



## Senate Meeting Minutes September 11, 2023

**Present:** Genevieve Salerno, Mark Sullivan, Alice Krause, Jennifer Collins, Shelly Jones, Lindsay Walker, Cheri Rossi, Lori Tremblay, Lauralea Edwards, Jason Cash, Doug Holub, Beth Boyd, Misty Fields, Kristy Fitch, Shannon Shoemaker, Robb Munro, Simon Purdy, Alexis Schwarz, Lisa Tessier, David Brower, Nazely Kurkjian, Mary Bonderoff, Michael Tweed, Brett Meckel, Louis Reyes, Jr., Yassir Semar, Leslie Barger, Dan Gashler, Lori Ciafardoni, Doug Gulotty, Erin Wagner, Max Dehne.

**Proxies:** Cheri R. proxy for Brigid Finn- Maguire.; Shelly Jones proxy for Lori Tremblay and Erin Wagner; Michael Tweed proxy for Max Dehne.

**Meeting called to order at: 4:31 PM.**

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

### Introductions

**Approval of August 28, 2023 meeting minutes:** Motion made by Lindsay W. second by Jenny C.

Discussion: none

Votes taken: 15 yes; 0 no.

**Updates: Interim Provost David Brower:** Identified key areas to improve. Facilities equipment, professional development, recruitment, alumni engagement. Key goals to be implemented during this academic career which are also aligned with the chancellor's four pillars. Trying to keep all of that organized and moving forward. Working with registrar on Fall Finals Week. First round of info sent out to check for discrepancies. Academic Affairs focus on student support and retention. Bronco Reboot Program hosted 28 students. Jeff Stedman hosted. Students were brought back who would have otherwise been academically dismissed. Intrusive advisement model going through the Fall semester. Anticipating positive results. CPASS up and running. Examining supports through SUNY funding, hiring new Peer Tutors. Handshake – robust job board and student transition tool to help students move through being a student to an employed person. Ag-tech this past week with Mary B. and Dan D. looking to better support the agriculture industry of New York. New collaborative efforts upcoming. Office of Continued Education micro-credentialing. Need faculty and staff to be on task force for that. Vet Sci online program up and running supporting the Medaille students. Working with collaborating with provost colleagues across SUNY campuses. Looking forward to continuing the conversations around academic initiatives, equity and retention. Academy to retain students of color on our campus. Met with Onondaga Community College to discuss prospects of Micron. Looking to hire close to 100,000 new workers for this industry. Also discussed health office management.

Meeting to discuss how to align with an online partnership and how to attract students. Cambridge International (Mark Sullivan) advertises our transfer credits and prior learning assessments to attract exchange students. Hosting four academic forums throughout the semester. Dates to be announced.

Questions?

Alice K.: Exciting to hear about the connections between us and other local colleges.

Cheri R.: Thank you. Back to updates from Registrar's Office. Is there an update on updates to Degreeworks. When will that project be done?

Dave B. : No specific answer yet. Will follow up with Alice K.

**Eboard: Alice K.:** Senate committee chairs will give updates at next September meeting (25<sup>th</sup>). Now for some activities from the E-board as well as some general housekeeping stuff. E-board met with search firm. Zulaika Rodriguez was there as well and organized the presidential search. They are meeting with different groups around campus. I hope many of you will be able to attend the faculty and staff open forum on this Friday at 9 AM on ZOOM. Also a survey that went out in the Delhi Today extra. If you need links please reach out to me and I will get that info to you. If you do or do not attend the listening session, please at least fill out the survey. This info is important in order to recruit and generate the advertisement for the job. This information helps the advertisement be as accurate as possible.

Met with Mary and David last week.

Please forward any questions, issues, or concerns you have to the E-board so we can bring them to administration. Next weekend I will be attending a UFS training for Campus Governance Leaders. Later in the fall Lisa and I will be attending the UFS Plenary. Restructuring of bylaws are still ongoing, please stay tuned. SharePoint is where we will be keeping all of our documents from now on. If you cannot access them, please reach out to me or Cheri R. Trainings are also on SharePoint. Please do them as soon as possible.

Taking self nominations for a staff senator to serve on Budget and Planning Committee. We have liaison on the Committee. Please send nomination to Cheri R. or nominate yourself by next week. Also if you need or would like to change committees, let Cheri or I know. We have internal committees with vacant seats.

## **Old Business**

**Strategic Plan – Lauralea Edwards (AVPIE)** - Revisions to the strategic plan that were brought forward have been implemented. First piece of advice was to put in the DEI statements. That language was put in. Minor edits to actual themes and goals made.

Motion to endorse made by: Erin W. second by Shelly J.

Alice K. as we enter into debate, comments or questions, anyone is able to speak but please raise your hand and wait to be called on by Presider. Everyone has total of 3 minutes to speak to each motion. Chat is not for discussion or questions. Only for info sharing.

Lisa T.: Most of these revisions make sense based on what we were talking about before. The first goal on the top of the page: it sounds like faculty and staff support the students through their own faculty and staff development. I would like to advocate for support in that way, but many of us have to pay for our own professional development. Areas of expertise and pedagogical practices. We should not be responsible solely for our own professional development.

Simon P.: Question. Constituent feedback: when we say professional feedback does innovation count for that?

Lauralea E.: Academic development, innovative research, public presentation and publishing is all regarded as professional development.

Simon P.: Important to note this for continued support and funding.

Vote taken: 20 yes, 0 no. Vote carries.

Lauralea E.: Thank you all for the vote.

**Bylaws Proposal: Agenda – Lindsay W. (Bylaws Committee)** Last time, Cheri and I brought forth some wording that a fellow senator asked to have in the bylaws in regards to submitting material at least five business days before being presented at a senate meeting.

Alice K.: Do you have anything to add.

Cheri R. No.

Motion to endorse made by Erin W. second by Jenny C.

Discussion:

Kristy F.: I think it was mentioned last time but still curious. What happens if something isn't distributed in that amount of time? Strategic plan is an example of something that could not be submitted within those five business days.

Cheri R.: Bylaws say something can be brought to floor as new business if something was not submitted in the potential timeframe of five days. Curriculum Committee is an example of that. I want to mention that because there is an impact to this. To your general point, if something cannot make the five days, it can be brought from the floor as new business.

Doug H. : Would it be possible for the person or committee to submit their materials as soon as possible even if does make the five day period. Can they still submit it even if it is just the night before? This sounds more like a recommendation.

Cheri R.: Are you saying that maybe the five days should be a suggestion and be more flexible?

Doug H.: The way it is stated, it does not seem to have any ramifications if the material is not submitted within the five days.

Cheri R. If this were going to be included in our bylaws, the primary purpose is to have a deadline to give senators time to review.

Lisa T.: In favor of bylaws change. Presenting to senators in a more timely fashion so we can engage folks on how they feel about items. If something is brought up in new business, we can consider or make motion to postpone.

Genevieve S.: I am speaking against this bylaws change. If they can bring from floor anyways what is the point of this. Senators are not always able to speak to their constituents to make a vote. Often times it is their responsibility to do what they feel is best for their area without the input of constituents.

Beth B.: Would it be helpful to have this statement but also special circumstance must be approved by the presider and saying that there may be exceptions to the rule, perhaps add language like that to think about.

Erin W.: I appreciate all the points brought up. Bylaws must think about the rhetorical effect. If a proposal is brought forth not within the five days. If we did not choose to endorse something is still a statement. Some of the implications may not be purely timeline based.

Vote taken: 13 yes, 6 no. Motion passes. Materials must be presented five business days (one week) ahead of scheduled senate meeting

## **New Business**

**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Board Liaison Election – Cheri R. (Operations Committee):** We do not have any nominations for this liaison at this time.

Alice K. If you have any nominations from senate to serve on that board please speak up. Needs a senate rep.

Erin W. – Cochairing as Academic Chair and as staff on professional side. Will be looking again at themes. A great chance to make a real impact.

Lou R.: I would like to second Dr W.'s statements and encourage and invite anyone who is interested to join that advisory board. Had great meeting today with both cochairs. We are also looking for third co-chair.

Alice K. We also need a rep for our budget and planning committee. Any other new business?

## **Announcements :**

Lori C.: Chancellor's award season! Thanks for the nominations! Still looking to fill the seats of this committee as well as others. Also looking to convene a Distinguished. If you are interested in chairing it, you will be guided through timelines and paperwork by Cheri and I! Looks great on your vita and great way to give back to the campus community. We also have support of faculty stipend again. Thank you for agreeing to fund us for this.

Lou R.: Interim chair of diversity will be holding events for Jewish Faith Community. Tuesday and Thursday from 12 to 2:30 and Thursday from 4 to 6 pm in Farrell and maybe even outside. Also, we are working on creating employee resource group opportunities. Creating application process so we can identify groups we can support with time and funding for development and support. Please go back to your areas to make people aware. Applications soon to be distributed in the Delhi Today.

Cheri R.: We learned today that we will need someone to chair the chancellor's award for Distinguished and Scholarship/Creative Activities.

**Adjourn: 5:19 PM**