The fourth regular meeting of the 2010-2011 College Senate of the State University College at Oneonta was held on November 8, 2010 in the Morris Conference Center at 3:00 p.m. The Presiding Officer of the Faculty and the Secretary of the Faculty were both present and serving in their elected capacities for this meeting.

The minutes of October 25, 2010 regular meeting of the College Senate were distributed before this meeting and were presented for approval. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent and will be posted on the Senate website.

The Presiding Officer of the Faculty, Renee Walker, had no report.

The College President, Nancy Kleniewski, had no report.

The Student Association President, Rick Heil, had no report.

The report of University Faculty Senator for the College, Richard Lee, was then received. He reviewed the University Faculty Senator’s Corner on the College Senate webpage.

The Curriculum Committee reported through its chairperson, Deborah Farro-Lynd, regarding proposed curricular changes. Hanfu Mi (Elementary Education) moved that major changes to the Childhood Education B-2, 1-6, and B-6 Programs, including changes that account for differing background of some transfer students by creating a 1-credit course to satisfy deficiencies, be approved. After discussion, the motion carried.

Ben Dixon (Geography) moved that the proposal for major changes to the Human Ecology major, including a name change to Fashion, Textiles, and Design, be approved. The motion was carried. The proposal will be made available on the Senate website.

Achim Kodderman (Philosophy) moved that the proposal for major changes to the Chemistry and Adolescence Education: Chemistry majors be approved. The motion was carried. The approved proposal will be made available on the Senate website.

Rick Heil (SA) moved that the proposal for a new Minor in Social Justice Studies in the Africana and Latino Studies Department. The motion was carried. The approved proposal will be made available on the Senate website.

Ben Dixon (Geography) moved that the proposal for major changes in the Design Concentration of the Art Major, including the addition of new courses to the program. The motion was carried. The approved proposal will be made available on the Senate website.

The chair also reported on minor changes to the Education Psychology major and Anthropology minor. These were approved by the committee and do not require Senate action.
The chair then moved that:

Students who register for internships should be subject to the same rules as other students at SUNY at Oneonta regarding the number of credits they may take in any semester. Consequently, students wishing to register for more than 18 s.h. (fall or spring semester) or 12 s.h. (summer) may do so under the following conditions:

- with their advisor’s approval if their cumulative GPA is 3.0 or above, and
- with the approval of their advisor and the appropriate dean if their cumulative average is less than 3.0

The special approval mentioned above tis not required if the overload consists of MUSC 170, MUSC 270, MUSC 280, THTR 190, THTR 290, or any PHED activity course. The Undergraduate Catalog and College Undergraduate Internship Application will reflect this policy.

After debate and amendment, Bill Wilkerson (Political Science) moved recommit the motion to the Curriculum Committee for further deliberation. The motion passed.

The Graduate Committee reported through its representative, Leslie Hasbargen, regarding proposed changes to the MA in Earth Sciences. Larry Guzy (Psychology) moved that the Senate endorse the following:

1) Change the degree designation from MA to MS.
2) Reduce the number of credits required to complete the program from 32 to 30 semester hours.
3) With the change in credit hours, the residency requirement would be correspondingly reduced from 16 to 15 semester hours.
4) Eliminate the comprehensive examinations and replace them with a required thesis proposal.
5) Eliminate the requirement for a field course or comparable experience prior to the thesis.
6) Formalize the requirement for a thesis defense. The department’s tradition has been a public presentation of the thesis. We would like to change this from just a public presentation to a public presentation followed by a closed defense of the thesis. This should be explicit in the graduate catalog: the requirement is for A) an oral presentation of the thesis and B) a closed defense of the thesis.

After brief discussion, the motion carried.

The Committee on Instruction, through its chairperson Brian Beitzel, was then recognized to resume consideration of a package of resolutions regarding a proposed Student Response to Faculty Instruction instructor assessment instrument. The first resolution, which had been postponed from the last meeting due to loss of quorum, was then taken up.

After further discussion, Michael Koch (Philosophy) moved to refer the matter to the whole Faculty as defined in the Bylaws of the Faculty. The motion, after discussion, was defeated.
Ben Dixon (Geography) moved to table the motion. After discussion and clarification, the motion was defeated.

Ben Dixon (Geography) moved to postpone consideration of the motion to the next regular meeting. After discussion, the motion was defeated.

The previous question being moved and passed, the main motion was carried, with several abstentions.

The chair then moved the following:

WHEREAS, the process by which the SRFI is administered within each class must be as consistent and objective as possible; and

WHEREAS, student responses on the SRFI could reasonably be influenced by cues from the instructor, whether such cues are intended or unintended; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that each department shall coordinate for each of its classes a third party who is not a class member to introduce and administer the SRFI.

After brief discussion, the previous question was called. The motion failed on a divided vote, with several abstentions.

Prior to consideration of a further resolution from the Committee on Instruction, the Presiding Officer noted a loss of quorum at 4:35 pm.

Paul Adamo was recognized to present a college community report regarding the Search Committee for Vice President for Finance and Administration. He presented the job description that the Committee has created and invited discussion regarding characteristics that the Senate would like to see in a new hire.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Ellis
Secretary