

## Faculty Senate Minutes #6

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Via WebEx

**Members and Senators Present:** A. Addonisio, S. Anderson, C. Badurek, C. Bennett, G. Birren, E. Bitterbaum, C. Costell Corbin, A. Blavos, S. Comins, A. Curtis, A. DeChellis, M. DiVita, A. Fitz-Gibbon, C. Grate, R. Grantham, H. Haines, A. Hasbrouck, C. Hickey, K. Ibe-Lamberts, F. Ishaq, L. Jin, C. Kuretich, J. McNamara, A. Myles, C. Pass, V. Placide, M. Prus, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, T. Suzuki, R. Vooris, , D. West, B. Williams, C. Widdall, J. Zhe-Heimerman

**Members and Senators Absent:** R. Borden, A. Dearie, M. Fox, J. Hall, P. Perkins, R. Powell, E. Owens S. Strause

**Guests:** D. Harms

**I. Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes from April 14<sup>th</sup> were approved by the Senate.

**II. Chair's Report:** M. DiVita – Reminded everyone that that the referendum regarding Chapter 150.03 of the College Handbook is currently out to campus, and that the deadline to vote is this Friday, 5/1/20, at 4PM. The chair also announced that there will be an email sent out sometime next week regarding whether or not we will be holding a senate meeting on 5/12/20 (it will depend on if there is any business that will need to be addressed).

**III. Vice Chair's Report:** G. Birren – No report.

**IV. Treasurer's Report:** K. Ibe-Lamberts – Attempting to devise a method of receiving donations virtually/electronically, since the senate is not currently meeting face to face.

**V. Secretary's Report:** F. Ishaq – Reminded members and senators that the Spring 2020 Call for Nominations is currently in process and that any seats that are contested will go out to ballot sometime within this coming week.

**VI. President's Report:** E. Bitterbaum:

- Reported that all 64 SUNY campuses are working with the chancellor in an effort to be able to open in August; they also have been discussing with the chancellor other options in case campuses aren't able to open in August as usual. Some of those options could include having the first 3-4 weeks of the fall semester be held online, and then opening the campus in October.
  - The decision of when to open the campus back up is going to depend on a number of different things, including on when Gov. Cuomo decides to reopen the state of NY.
  - There are 3 committees currently working on these issues/concerns regarding the reopening of the campus: Academic Affairs, Residence Life/Housing, and the Resource Advisory Council
- Emergency Student Fund – there have been over 300 applications approved thus far; C. Kuretich and E. Quinlan are in the process of reviewing around another 100 more applications
  - The Emergency Student Fund money is for such things as assisting students with paying for food and utilities.
- There has been a delay in new hires.
- Commencement – there will be virtual events taking place for the graduating class of 2020; there will be an in person commencement held for the class of 2020 sometime in May 2021.
  - Diploma covers for the class of 2020 will be mailed sometime during the fall 2020 semester.

**VII. Policy Committee Reports**

**Joint Committee on Student Interests:** A. Blavos – Reported that the JCSI held a small meeting this past week, where they discussed what direction they will be moving forward with in the fall 2020 semester.

**Academic Faculty Affairs Committee:** A. Fitz-Gibbon – Reported that they are almost completed with the white paper on service and the personnel review process; the white paper will more than likely be on the agenda for fall 2020 semester.

**Educational Policy Committee:** C. Widdall, Chair – No report.

**Professional Affairs Committee:** C. Hickey, Chair – No report.

**Area Senators:** No report

**SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator:** R. Vooris/C. Badurek – R. Vooris reported on the UFS Plenary that was held virtually on 4/17/20; topics that were discussed at the plenary were as follows:

- SUNY's contract with Elsevier has been renewed
- The Governor's budget that was passed for \$550 million was approved before the issues with COVID-19 began
- The NYS budget director has a wide discretion on whether or not to cut budgets, if need be
  - Those cuts could be anywhere from 10%-25%
- Changes to the Excelsior Scholarship – changing the 30 credit requirement, due to students' inability to meet the credit requirement as a result of complications caused by COVID-19

**Student Senator:** C. Bennett:

- Reported that the SGA is continuing assist other clubs/organizations on campus as best they can during this difficult time.

#### **VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:**

**Committee on Teaching Effectiveness:** K. Bonafide, Chair – No report.

**College Curriculum Review Committee:** K. Polasek, Chair – No report.

**College Research Committee:** R. Vooris, Chair – No report.

**General Education Committee:** J. McNamara, Chair – No report.

**Graduate Faculty Executive Committee:** N. Wilson, Chair – G. Birren reported that the GFEC met yesterday and approved graduate coursework.

**Committee on Teaching Awards:** M. DiVita, Chair – No report.

#### **IX. Unfinished Business –** There wasn't any unfinished business.

#### **X. New Business:**

- Call for Nominations, Spring 2020 – Nominations that were received via email for the Spring 2020 call were approved by the senate; additional nominations were accepted from the floor in an effort to fill any remaining vacancies (*Please find document attached*).
  - Any seats that are contested will go out to ballot by the end of this week.

**XI. Announcements:** There weren't any announcements.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 PM on 4/28/20**

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis

