

## **The College Senate Minutes of the Meeting of May 3, 2010**

A regular meeting of the College Senate of the SUNY College at Oneonta was held on Monday, May 3, 2010 in the Craven Lounge of Morris Hall on the SUNY College at Oneonta Campus.

Steve Garner, Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

The minutes of the April 19, 2010 meeting were approved as corrected by a motion offered by Tim Welch (Communication Arts) / Robert Compton (Political Science/ALS).

### **Announcements**

Michelle Hendley (Library) announced the extended hours for the Milne Library. The Library will be open 24 hours a day starting at 8 am on Monday, May 10, 2010 until 11 pm Friday, May 14, 2010 as well as from noon on Sunday, May 16, 2010 until 1 am Wednesday, May 19.

Tim Newton (Music) announced that the performance of African Sanctus with composed David Fanshawe would be Saturday, May 7, 2010 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, May 9, 2010 at 3 pm in Hunt Union Ballroom. On Tuesday tomorrow, Gabriel Bol Deng, one of the "Lost Boys of Sudan" will speak at Hunt Union's Union Square 12-1 pm. Bol Deng will also give a presentation with video from Sudan and the Darfur conflict from 7-9 pm in IRC 4. Students are selling T-shirts and videos this week in the quad and all proceeds will go to Bol Deng's charity "Hope for Ariang". David Fanshawe, ethnomusicologist and composer, will present a brown bag talk at Union Square in the Hunt Union from 12-1 on Wednesday, discussing travels recording vanishing people groups in Africa and SE Asia. Finally, on Wednesday, May 5 in the Center for Multicultural Experience in Lee Hall, Paul Conway, Richie Lee, David Fanshawe, and Gabriel Bol Deng will present a panel discussion on East African culture, music, and poetry from 7-10 pm.

Roger Hecht (English) announced that Wednesday, May 5, would be the last reading of the Red Dragon reading series. Robert Benson, a poet and professor from Hartwick, will be reading from his works at 730 pm in Craven Lounge, Morris Hall.

### **College President's Report - President Nancy Kleniewski**

President Kleniewski was not in attendance, but conveyed her thanks to the Senate and the Steering Committee for their work this year.

### **Student Association President - Mr. Rick Heil**

Expressed thanks on behalf of the SA for all of the efforts of the faculty and staff in making the semester great.

### **Alternate University Faculty Senator - Dr. Richard Lee**

Lee reported on the Spring Plenary that was recently held at SUNY New Paltz. Information on the Plenary Resolutions and Lee's report are available on the UFS Corner on the Senate Website. The UFS website for SUNY has additional information on UFS events as well, though it is often outdated. Hard copies of several reports from the Plenary will be made available with routing slips, please contact the presiding officer if you'd like to see them. Electronic copies will be available soon.

Lee reported that much of the Plenary revolved around four major themes dealing with Cradle to Career coverage, which are:

Academic Mission – looking at NSSE results and learning lessons from them  
Administrative Review – about the conduct administrative review and presidential searches  
General Education – an implementation memo will be coming from the Provost  
Transfer and Articulation – planning on student mobility, graduation rates, looking at caps on higher level courses, and there appears to be continuing efforts to look at expanded role of community colleges.

A task force on Shared Campus Governance will be starting in the fall and they will be dealing with issues of mutual trust and consultation between administration and faculty.

## **Committee Reports**

### General Education Assessment Committee

Craig Bielert (Psychology)/Ron LaFrance (Education Psychology and Counseling) moved that the body to accept the recommendations of the committee report.

Brian Haley (Chair, GEAC) presented a recommendation that the Senate approve a set of changes to the forms and procedures used for General Education assessment at the College. The proposal is attached as an appendix to these minutes. Haley explained that the forms are meant to bring the assessment in line with frequency norms in the SUNY system and to make them more applicable to course improvement needs.

Leah Bridgers (Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics) asked Haley if it was reasonable to expect all classes to have determined their exams and assessments prior to the beginning of the semester a priori. Haley's response is that if not the specific questions, the strategies for when outcomes will be assessed will have to take place before semester

Michael Koch (Philosophy) / Brian Lowe (Sociology) moved to strike "on an a priori" basis for the second bullet point and striking "on an a priori" and changing basic to basis for the third bullet point on page 3 of the report. There was some discussion on what a priori meant. Patty Francis (Assessment) said that setting standards needs to happen before the course is taught. Amendment passed by voice vote.

Todd Ellis (Earth Sciences) / Leah Bridgers (Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics) moved to strike the last column of the table on page 4 regarding setting goals for how many students should meet a threshold. Haley mentioned that the third bullet point should be struck as well. The amendment passed by voice vote.

Amy Crouse-Powers (Community Relations) / Achim Koddermann (Philosophy) moved to strike third bullet point altogether. Amendment passed by voice vote.

Richie Lee (English) / Achim Koddermann (Philosophy) moved to add the words “prior to the assessment” to the second bullet point on page 3. The amendment passed by voice vote.

Leah Bridgers (Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics)/ Michael Koch (Philosophy) moved to delete “before beginning your course” from the first bullet on page 3. Amendment passed by voice vote.

The main motion as amended was then considered and approved by voice vote.

### Curriculum Committee

Deborah Farro-Lynd (Chair, Curriculum Committee) presented changes to the Writing Minor, Mass Communications Minor, and Film Minor. The Senate does not need to approve these and they are for information only. Farro-Lynd remarked that these changes add flexibility in general to the minors.

Farro-Lynd next presented a recommendation for changes to the Mass Communications Major, Media Studies Track. Tim Welch (Communication Arts) / Rick Heil (SA) moved that the senate accept the recommended changes, allowing students to have either a BA or BS degree to allow more credits to the major. The motion passed.

Farro-Lynd then presented a recommendation for changes to the Music Industry Program. Tim Newton (Music) / Leah Bridgers (Mathematics, Computer Science, and Statistics) moved that the senate accept the recommended changes. Farro-Lynd explained that the changes are to increase the hours in the major to accommodate hidden prerequisites and add depth to the major. Rick Heil (SA) expressed concern that 51 required credits limits student flexibility to take elective credits, and raised a concern that not all Music Industry majors perform as well. Nepkie (Music) said that this motion really reflects the current state of the major and supports current practice. The motion passed

Farro-Lynd then presented a resolution regarding the number of credit hours per semester for internships. Janet Nepkie (Music) / Rita Nowak (Art) moved to accept the resolution. Farro-Lynd passed out some additional background information related to the motion, including current policy statements. The motion would requires wording from college catalog to apply to all students, including internship students. Maureen Artale (Registrar) mentioned that current efforts are to bring the catalog in line with current policy. Dean Wagor (Dean, Behavioral and Applied Science) indicated first that the policy on the form is several years old, and has not been hidden. He then went on to state that, in his opinion, that current policy protects students, and that

motion moves us in the wrong direction. He felt this was seeking a resolution to a rare problem. He also felt that Dean's approval should be required for all overloads, regardless of student. Tim Newton (Music) stated that music performance courses are weighted with too many credits anyway, and that this motion would help alleviate that. Janet Nepkie (Music) reminded the Senate that the Catalog and other governance documents say that faculty are responsible for advising on credit load. She also stated that the bigger issue is that this policy change didn't go through faculty governance.

Mike McAvoy (Economics, Finance, and Accounting) / Maureen Artale (Registrar) moved that the motion be amended to read as follows:

*Students wishing to register for more than 18 semester hours (fall or spring semester) or 12 semester hours (summer semester) may do so only with the approval of their advisor and appropriate dean. These approvals are required regardless of student GPA or course type.*

Koch (Philosophy) expressed concern that such a significant change was brought up without due diligence from the senators. Al Sosa (Physical Education) felt that the amendment would erode faculty authority. Nepkie (Music) stated that we needed to decide if this was to be a faculty or dean decision. The motion to amend failed.

Craig Bielert (Psychology) / Brian Lowe (Sociology) moved to recommit the motion. The motion to recommit passed and the motion was recommitted to the Curriculum Committee for further deliberation.

### Committee on Instruction

Brian Beitzel (Educational Psychology and Counseling) presented the Outstanding Part Time Faculty Award to Bambi Lobdell (English)

Achim Koddermann (Philosophy) rose to a point of order that many Senate committees did not make their annual report and stated that they should be required to present early in the fall or be dissolved.

### **College Community Reports**

#### Honors Program – Dr. Todd Ellis

Ellis (Earth Sciences) presented an informational report on the work of the Honors Advisory Committee, which is looking into making a recommendation next year for revamping the College Honors Program. The report is available on the College Senate page.

Achim Koddermann (Philosophy) asked why this hasn't gone through the Senate committee structure and if Senate standing committees do no work and do not offer reports, he felt that they should be dissolved. No response was offered at this time.

## **Old Business**

Steven Garner (Presiding Officer) presented the results of the recently concluded Senate elections. Highlights include:

Dr. Renee Walker (Anthropology) was elected as Presiding Officer

Dr. Thomas Horvath (Environmental Sciences and Biology) was elected as Alternate Presiding Officer

Dr. Todd Ellis (Earth Sciences) was elected as Secretary of the Faculty

Dr. Richard Lee (English) was elected to fulfill the remainder of the current term as University Faculty Senator

The rest of the election results were to be distributed by email after the meeting.

## **New Business**

None reported

## **Comments/Discussion for the Good of the Order**

Garner will be sending his closing thoughts out on the Senate website, and thanked many of the people who volunteered to assist the Senate as well as the members of the steering committee for helping to direct Senate business.

Brian Lowe (Sociology) / Steve Walsh (Management, Marketing, and Information Systems) moved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Dr. Todd Ellis, Acting Secretary