

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 12, 2014

CHAIR:

Ezra B. W. Zubrow (Excused)

SECRETARY:

Edward Herman

ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING:

Ernest Sternberg

ARTS & SCIENCES:

Sampson Blair (Absent)

Kenneth Dauber

Stephen Dyson

Peter Morgan

Paul Zarembka

DENTAL MEDICINE:

Elaine Davis (Excused)

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES:

Adly Fam

Joseph Mollendorf (Excused)

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION:

Lynn Yang

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HEALTH PROFESSIONS:

Robert Burkard

LAW:

Lynn Mather (Resigned)

MANAGEMENT:

Larry Sanders

MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES:

Yogesh Bakhai (Absent)

Michael Chaskes (Excused)

James Hassett (Absent)

Gabriela Popescu

NURSING:

Grace Dean (Excused)

PHARMACY:

Alice Ceacareanu

SOCIAL WORK:

Robert Keefe

SUNY SENATORS:

Adly Fam

Donald Grinde (Absent)

Kathleen Kielar

Peter Nickerson

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES:

Beth Adelman

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

William H. Baumer

GUESTS:

Vice-President and Chief Information Officer

Brice Bible

Undergraduate Student Association:

Daniel Ovadia

Professional Staff Senate:

Ann Marie Landel

1. Minutes of January 29, 2014 were accepted with a correction. The Secretary reported incorrectly that a faculty agreed to chair the Committee on Equity and Diversity. This individual was asked to do so, but has not yet responded.

2. Winter Session Update (Scott Weber)

- Weber distributed a "Winter Session 2014 Update and Summary." (Appendix 1)
- The goal of attracting 1,000 students was exceeded.
- The large percent of international students expected to take courses did not materialize. International students enrolled in winter courses at a rate representative of their presence on campus.
- Winter classes did not create additional facilities costs.
- The majority of students took courses online.
- The courses will enable some to graduate this spring semester, rather than the following fall.
- Faculty feedback was positive.
- Limited food and other services generally cut back during the Winter break were problematic, and will be addressed before offering the next winter session.
- Comments
 - K. Dauber asked if classes were of the same intensity as during the fall and spring semesters. Weber thought they were and has not heard otherwise.

- Responding to P. Morgan's question about revenue, Weber said it was \$1.2 million excluding fees.
- A Senator asked how the University is certain registered students, rather than their proxies, take final exams in online courses. Weber noted decanal units and departments have policies that discourage this.
- G. Popescu thought that students she is aware of had positive experiences.
- K. Kielar remarked that all the planning that went into this effort paid off.
- A Senator asked Weber how many students received financial aid and how much money was distributed. He responded that financial aid services were coordinated with that usually associated with the spring semester. Weber was unaware of the numbers, but since the meeting he informed the Secretary that 501 students received an average of \$916.00.
- FSEC passed unanimously a motion introduced by K. Dauber requesting that letter be sent to decanal units inquiring about the status/ranks of winter session instructors. (E.g. percent of TA's, adjuncts, Assistant Professors,...)

3. Interaction with J. Brice Bible, Vice-President and Chief Information Officer

- Bible said he hopes to pursue conversations with faculty and has been on listening tours throughout the University.
- He believes that IT staff is dedicated and competent, and that services are fairly reliable. He does not want to fix things that are not broken.
- Bible believes interactions between central IT and college IT personnel are cohesive, but communication gaps must be closed.
- Despite the availability of large amounts of data on campus, implementing its use and sharing among units is problematic.
- IT welcomes feedback from students and staff about their needs. Bible hopes to work with campus groups to get this information.
- Replying to P. Nickerson's question about involvement in the Middle States review, Bible said that he is prepared to hand hold the review team through the IT maze.

- Regarding the imaging of computers, Bible would like all computers imaged uniformly. Imaging them a dozen or more different ways is unproductive.
- Apropos the HUB, Bible would like to evaluate where it is and where it ought to go.
- B. Rittner thought that classroom technology is not forward looking, but operates in catch up mode. She noted student complaints that IT help desks fail to offer adequate services. Professional IT staff ought to work the desks, not students. Additionally, a common response among IT staff is that the users, not the software or hardware, is at fault when things go wrong.
- E. Sternberg questioned Bible about issues involving IT and faculty privacy.
 - How long are emails saved?
 - How does one know when they are deleted permanently?
 - What is the policy towards using University email for other purposes?
 - What is the policy towards faculty maintaining personal Web sites on UB servers?

Bible did not know all the answers, but he welcomes opportunities to discuss the issues with appropriate committees and/or individuals.

- P. Morgan asked if deans can make the operations data for their schools available to the faculty. Bible acknowledged that much of this data is public and available. Interested parties should not have to ask for it. Agreements ought to be negotiated with schools to make relevant data more accessible.
- E. Herman questioned Bible about his feelings towards cooperation between IT and the Libraries. The Vice-President thought IT has a role assisting the Libraries in adapting to technological change.

4. Committee Structure Update: Responding to E. Sternberg who asked how committees are formed, Baumer said that a call for nominations was emailed to the voting faculty. A. Kedzierski received several nominations, and agreed to email the message a second time. Chairs can also solicit members for their committees.

5. Election of Henry Durand, SUNY Faculty Senate

Representative: FSEC voted to elect Henry Durand a SUNY Faculty Senate Representative effective July 1, 2014. The voting faculty did not receive ballots because Durand ran unopposed. FSEC defeated P. Zarembka's motion to table his election. Baumer distributed documentation explaining the election process when candidates are unopposed, "Parliamentary Issues Chair pro tempore, Single Ballot Election." (Appendix 2)

6. MOOCs Resolution: FSEC tabled the MOOCs resolution until the next meeting.

7. Attendance at Faculty Senate Meetings: A. Kedzierski will contact Faculty Senators who failed to attend 2 consecutive meetings about enforcement of the attendance policy.

[Appendix 1](#)

[Appendix 2](#)