



Senate Meeting Minutes April 3, 2023

Present: John Padovani, Alice Krause, Kristy Fitch, Simon Purdy, Laurie Jones, Cheri Rossi, Lindsay Walker, Mark Sullivan, Erin Wagner, Lisa Tessier, Daniel Gashler, Thomas Jordan, Lauren Sloane, Jason Cash, Robb Munro, Genevieve Salerno, Michael Tweed, Shannon Shoemaker, Beth Boyd, Dave Wakin, Liz Frisbee, Mary Wake, Michael Sullivan, Max Denhe, Lori Tremblay, Leslie Barger, Brett Meckel, Joyce Shim, Doug Holub, Shawn Brislin, David Brower, Lori Ciafardoni, Doug Gulotty, Chelsea Mathieu, Nazely Kurkjian

Proxies: Lisa Tessier proxy for Shannon Shoemaker, Erin Wagner proxy for Jenny Collins, Cheri Rossi proxy for Brigid Finn-Maguire, Jason Cash proxy for Simon Purdy.

Meeting called to order at 4:34 pm

Welcome! We hope everyone and their families are healthy and safe – please mute.

Approval of March 20, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion to approve made by Jason C. Erin W. second.

Vote taken: Yes – 19; no – 0; minutes approved

Discussion: none.

Updates:

Provost – A few things to go over. Speaking with faculty of school of Business and Hospitality. Plan on floor that has not yet been determined or written in stone, message of restructuring is tentative. An attempt to try to collaborate. Partially due to the requests by the Middle States. Dr. Brower is in contact with a school of technology in Colombia and will be bringing them to campus. Working towards the establishment of a student and faculty exchange. They are willing to share their amazing technology labs. Also looking to work with beautiful schools in Puerto Rico including some interesting animals they have there. Idea is to bring students from different countries here. Working on ways to make this school more attractive to exchange students to offer a twelve-credit exchange. Collaboration with SUNY Oneonta with Mechatronics and Supply Chain Degree. Thank you Dan Davis for your work on this. Mark Sullivan and Susan Deane also working with Oneonta nursing and pre nursing students to see how Oneonta's students can fit in with our degrees. Racial Equity Justice Institute meeting this month to go over initiatives. Research has found that male students are being dismissed at a higher rate as well as students of color. Trying to figure out ways to look at data to come up with initiatives to develop best practices. Academic Progress Assessment Committee met last month. All programs being reviewed are going to work with Mark Sullivan's office to create a strategy for improving enrollment in those programs. No programs put into 'sunset mode' and progress will be monitored while they go through the new strategies being developed.

Lori C. – Thank you for sending out announcement about DEISJ. Jedi's in training and Jedi Ambassadors, hoping to connect with you and Lou at some point. Working on wonderful ways to protect human subjects. Thanks for sharing.

E-board – Alice K. -- More complete update later on in the month but just a few things. First, Cheri R. can you please give an update about dean searches and senate membership on these dean searches.

Cheri R. -- Two dean searches going on. School of Applied Technology and Architecture and School of Nursing. Need academic representative and non-academic representative for Applied Tech. search. Lori T. voted in for academic senate rep. No staff came forward to serve as staff rep. for that search but still time. If no one comes forward, won't be a staff rep. on that committee. Please let me know if you are interested.

School of nursing sent out call to volunteer for faculty and staff search. So far, two faculty volunteers. To came forward on ballot but no staff. Please urge to volunteer. Everything is supposed to wrap up before the end of faculty obligation. Will send out another ballot for that later on this week.

Alice K. -- When do you want staff to get in touch with you if they are interested in running?

Cheri R. -- please do it by Wednesday.

Alice K. -- Please feel free to reach out to any member of the e-board with any feedback you would like to go to Mary. I know there are concerns and mixed feelings about academic reorganization announcement that went out last week. We are thinking about it and we are planning to follow up on what is going on. I would like to focus on process for this. Academic structure and reorganization should go through shared governance. So far senate has not been approached. Planning to follow up and get more information. Please reach out so we can ask the questions that need to be asked and have your voices be heard. Any questions for E-Board?

No questions.

Old Business – No old business!

New Business --

Academic Policies Proposals: Curriculum, IP grade – Lauren Sloane (Academic Policies Committee) -

- Academic policies. Manual was archaic. So, we decided to update. Meant to modernize the processes and procedures and reflect what the current processes in place actually are, as they have evolved over time.

Alice K. -- We will vote on this tonight.

Motion to approve by Jason C., second Lindsay W.

Discussion:

Lisa T. -- I have feedback from School of Business and Hospitality. Support of this but a change to the wording is recommended.

Lauren S. -- Came up by several people at Policy Committee. This is the correct wording according to verification by English professors. Actually, correct grammar. Was discussed. Came from LA&S and Business and Hospitality. Please call on Erin W. for comment.

Erin W.—Yes, I am the English professor who asserted this is correct because of the action that is being taken.

Alice K. – Yes, they are both grammatical but the change will change who owns the action.

Michael T. – In preparation for this meeting, this is the first time I am seeing this so I do not know how the word is getting out there for things like this. Will there still be a vote taken by the program?
More discussion surrounding wording of proposal and whether or not feedback was gathered.

Lauren S. – We did gather feedback and I am sorry if you did not get that.

Alice K. – School is the one that submits to the Curriculum Committee according to policy.

Any other discussion on this policy proposal?

Vote taken: Yes – 18; no -- 3. Motion passes.

Lauren S. -- Long list of things to work on but this became prudent. IP (in progress) utilization including time frame to complete grade change form. Meant to put finite time on the use of IP's as it can stand in the way of degree attainment.

Motion to approve made by Erin W.; second by Jason C.

Discussion:

Cheri R. – Is this IP one semester plus 20 days?

Lauren S. -- If someone was given an IP for a semester, they would have one more full semester plus twenty days.

Cheri R. – Thanks.

Michael T. –I read sentence differently because that particular sentence is confusing. When to use IN (incomplete) versus IP.

Lauren S. – We have not discussed IN in any more detail at this point. This is a semester plus twenty days.

Alice K. -- When work is incomplete that is when a student gets an IN.

Lauren S. -- IPs should be used for courses that span two semesters whereas INs should be noted.

Michael T: I think the IP policy should be looked at as well as IN at the same time to be developed together.

Alice K. – You can submit a policy change form!

Kristy F. – A few things. Working on changing when IPs can be used. Very small group of classes that are allowed to use it. Only classes that span outside of our normal terms. Also, grammar question: last sentence “Any grade of IP issued for a course that does not begin in one semester and end in a subsequent semester will be changed to a grade of IN and will be governed by the IN grade policy.”

Alice K. --Form that we will vote on will have “instructor issuing” wording taken out.

Erin W. -- Chat happening about initial confusion about twenty days. Saying “twenty days AFTER end of subsequent semester” will help get rid of any confusion.

Alice K. -- Please remember chat is only for sharing information.

Lauren S. -- Also feedback like this should be solicited during feedback sessions and not in Senate.

Lori C. -- How many classes are going to use this?

Kristy F. -- It’s a very small number.

Vote taken: Yes – 21; no – 0. Motion passes.

Bylaws Proposal: Staff Representation – Cheri Rossi (Bylaws Committee)

Alice K. -- Will not be voted on tonight so please take this one back to your areas for feedback for our next meeting.

Cheri R. -- Providing an avenue for staff members to have representation. Current way does not allow communication to all constituents because many staff seats are at large. This proposal is a way to help information be spread to all staff members. Does not create or take away seats. It just rearranges them. Bylaws would be adjusted as necessary because we never know how restructuring is going to look so it allows the bylaws to be changed as needed. If restructuring causes a staff seat to be vacated, that sitting senator does not lose their senate seat but will remain on senate until the end of their current term.

Alice K. -- Last paragraph we see if not just for staff but for any area affected seats. Also, I know there has been some concerns about what to do with senate and committees. We will deal with that when it happens. Must wait for more info and we can handle it.

Erin W. -- Five VP area market. Student life, provost, and....?

Cheri R. -- Provost, marketing and enrollment, advancement, student life, finance.

Erin W. -- Clarify: some of these areas then may have less staff than others. On board but curious for areas with limited personnel. Will there still be an at-large for those clusters of staff that will not get official representation?

Cheri R. -- We are still talking about it, but it may just be that there won’t be representation from those areas.

Alice K. -- This has come up repeatedly as a concern. Wanted to at least create an opportunity for feedback.

Kristy F. -- In 3A in each of the paragraphs it should say “Electronic means”.

Robb M.: We also discussed if an area didn’t have a rep., we could assign a standing rep. to that area to help disseminate info. Not a huge lift, but we need to make sure everyone has a pathway to get important info. Should assign someone to an area if no representation.

Alice K. – Yes, that could be done informally.

Announcements : John P. -- April 11 a 6 p student life leadership awards. About a dozen well deserving students who have been nominated to receive this award. If you cant be here on campus please consider zooming in. Student Life Leadership Awards Tuesday, April 11 6 pm Centennial Center

Adjourn 5:33 pm