

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 9, 2014

CHAIR:

Ezra B. W. Zubrow

SECRETARY:

Edward Herman

ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:

Ernest Sternberg

ARTS & SCIENCES:

Kenneth Dauber

Stephen Dyson

Peter Morgan

Paul Zarembka

DENTAL MEDICINE:

Elaine Davis

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:

Adly Fam

Joseph Mollendorf

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:

Lynne Yang

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Robert Burkard

LAW:

Martha McCluskey

MANAGEMENT:

Larry Sanders

MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Yogesh Bakhai

Michael Chaskes

James Hassett

Gabriela Popescu

NURSING:

Grace Dean (Excused)

PHARMACY:

Alice Ceacareanu

SOCIAL WORK:

Robert Keefe

Barbara Rittner

SUNY SENATORS:

Adly Fam

Donald Grinde

Kathleen Kielar (Excused)

Peter Nickerson (Excused)

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

Beth Adelman

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

William H. Baumer

GUESTS:

EDAAA:

Sharon Nolan-Weiss

Professional Staff Senate:

Ann Marie Landel

Provost:

Charles (Chip) Zukoski

OTHER GUESTS:

John Wood, Senior Associate Vice Provost for International Education

1. FSEC approved the minutes of March 26, 2014 with an amendment.

2. Chair's Report

- Zubrow expects the new NYSUT administration to be more interested in higher education. Tom Tucker, President of the Buffalo Center Chapter, is on the new NYSUT Executive Board.
- Except for the Committee on Equity and Diversity, all new committees have either met or are planning their initial meetings.

3. FSEC discussed how its agenda items ought to be brought to the floor. Suggested items should be emailed to Anna Kedzierski three days before meetings. When meeting, the Chair will ask FSEC members to vote on considering the suggestions for discussion.

4. G. Popescu brought a motion to floor asking FSEC to evaluate its performance during the past year and consider possible agenda items for next year. FSEC approved unanimously.

5. Provost's Report

- The Middle States Accreditation Team was upbeat about UB at their exit interview. UB still has much to do in assessing learning outcomes, but the Committee thought our plans were well thought out. Zukoski expects the University to maintain its accreditation.
- Zukoski will hold open forums with all decanal units to get input about the Communities of Excellence and curriculum distinction. A video of one meeting will be put online for all to view. The Provost's goal is to guarantee communication about the issues.
- UB will have its Student Achievement celebration in the Center for the Arts on April 23.
- The Provost and Laura Hubbard will give two presentations before FSEC about UB's budget (the identical presentation given to the Joint Budget Priorities Committee) and an overview of the UBF budget.

6. FSEC passed a motion introduced by P. Zarembka to amend the draft agenda for the April 15 Faculty Senate meeting. He moved that the agenda include an item, with plenty of time to discuss, concerning President Tripathi's response to the Senate resolution on opening foundation books.

7. Resolutions. FSEC considered two of the four motions on the agenda: edTPA (Educational Teacher Performance Assessment) and the Singapore tax situation. The Chair explained that FSEC could vote on the motions, send them to committees, modify them, or disregard them.

- edTPA (Appendix 1)

- The University Senate and UUP are united against the proposal. Responding to R. Burkard and D. Grinde who asked if there were statewide consultations about the issues, Zubrow said all parties within SUNY were consulted and are unified behind the resolution. However, he was uncertain if private colleges were consulted.
- D. Grinde asked about the position of the Graduate School of Education. Lynn Yang summarized the feelings of a colleague with whom she consulted. Implementation ought to be postponed, since teacher preparation programs are not given sufficient time to make changes. The State Education Department has not responded to questions from GSE.

On the positive side, Yang said parts of the proposal are educationally sound and potentially beneficial. She did not think the proposal infringes upon academic freedom as stated in the resolution. (The SUNY Faculty Senate passed the resolution which is also supported by several UUP chapters.)

- J. Mollendorf asked what problem(s)/issue(s) edTPA was addressing, but no one had an answer.
- The starting date for edTPA is May1, but training for its implementation has not taken place.
- Given the current situation, Zubrow thought that half the students taking the test would fail.
- FSEC was unhappy that a private company, Pearson Inc., has sole control over administering the test.
- K. Dauber and E. Herman both thought that FSEC should take a stand against edTPA in solidarity with the University Senate and UUP. E. Sternberg argued acting in solidarity without appropriate background information is troubling.
- FSEC defeated E. Sternberg's motion to forward the resolution to the Teaching and Learning Committee.

FSEC voted to accept the resolution (12 yeas, 8 nays) and voted unanimously to put it on the next Faculty Senate agenda.

- Resolution concerning unexpected income tax liabilities for University at Buffalo instructors in Singapore. (Appendix 2)
 - J. Wood, Senior Associate Vice Provost for International Education, explained that UB instructors teaching in Singapore do not have contracts, but appointment letters that make employees responsible for tax liabilities. It

is not a binding commitment. Only one person received the emergency loan Morgan requested for all. UB will not offer everyone emergency loans and then forgive them as the resolution requests.

- Replying to J. Hasset who asked about the number of faculty involved, Wood said that there are fewer than twenty.
- J. Mollendorf asked about the total amount of money involved, but that was unknown.

FSEC voted against the resolution (4 yeas, 9 nays), and will not send it to the Faculty Senate.

8. Agenda, Faculty Senate meeting on April 15. (Appendix 3)

[Appendix 1](#)

[Appendix 2](#)

[Appendix 3](#)

Prepared by
Edward Herman,
Secretary to the Faculty Senate