

Spring 2004-Academic Senate Meetings: Agendas & Minutes

April 30
March 26
March 5
February 6

Agenda Academic Senate Meeting

April 30, 2004
Lecture Center 102

1. Reading and approval of minutes (March 26, 2004)
2. Announcements
3. Report of the President. Questions and action items from the floor.
4. Report of the Presiding Officer. Questions and action items from the floor.
5. Action items from Academic Senate Officers.
6. Action items from Academic Senate Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Committee Report: Helise Winters, Chair of Educational Technology Committee
10. Adjournment

Minutes Academic Senate Meeting

Friday March 26, 2004

Attendance: Becky Adae (Foreign Languages/ESL) Peter Brown (Foreign Languages) Heriberto Dixon (School of Business) Mark Dziuba (Music) Glenn Geher (Academic Affairs/Psychology) Majid Hosseini (Mathematics) DK Jang (Art) Gary Kitzmann (UFS Senator/Physics) David Labiosa (Foreign Languages) Mark Lasek (Library) David Lavalley (Provost) Hanh Pham (Computer Science) Steven Poskanzer (President) Helise Winters (Continuing and Professional Education)

1. Call to order.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

2. Reading and approval of the minutes.

Peter Brown was added to the attendance for the March 5, 2004 meeting.
Minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Announcements

Assessment materials are available on the Faculty Senate Web Page <http://usf.suny.edu>.
A delegation from SUNY New Paltz is attending a Grants Workshop in Albany next weekend.

4. Report of the Presiding Officer

No report given.

5. Report of the President

The President gave a report of the construction progress on campus. The construction addressed included:

- The Health Center had its Grand Opening.
- Bidding re-opened for the Clock Tower.
- Demolition and Construction on Elting Gym continues.
- Lenape Hall is close to completion. Target completion date is in July.
- VLC construction continues.

Additionally, The President spoke about the following:

- Enrollment
- Lobbying
- The introduction of Turkish programs available on campus
- Faculty Staff Campaign
- Ratification of the CSEA and UUP contracts

No questions were raised.

6. Action items from Officers, Standing Committees, Ad hoc Committees and other agencies of the College Faculty.

Curriculum Committee

- Looking to have more on-line courses available for this summer. They are collecting information on the stated idea, and which classes would be available on-line.
- Is there a limit of how many on-line classes a student can put toward a degree?

Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business

The Provost spoke about the choice we give to students when they are registering for classes.

- The College is working towards implementing policies guaranteeing students to graduate in four years.
- Syllabi may be made available to students prior to class registration.

7. New Business

The committee came to a conclusion concerning the Diversity Calendar. The academic calendar will be posted, including an education attachment describing all of the holidays that occur throughout the year.

Budget Goals and Plans

A discussion within the departments with all stakeholders will allow the Deans to know how to make the money available work. A document is available at www.newpaltz.edu/budgetcommittee/budgrev.html

A one minute on-line survey will be available to see how well the discussions are going in your department.

Goals and Planning

A discussion with the president will occur in May to see where the college will be heading now that five years are over.

The establishment of a green committee on campus was proposed. Their responsibility will be to identify ways to reduce pollution, energy waste and adverse environmental impacts on the campus.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Submitted by
Ray Gordon

Agenda: Academic Senate Meeting

March 26, 2004

Lecture Center 102

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3. Report of the President. Questions and action items from the floor.
4. Report of the Presiding Officer. Questions and action items from the floor.
5. Action items from Academic Senate Officers.
6. Action items from Academic Senate Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Committee Report: Peter Brown, Co-chair of the Budget Goals & Plans Committee
10. Adjournment

Minutes SUNY New Paltz Academic Senate Meeting

March 5, 2004

Attendance: Becky Adae (Foreign Languages/ESL) Kevin Caskey (Curriculum Committee/School of Business) Heriberto Dixon (School of Business) Alan Dunefsky (Recreational Sports) Mark Dziuba (Music) Phyllis Freeman (Graduate School/Psychology) Glenn Geher (Academic Affairs/Psychology) Jan Hammond (Educational Administration) DK Jang (Art) Gerald Kitzmann (UFS Senator) (David Labiosa (Foreign Languages) Doug Maynard (Organization Committee/Psychology) Michael Muffs (Educational Administration) Jerry Persaud (Communication and Media) Hanh Pham (Computer Science) Patrick Saxe (Academic Advising) Helise Winters (Continuing and Professional Education) Shelly Wright (President's Office) June Trop Zuckerman (Secondary Education)

Meeting called to order at 3:05 by Barbara Hardgrave

Minutes Approved as Distributed

No Announcements

Report of the President:

PCB's

- In 1991 there was an incident where an electrical explosion caused exposure to PCB's and New Paltz paid to fix the problem.
- There is a reporter that is claiming that the 1991 incident resulted in a cover-up and that the students are at risk to PCB exposure in the residence halls.
- The safety of New Paltz students, faculty and staff is paramount.
- New Paltz turned to state experts for testing and all have come back clean.
- Toxicology reports from the state proved that the reporter's claims are bogus.

Mission Review

- SUNY System Administration exercised mission review, each campus details its niche and sets performance benchmarks.
- Mission review gives each campus a chance to look at what its characteristics are.
- SUNY System sends questions to the college and we respond, which results in a written understanding between SUNY System and the college.
- Steven Poskanzer was the architect of mission review when he worked at SUNY System.
- A team of faculty and staff is being created for mission review.
- Campus dialogue will create a stronger document.

Public Outreach and Institutional Profile

- New Paltz would benefit as a campus from branding.
- A committee with David Eaton as the chair has been set up to think more broadly and strategically about our image.

Question: What is your perception of the reporter's motivation?

Answer: He has been around for a while, he was asked to leave the campus by former president Alice Chandler. On one extreme, one might say that he is genuinely motivated because he feels there is a hazard on campus. Others might say that thirteen years ago there was a lot of media attention and he would like that back. This is a free country, but he cannot sneak into residence halls. He has been saying the same stuff for fourteen years, do you believe the State Department of Health or do you believe this guy? We do testing every three years and all the results are public.

Comment by Faculty Member: He is known as a notorious publicity hound. Our President is doing the right thing.

Report of the Presiding Officer. Questions and Action Items From the Floor:

No new news.

Question: Where are we in the process of deciding the Academic Calendar?

Answer: It has been a very damaging process. Every semester this issues comes up. The debate has become increasingly polarizing, has gotten personal and is bad for collegiality and morale. The responsibility of the Academic Affairs Committee is to make recommendations regarding the college calendar. They have done their job by presenting different calendars. It is not listed in the bylaws that faculty vote on the calendar. The college cabinet makes the final decision so we are passing it on to them. The members of the college cabinet know what the issues are and that there are many arguments for both sides. With that knowledge they will make a decision on the calendar.

Comment: The divisive tone has been terrible, even though I feel passionate about this issue; I trust the cabinet to make the decision.

No Action Items from Academic Senate Officers or from Academic Senate Committees.

No Unfinished Business.

No New Business.

Committee Report: Doug Maynard, Chair of the Organization Committee, Re: Changing the by-laws:

- April report will be made available to the faculty.
- For revision of the bylaws, there needs to be clarification.
- Alternate role needs clarification.
- The committee quorum was set as a majority.
- For the two personnel committees, department chairs cannot serve.
- GE Board may be a standing committee of this body.
- Six committees have student representatives. There is a lack of widespread student representation.
- In most cases, there are not any students serving on committees.
- The bylaws do not give guidance on students serving on committees.

Comment: It might make sense for deans to appoint students from their area.

Question: Has there been any discussion of changing quorum for the faculty/professional staff meeting?

Question: How do we get people to meetings?

Meeting adjourned at 3:50

Respectfully submitted,
Felipa Biamonte

Agenda: Academic Senate Meeting

March 5, 2004

Lecture Center 102

1. Reading and approval of minutes. (February 6, 2004)
2. Announcements
3. Report of the President. Questions and action items from the floor.

4. Report of the Presiding Officer. Questions and action items from the floor.
5. Action items from Academic Senate Officers.
6. Action items from Academic Senate Committees.
7. Unfinished Business.
8. New Business.
9. Committee Report: Doug Maynard, Chair of the Organization Committee, re: Changing the by-laws.
10. Adjournment

Minutes SUNY New Paltz Academic Senate Meeting

February 6, 2004

Attendance:

Becky Adae (Foreign Languages) Peter Brown (Foreign Languages) Kevin Caskey (Business) Mark Dziuba (Music) Glenn Geher (Psychology) Majid Hosseini (Mathematics) Gerald Kitzmann (Physics) Mark Lasek (Library) Hanh Pham (Computer Science) Steven Poskanzer (President) Patrick Saxe (Academic Advising) Frank Trezza (Theatre Arts) Helise Winters (Continuing and Professional Education) Shelly Wright (President's Office)

Meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m. by Barbara Hardgrave

Correction to minutes:

Peter Brown and Gary Kitzmann needed to be added to the attendance.
Rafael Saavedra was not correctly listed as in the department of Foreign Language in the attendance.

Minutes approved as corrected.

Report of the President:

- The faculty meeting we had last Friday about promotion and tenure was filled with productive dialogue, junior faculty felt comfortable asking questions.
- Spring undergraduate enrollment is tracking very well. The head count overall is down because of a drop in graduate students. We think it is because of the state change in licensing requirements. Overall enrollment picture looks quite good. For the fall admissions things look robust, freshman applications are up by 8% transfers up by 42%. Continuing to maintain selectivity and diversity.
- We enroll more international students than any other SUNY college.

- Meetings with academic and administrative departments- 24 separate meetings. Overall departments feel like there is more work that has to be done and need more people to do it. People feel they are spending too much time in nonproductive committees.
- The Health Center is now back in its original building. Formal ribbon cutting ceremony March 24th.
- Kirk Planetarium was reopened. Shows will be held regularly on the weekends.
- Van Den Berg Learning Center-many improvements have been made in the project and it is well on track. The challenge is raising the money for phase two of the project.
- Lenape residence hall construction is on schedule for Fall 2004 opening.
- New 56 space parking lot will be added to southern end of the campus.
- Athletic and Wellness Center-I don't see enough action out there. Superstructure of the building will be put up soon. As long as they get it done by the end date the contractors are not in default.
- Budget-Governor's budget proposal was kinder to higher education than last years. The budget is flat for SUNY. However, it does not replace the 3.5 million that was taken out of New Paltz's budget and given to other SUNY campuses.
- EOP program-small cut, no one believes this cut will go through.
- Governor has asked for changes in the TAP program.
- In addition to the \$1.8 billion dollar proposed capitol plan, the Governor's budget includes a capitol plan for private schools. \$350 million pot that is for privates, CUNY and SUNY schools no one of these groups is supposed to get more than a third of the pot.
- March 9th annual lobbying for SUNY.

End of President's Report

Question: What about air conditioning for Humanities?

Answer: On the list for possible projects.

Question: Cogenerating energy? I found more information on cogeneration for you three months ago, has anything been done?

Answer: I am fundamentally skeptical of cogeneration. I don't know where the money to do such a thing could come from. I never rule out a potentially good idea. Asked physical plant to share information on it and have followed up.

Question: Last Wednesday we delayed the start of school by 2 hours what did that mean? Students were confused.

Answer: That meant a delay until 10:00 a.m.

END OF QUESTIONS FOR PRESIDENT

No action items from Academic Senate Officers.

No action items from Academic Senate Committees.

No unfinished business.

New Business:

- Academic Senate involvement in nominations for honorary degrees-The members of the senate would give nominees some thought and faculty at large can make suggestions. Honorary Degree piece could start broad and then have a more explicit link to the senate as a checkpoint in the process.

Motion by Glenn Geher: Academic Senate will take an active role in suggesting names for honorary degrees.

Approved.

Committee Reports:

Gary Kitzmann:

- Workshop being planned for the nanotech center April 2nd and 3rd. The people giving the workshop are in the comprehensive college system. Senior faculty will show junior faculty how to get research grants. Closed door conference, you have to be a SUNY faculty member. 150 in total. The chancellor feels this is so important that he will be opening the conference on the 2nd. If faculty want to go they should contact the president and prove to him that they can get a research grant in the future and this will show them how to do it.
- If members of the Academic Senate have suggestions about campus based system wide Assessment, send them to Joe Hildreth.
- Budget- Students and parents should be able to plan for the future. The chancellor is seriously thinking about a plan in which a student who enters freshman year would have a fixed tuition for four years, students could plan their finances and make sure they graduate in four years, that is not a guarantee that the student who comes in the year after will receive the same rate, the student could have to pay a higher rate.

Glenn Geher:

- We are reviewing the SEI process. We have been meeting with Kelli Parmley to come up with a report which will recommend changes to the SEI. We are looking at our particular SEI process and the process at other schools for issues such as reliability, the general effectiveness of the SEI instrument based on past empirical literature, history of SEI on campuses, and will have a campus questionnaire on SEI. Collected large amounts of data. We can look at frequency patterns among grades.
- Calendar-Brand new improved way of thinking about the calendar. We should have multiple years of calendars at a time to be addressed. There will be a recommendation for three years. There will be three years of calendars that include the holidays and one that does not. We will have the full faculty look at these proposed calendars.

Question: What about starting classes in February. Why is Jan 26th the day to come back?

Answer: We are having more residential students in the summer. When you push the start of the spring semester day back it gives less time for the residence halls to be readied.

Question:

Are we keeping Labor Day in because it is a federal holiday?

Answer: a motion was passed to keep Labor Day as a day off.

Kevin Caskey:

- There were several issues relating to GE3.

- Information literacy has 7 courses, 4 of which are composition.
- Ethical reflection and ethical advocacy are different. Ethical reflection requires discussion of right or wrong but you cannot tell the students what is right or wrong.
- The move towards 4 credit courses, is it an expanded workload? If a trend rises in 4 credit courses then the program should be looked at. The bulk of these 4 credit courses are major courses. The college needs to address is this better for students? This is an issue beyond the curriculum committee; the college needs a policy regarding it.

Question: What is the attraction of going to 4 credit courses?

Answer: There would be fewer courses; you could devote more time and depth to each course.

- If there is a movement to 4 credit courses it creates a problem because you would only need three classes to be full time. There could be FTE and financial aid implications.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52.

Respectfully submitted,
Felipa Biamonte

Agenda: Academic Senate Meeting

February 6, 2004
Lecture Center 102

1. Reading and approval of minutes. (November 7, 2003)
2. Announcements
3. Report of the President. Questions and action items from the floor.
4. Action items from Academic Senate Officers.
5. Action items from Academic Senate Committees.
6. Unfinished Business.
7. New Business: Academic Senate involvement in nominations for honorary degrees.
8. Committee Reports:
Glenn Geher, Academic Affairs Committee
Kevin Caskey, Curriculum Committee
9. Adjournment

Minutes SUNY New Paltz Academic Senate Meeting

November 7, 2003

Attendance: Becky Adae (Foreign Languages) Heriberto Dixon (School of Business) Alan Dunefsky (Athletics) Glenn Geher (Psychology) Jan Hammond (Education Administration) Majid Hosseini (Mathematics) DK Jang (Art) Mark Lasek (Library) Glenn McNitt (Political Science) Michael Muffs (Education Administration) Jerry Persaud (Liberal Arts and Sciences) Hanh Pham (Computer Science) Rafael Saavedra (School of Business) Patrick Saxe (Student Advising) Frank Trezza (Theater Arts) Helise Winters (Continuing and Professional Education)

Meeting called to order at 3:05 by Barbara Hardgrave

No corrections to the minutes, minutes approved.

No announcements.

Report from Barbara Hardgrave:

- We now have the faculty governance website in order with the members listed. Thanks to Ardis Marcotte for all of her hard work. She is the secretary for governance.
- Sometimes we do not have any business that needs to be presented at the senate meeting. In a case when the only report is from the president, I would like to propose that we not meet unless there is business that we need to conduct. The bylaws say that the senate meets when necessary. I will send an email the week before the senate meeting and ask if there is any business to be brought and if there is no new business and no objections I will send a notice that we will not meet.
- It was approved that the Academic Senate will not meet if there is no new business.

Report of the President:

- Start by recognizing that many will be spending time with prospective students at open house. Thank you, this is a very important day for us and we are expecting a record number of students.
- School of Education has officially received NCATE accreditation.
- Jeff Miller and the Honor Center have been putting on a great faculty speaker series.
- The journalism program has announced that Roger Kahn, a great sports writer will be spending a semester with us. He has written not only about sports but on broader social issues as well.
- Very productive meeting with Dan Ahouse from Congressman Hinchey's office. Discussed closer working relationship with New Paltz and the appropriations committee. This is the time to recommend possible projects for funding from the federal government. We are trying to crack into the federal pork barrel.
- Met with five administrative and three academic departments in an effort to learn about departments and their needs.
- Last Friday John Harrington and I met with the Provost of Albany to forge closer ties between respective engineering programs. We have made it possible for our faculty to talk directly with their faculty. Door is open.

- President has been attending regional fund raising events. Trying to reach more alumni. These events are going well.
- Construction Update-We have terminated the contractor who was working on the clock tower at van den Berg. It was taking too long.
- The roof of Lenape hall is just about complete and windows are being installed.
- In van den Berg, many windows have been reinstalled. Elevator in the building. Project is moving forwards
- Health Center is being painted and getting new windows. Late November early December completion date.
- Athletic and Wellness Center: We have now reached a point beyond any earlier effort to build an athletic center.
- Modest renovations are being made to the President's house. This is the first time there has been a family living in the house on Cedar Ridge Road. Total cost is \$200,000, which will be paid for out of existing reserves. A faculty oversight committee has been created for the project because the President cannot oversee the project for himself.
- Two speakers are coming to campus, Maya Angelou and Toni Morrison.

End President's Report

Question: Why the need to charge for Maya Angelou's and Toni Morrison's appearances on campus?

Answer: Morrison price includes book; Ariel was running out of space in their store. The only thing we asked from Ariel is that as many students can go as possible. 150 students get to come for free and the price also includes a book. Student Activities is paying for Maya Angelou's appearance, they are recovering the cost. She is an expensive speaker.

Question: Any plans for another dorm?

Answer: We need Lenape to be up and running and to generate revenue, then the plan is to build on the North Side of Lot 32 and to bring upperclass/graduate student housing.

Question: Any energy savings or generation plans?

Answer: I am not aware of specific initiatives for energy savings. We budget assuming the worst, better to be prepared.

Question: What about co-generating our own energy?

Answer: Every college that has done this has regretted it. Energy companies said colleges would become their own utility companies. Cogeneration is very expensive, the promised profits proved elusive and it created a regulatory mess.

End of questions for the President.

Report on University Faculty Senate:

- Two resolutions that were passed are on the web. No single uniform test could be devised; that is what we were concerned about in the senate, and went through Central Administration and the

Board of Trustees, and they have done nothing. Power play taking part in the Board of Trustees. University Senate has rejected value added assessment. We have kept de Russey at bay but we don't know what her next move will be; she has been reappointed by the governor. There is another session next month.

- The Senate has a new web master. The Committees of the Senate will be reported on the web.
- During the last budget process the university centers found themselves in serious trouble; the comprehensive colleges lost \$15 million, which was given to university centers.
- The research foundation has become a private corporation.
- We should take a serious look at graduate and doctorate programs; we should have the professional degree of education being conferred by us. If we tried to get the Ph.D. we would be eaten alive by the university centers.
- New Paltz lost \$3.3 million, which was given to University Centers. There was no negotiation with SUNY System Administration.
- A huge chunk of the money went to Cornell, and to bail out places that were doing badly. Comprehensive College presidents are upset about the cuts and that it was unfair. Money was taken off the top from allocations.

End of Business.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45

Respectfully submitted,
Felipa Biamonte
