

The College Senate
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF May 4, 2009
Craven Lounge, Morris Hall, 3:00 P.M.

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm by Adam Ryburn, Chair

2. Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2009

Motion to approve minutes by Achim Koeddermann (Philosophy) and seconded by Al Sosa (Physical Education) with corrections. Motion passed.

3. Reports

A. President – Nancy Kleniewski

- Dr. Kleniewski invited Ricky O'Donnell to speak about the recent Flu outbreak. Ricky reports that there have been no reported cases here on campus. If a student should become ill he/she will be sent home and campus will be notified. The Health Center is in daily contact with the Department of Health to get the latest updates.
- The newly elected SUNY Chancellor, Nancy Zimpher, will be on campus June 8th. All faculty and staff are invited to attend the event where the Chancellor will address both the campus community and the Oneonta community. Please watch for more information.
- All faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in Commencement on Saturday, May 16th. Please contact Carol Blazina for more information.
- Dr. Kleniewski wanted to thank all the College Senate members for a very productive and good year.

B. Student Association – Dean McGowan

- Rick Heil will be the new Student Association President for the 2009-2010 academic year.
- Planning for Red Day is underway.

C. University Faculty Senator – Richard Lee

- University Faculty Senate Spring 2009 Plenary was held April 30th – May 2nd at the University of Buffalo.
- A full and detailed report can be found on the College Senate web page.

4. Addresses from members of the College Community

A. Diane M. Williams – Executive director of Oneonta Auxiliary Services

- A new dining plan and renovations to dining facilities are underway.
- The new dining concepts have been incorporated to meet several objectives; give equal access among students, promote community dining, give students cuisine diversity, address special dietary needs, contain food costs, and to expand on going green concepts.
- Renovations to dining facilities will incorporate hands-on cooking, cooking lessons, take-out options, and a food court venue.

B. Beth Small – Council on Diversity and Inclusion

- Announced a new award to celebrate and honor the values of diversity and inclusion within the campus community.
- The Tapestry of Diversity and Inclusion Award will be given annually to an individual or group to recognize outstanding contributions in fostering diversity and inclusion within the areas of leadership, service and/or support. All members of the campus community are eligible, including students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Individuals or groups may be nominated by any member of the Campus community. However, self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Further information regarding the nomination criteria, deadline, and the selection process for the Tapestry Award will be announced during the Fall 2009 semester. For more information please contact the Office of Equity and Inclusion, or members of the President's Council, Mark Rice x3368 or Beth Small x3409.

C. Steven Garner – Newly Elected Presiding Officer

- Addressed the members of the College Senate as the newly elected Presiding Officer and wanted to thank everyone for giving him the opportunity to serve the campus community.

5. Committee Reports

- A. Curriculum Committee – Deborah Farro-Lynd (Mathematics)
 - Motion to approve changes in the Sociology Department: Community and Environment Track Major and Community and Environment Minor made by Timothy Welch (Communication Arts) and seconded by Tom Horvath (Environmental Sciences). Motion passed.
- B. Committee on Instruction – Outstanding Part-time Faculty Award Presentation
 - The award for Outstanding Part-time Faculty was awarded to Erik Schlimmer (Physical Education).

6. New Business

- A. Ad hoc Faculty Handbook Committee – Proposed Procedure for Faculty Handbook Revisions
 - Motion to approve proposed procedure for faculty Handbook Revisions made by the Ad hoc Faculty Handbook Committee and seconded by Achim Koeddermann. (A floor debate followed)
 - Discussion took place regarding concerns about the document only being available in electronic format. Another concern was raised over the process for amending the faculty handbook. The concern was over the fact that the amendment process is different for faculty, staff, and administration.
 - Motion to amend the proposed procedure to read “Amendments Proposed by Faculty, Staff, and Administration” made by Daniel Larkin (Provost Academic Affairs) and seconded by Richard Staley (Educational Psychology & Counseling). Motion to amend denied by vote of the College Senate.
 - Motion to amend the procedure to state that “upon request, new faculty will be provided a hard copy of the faculty handbook” made by Leah Bridgers (Mathematics, Computer Science, & Statistics) and seconded by Michael Koch (Philosophy). Motion denied.
 - Original motion to approve proposed procedure for faculty Handbook Revisions made by the Ad Hoc Faculty Handbook Committee, and seconded by Achim Koeddermann. Motion Passed.

7. Closing address by presiding Officer – Adam Ryburn

- Adam wanted to thank the members of the College Senate Steering Committee for a job well done.
- Certificates of appreciation were given to two Steering Committee members who will not be returning to the committee next year. Certificates were given to Michael Koch – Alternate Presiding Officer and Deb Sperano – College Senate Secretary.
- A round of applause was given to Adam Ryburn from the entire College Senate.

8. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by Deb Sperano, College Senate Secretary