to 10 minutes.
 - Quorum issue can be resolved by allowing the voting faculty to vote on any issue electronically.

- Glick: we can get voting faculty to actively participate, which they don't do now. We are trying to make faculty senate more participatory.
 1. Yang: Are you proposing these amendments as one or individually.
 - a. Gronostajski: individually
 2. Randel: commented on her experience with Professional Senate on electronic voting in terms of security and validity, pointing out that at this time validating a vote is still done manually.
 - a. Gronostajski: Recommended Survey Monkey for getting surveys to the faculty, not for voting.
 - b. Popescu: was against that due to security issues.
 - c. Tysick: had spoken to Campus Labs, a survey software on campus that is used for student life and CIT surveys about using it for voting faculty and faculty senate voting and the director was open to discussing how to make that work.
 - d. Mollendorf: you can authenticate the UB Learns using your UB ID.
 - e. Ezra: yes but the UB Learns doesn't determine if you are authorized faculty or not and UUP does not agree with UB as to who is or is not voting faculty.
 - Glick: Does the bylaws say we have to make these amendments through the faculty senate?
 1. Tysick: Yes, Article VII of the Bylaws states how amendments should be handled. The first order of business is each amendment needs to be clearly written and given the Secretary. From there she was unclear if it went to FSEC and then Faculty Senate but would check once she received the amendments.
5. Textbook resolution.
- At this point Dr. Sternberg is still working with other members of the ad-hoc committee to draft a resolution but they are close and will have one for FSEC to look at and forward to the faculty senate May meeting.
6. SUNY Old Westbury resolution was presented by Ezra (see appendix i). They have asked all SUNY faculty senates to endorse their resolution. If FSEC approves Ezra will contact the head of the Old Westbury faculty senate with our endorsement. Their hope is that this will then go forward to the SUNY-wide Senate.
- Glick: this is timely and we need to act quickly.
 - Johnson-Cooper: I propose a resolution that the FSEC support the Old Westbury resolution. Dyson 2nd the motion

- Ezra: cautioned the wording due to the Old Westbury line about rational tuition and explained how UB2020's rational tuition monies are redistributed to students on TAP and other financial aid so as to not negatively impact them.
- Glick: I would like to amend the resolution to include "in the context of fully supporting UB2020". Sanders 2nd the motion to amend.
- Tysick: read the full amended motion before the vote was taken. "The UB Faculty Senate Executive Committee supports the Old Westbury resolution in the context of fully supporting UB2020".
- **Motion was approved.**
- Lenker: just to be clear Ezra, you will tell Old Westbury's Faculty Senate Chair that we support their resolution but also communicate our reservations regarding rational tuition.
 - Ezra: Yes, I will be very clear on that point.

At this point the committee went into executive session to appoint committee members for the following:

- Budget Priorities
- Bylaws
- Equity and Diversity
- Academic Policies and Grading
- Tenure, Promotions and Privileges

Meeting adjourned at 4:50pm

Submitted by
Cynthia Tysick,
Secretary to the Faculty Senate
03/26/2015
modified by RMG 04/03/2015