

The College Senate
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF October 20, 2008
Craven Lounge, 3:00 P.M.

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm by Adam Ryburn, Chair

2. Approval of Minutes of September 22, 2008

Motion to approve minutes by Janet Nepkie (Music) and seconded Dean McGowan (Student Association) with no corrections.

3. Announcements

- A. Gayane Torosyan (Communication Arts): Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 7 p.m. in the Hunt Union Waterfront Café, “*Stars- They’re just like us!: The Mass Media and Celebrity*” a lecture given by John Arakaki.
- B. Achim Koeddermann (Philosophy): a reminder about the lecture tonight by NASA Astronaut Ronald Garan in IRC 3 at 7 p.m.
- C. Tom Horvath (Environment Science): Thursday, October 23rd in the Hunt College Union, *Why Nuclear Power Will Not Address Climate Change*. Lecture given by Dr. Kristen Shrader-Frechette. An informal meeting will be held with Dr. Shrader-Frechette at 3 p.m. in room 116 of the Milne Library.
- D. Adam Ryburn (Presiding Officer): Saturday, October 18th was the rededication of Science Building I. Thank you to all that attended and a round of applause was given to the efforts of Kim Muller and Kathy Meeker.

4. Reports:

A. Presiding Officer – Adam Ryburn

- In mailboxes last week were the minutes of the Calendar Committee from last April. Questions have been raised about who serves on that committee and what role they have in creating the Academic Calendar. According to Article VII of the Faculty Bylaws, the Calendar Committee shall be a joint Faculty-Administration Calendar Committee with its membership composed of the President of the College, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Presiding Officer of the Faculty, the University Faculty Senator, the President of the Student Association, and the chairs of the remaining Standing Faculty Committees. The President of the College or his/her designee shall serve as chair. It shall meet at least once a year, and timely draft minutes shall be published. It shall establish the local College calendar. The reason for mentioning this today is that the minutes, although correct, do not accurately reflect the final version of the Calendar. Specifically with regard to Labor Day. The committee approved a motion to observe Labor Day in September 2010 but the decision was later overturned by the President’s Cabinet and no justification was given to the Calendar Committee. The Calendar Committee, as stated in the Faculty Bylaws, “shall establish the local college calendar.” No where does it suggest that the Calendar Committee is a recommending body. This is one flaw that needs to be brought to the attention of Dr. Kleniewski.

B. President – Nancy Kleniewski

- Wanted to express how proud she was of the student and campus community conduct toward the person who visited campus last Wednesday. Reiterated that our legal status as a state and public institution compels us to provide opportunities for free speech, even if it contradicts some of our closely held values. We can all be proud of the leadership roles that our students took in this challenge of beliefs.
- A budget announcement was made to deflect some rumors that may have developed because of budget announcements that have been made on other campuses. There have

been no definite decisions about the budget, but there is a lot of talk going on in Albany. Campus representatives are being vigilant without knowing numbers or when they are going to get numbers. Plans are being made for the cuts that are anticipated, but when that will be and how much they will be is not known. The campus is moving forward with searches for twelve fulltime faculty for next year and continues to look for ways to save money. Our campus is in good shape and we can be confident that we will make it through this tough time with minimal disruption to our activities. Do not look at other campuses in comparison because we are all different.

C. Student Association President – Dean McGowan

- The Student Association dissolved the Oneonta Men’s Rugby Football Club after failing to comply with requests from the College, the Student Association, and New York State Rugby. They are no longer a recognized group.
- Six students we brought to the SUNY Student Assembly. Rational Tuition Plan passed with a vote of 50-10-4. Many students were in favor of this, but with concerns. Transfer Articulation passed unanimously with the hope of continuing the current transfer plan and making it larger. Executive Committee Restructured and Oneonta’s Student Association put forward a resolution that would not allow students who are members of the executive committee to vote as a part of the legislative body. The resolution had a lot of controversy and failed 30-22-12. It was a great experience for all who went.

D. University Faculty Senator – Orlando Legname

- University Faculty Senate Fall plenary meeting was held.
- The President’s report announced the Executive Committee’s establishment of the theme for this year, ‘Empowering New York through Sustainability and Diversity.’” Also, there was an announcement about the development of three new ad hoc committees: Special Committee for Diversity and Cultural Competency; Committee on Professional Behavior; Ethical Conduct, and Institutional Integrity; Special Committee for Sustainability. He also stated that the Chancellor’s search is ongoing.
- A SUNY budget update was given. The Governor called for another special session to be held on November 18th to close the potential \$1.2 billion current-year shortfall related to turmoil on Wall Street. The Governor also announced he would deliver the 2009-2010 Executive Budget one month early, on December 16th.
- The Executive Committee made two resolutions. Be it resolved that the UFS believes that SUNY should not sustain the same percentage budget reductions as other state agencies. Be it resolved that the UFS urges Gov. Paterson and the NYS Legislature put into effect the ten major recommendations of the New State Commission on Higher Education at the earliest possible time.
- A resolution on the Articulation and Transfer issue was made and passed. The resolution states that most first-year and second-year courses within the major will transfer and will fulfill requirements in the major; a SUNY system website will be developed in order to provide general information and transfer advise to transfer student; A transfer Review Committee will be formed which will resolve issues that prevent a course from transferring; SUNY System Administration should facilitate workshops and conferences within the discipline throughout the State.

5. Addresses from Members of the College Community

A. Council of Undergraduate Research (CUR) – John Schaumlöffel (Chemistry)

- Presentation on the CUR Workshop Action Plan was given.
- The desired goals and outcomes, as well as the strategies to achieve these goals and outcomes, was presented.

6. Committee Reports

- A. Deborah Farro-Lynd (Mathematics) – Curriculum Committee (all changes to majors and minors can be seen on the College Senate website).
- Changes to Child and Family Studies Major: motion made by the committee and accepted by Doug Shrader (Philosophy) and seconded by Rose Avanzato (Human Ecology) – motion passed.
 - Changes to Anthropology Major: motion made by the committee and accepted by Joe Baldwin (English) and seconded by Ron LaFrance (Educational Psychology and Counseling) – motioned passed.
 - Creation of new Environmental Sciences minors in Environmental Biology and Environmental planning: motion made by committee and accepted by Achim Koeddermann and seconded by Dean McGowan.

7. Old Business

- A. Council of Chairs Resolution Regarding Faculty Handbook
- Discussion took place. Concern was raised about the statement, “provisional work in progress.” Other concerns were raised and discussed.
 - Motion made by Janet Nepkie (Music) to postpone discussion until next meeting and seconded by Joe Baldwin

8. Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Submitted by Deb Sperano, College Senate Secretary