

Minutes from 9/7/16 approved with correction

1. Chair's Report

- Overview on how to get access to documents.
- SUNY Plenary, UB has 16 people going!
- Academic Freedom/Freedom of Expression Resolution discussion. Chair will ask both Academic Planning & Assessment and Academic Freedom and Responsibility committees to craft another resolution that does not read as policy. It must “stake out moral high ground” at UB. Therefore, the resolution passed by FS last spring will not be approved by University administration. Terri Miller will craft a statement on principles of community.
 - Some questions arose as to what we are being asked to craft and the process. The Chair said that the CAS policy on which part of the resolution was based will stand but that statement can't go beyond CAS.
 - It was asked if FS can have a resolution AND Terri Miller's statement on principles. Chair did not directly answer the question but stated that a Freedom of Expression statement or policy needed to be inclusive, welcoming and not threatening to people.
 - Members argued that Academic Freedom and Freedom of Expression are 2 separate things. The difficulty to FS was that the art project that precipitated the resolution wove together both.
 - The faculty's right to speak from academic experience in their classroom gives them the responsibility to take that into consideration when they speak in the community.
- EOC issue is resolved, they get one senate on both FS and FSEC.
- The Chair would like to proceed with the Faculty survey and is asking the Engagement Committee to conduct it this year.
- The Chair would like the FS to tackle the Tobacco Free Campus issue by supporting the UBreathe Free campaign.

2. Popescu presented discussion on bringing a mentoring program resolution to the FS.

- Granfield (VP Faculty Affairs) surveyed faculty and reported no uniform mentoring happening campus-wide.
- Tenure, Promotion and Privileges committee would like to have a policy to help mentoring efforts across the campus. This is especially important for Associates wishing to seek promotion.
 - Faculty workload issues for those who mentor?
 - What of departments with a majority of new, junior faculty? How do their senior faculty manage the responsibilities of mentoring when there are no financial or other resources available?
 - Chair responded to both concerns that mentoring speaks to the heart of what we do. If we don't have that in our DNA we are not true academics.
- The School of Social Work is hosting a mentoring workshop next week. Faculty are urged to attend.
- Open discussion:
 - Popescu argued that the purpose is not to burden people with “busy work” and that the first step is to recognize the importance of mentoring.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes 9/14/16

- Malave said that the university just hasn't allocated resources for real mentoring programs.
 - Tsianou said that mentoring ebbs and flows at UB and we also need assessment and feedback mechanisms in place to improve any program created.
 - The Chair pointed out that post-tenure people languish for decades to try to get to the next level, thus need mentoring.
 - Sternberg countered with being against the resolution because it could intimidate junior faculty. They should be free to choose who and where they will be mentored.
 - Pados asked if someone could NOT be mentored, opt-out. Popescu said no it would be mandatory for all junior faculty in their 5th year.
 - Tysick asked if the number of committee members (12) represented the number of units. Popescu indicated it did at which point Tysick proposed an amendment to increase the number of members to 14, to take into consideration that there were faculty not just in the academic units but also in the libraries and EOC, which are both academic administrative/support units. **The amendment was approved.**
 - The question was called and **passed** 12 to 4
3. Committee went into Executive session at 4:10p to appoint committee members to various FS committees.
 4. It came back out at 4:20p and approved the FS agenda for 9/20/16.

Meeting adjourned at 4:28p

Submitted by Cynthia Tysick, Secretary of the Faculty Senate.