



Senate Meeting Minutes September 25, 2023

Present: Genevieve Salerno, Mark Sullivan, Alice Krause, Cheri Rossi, Douglas Gullotty, John Padovani, Dan Davis, Kristy Fitch, Louis Reyes, Dan Gashler, Jennifer Collins, Mary Bonderoff, Shelly Jones, Michael Tweed, Doug Holub, Jason Cash, Shannon Shoemaker, Erin Wagner, Yassir Semar, Misty Fields, Brigid Finn-Maguire, David Brower, Beth Boyd, Robb Munro, Marc Evans, Max Denhe, Laurie Jones, Shawn Brislin, Lori Tremblay, Lars Schweidenback, Lori Ciafardoni, Joyce Shim, Nazely Kurkjian, Mary Wake, Chelsea Mathieu

Proxies: Jason C proxy for Simon P. , Cheri R proxy for Lindsay W. , Lori C. proxy for Lisa T.

Meeting called to order at: 4:32 PM.

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

Approval of September 11, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion made by Shelly J., seconded by Erin W.

Discussion: Name corrections noted by Erin W. in chat.

Vote taken: 19 yes, 0 no minutes approved.

Updates:

Acting President Mary B. -- Great weekend of activities. Nice to see so many families on campus and alumni even though it was so cold! Wanted to give an update as far as what happened with Potsdam. A very active presidents meeting with attention paid to enrollment and retention, especially making plans for our campus. David will be talking about it on Friday. Retention is an important strategy so watching that is really important. SUNY has created an internal facing dashboard to track. Hoping for some positive impacts on keeping students here and having them be successful. APAC looking at ways to achieve savings. Will continue to use that group. Another point of conversation was operational collaboration. We already do some of this with purchasing but we are going to be looking at some other opportunities with our contract approvals and some things within SUNY that are synergies and ways for us to save and ways for some support with other campuses. Continuing to meet biweekly in conjunction with multiyear plan to address our structural deficit. Meeting with Middle States next week. Did not accept our correction regarding original error. Still requiring the report and a visit so will continue to work on that. We must show that we are continuing to progress towards fiscal sustainability. Will continue to do what we are doing as far as spending allocation review and hiring committee. Conversations will continue from first meeting. Fireside chat closer to the end of Oct. more to come on that date.

Focusing on attrition. As people leave, what can we be doing to revision how people are working. Being a bit more prescriptive than have usually been. Still working with Construction

Funds and still working with facilities with Master Plan to understand challenges and coming up with solutions. Received funds for critical care simulation lab. Lots of great things happening that we are excited about DCEC reward of \$100,000. Funding is for curriculum development and training. MOU with SUNY Oneonta. Will be in partnership receiving students who have been denied by their admission process. Tomorrow the book reading is at 3:00 pm. "Becoming a Student Ready College". I hope people will participate. Happy to share the book. Copies available in the library.

Questions:

Lori C. – Students from SUNY Oneonta? Are we accepting them based on space?

Mary B. – These are good students for us.

Lori C. – Will they still be held to our admittance standards?

Mary B. – Yes they are good students for us.

Lori C. – How do we admit these students?

Mary B. – We are hoping to have them in the regular admission cycle. Mark, do you want to add?

Mark – EOP students and others that were applicable to things we had but it was so late in the cycle that we are hoping with these changes we can work those students in sooner. They do have to meet our requirements before they are admitted into the program.

Mary B. These are mostly applied tech or business students.

GS – Can you please elaborate on the Middle States report just so I have it correct in the minutes.

Mary B. -- We submitted a factual error report in terms of our perspective on our non-compliance for financial standards. But they did not take it. It was a long shot but we did not want to put it in. They will be here in early October. New person was really helpful but there to lay the groundwork to make us successful. We are still accredited. Even when team was here they thought the pieces we put in place were good.

Erin W. – Curious because we are in a budget crunch. Since we are focusing on attrition. How can we balance that with hires in places where they are critically needed and still offer quality instruction?

Mary B. we are still taking justifications and reviewing them. We want the data to show that the classes are full for instance. Questions are being asked like that. We are using SUNY data to look at sister institutions with similar enrollment for things such as advisors. Benchmarking with sister institutions who are in better financial situations than we are.

Alice K. any other questions. Thank you for the updates!

Old Business

Committee Reports. Alice K. You do not need to rehash what is here. It has been distributed to Senators ahead of time. Only meant for additions.

E-board report: Did attend the UFS and FCCC campus governance training in Saratoga, NY. This was really nice and we were with colleagues from the community college system. Was nice to learn about how those institutions are governed. Assessments of shared governance on campus. Got some good tools for that. I am happy to report that overall our status of shared governance is fairly strong especially in relation to other campuses. A few things since this report was submitted. Scheduled meetings with Kelly Keck and Laurie Jones. Started these meetings last semester. Helpful to know what is going on with them.

Cheri R. – Compiled committee membership information. Most will be staying on same committee as last year. Posted the committee assignments as I know them to be. Folder called “Senate Committees” in ShareDrive. Please check it for accuracy. If it is not what you want, please let me know and we will work getting you into something else. Also wanted to give you a quick look at some of our openings. Internally for senators only, Operations, Bylaws and Scholarship. External Veterinary Science representative on Assessment Committee, Student Life rep. on Assessment Committee, opening for nonacademic person for Budget and Planning and two staff openings for Campus Life. So, if you all know of anyone who may be interested please let me know. Campus service.

Operations – Cheri R. -- Nothing to add.

Bylaws– Cheri R. – Nothing to add.

Alice K. Any questions or comments?

Erin W. – Clarification on Assessment Committee opening?

Cheri R. -- The structure will be the same for now until we can get our bylaws reconfigured. My info shows vet sci and applied science openings.

Marc E. – Vet and applied sciences have two reps and we currently have a rep in vet sci which is Laura Dalby. The opening on the Assessment Committee is Applied Science, not Vet Sci.

Cheri R. -- Oh ok my info doesn’t distinguish. I will make that correction

Resolutions – Nothing to add.

Scholarship – Shannon S. -- We want to do some work for clarifications and do some work around lateness of essays and things like that.

Academic Policy – Lauren S. could not be here tonight. Alice K. collecting questions to pass along to her.

Promotion Committee – Report provided so we know what's going on. Anything to add to this Lars S. or Jenny C.?

Lars S. – Nothing to add.

Alice K. – Questions?

Assessment Committee – Marc E. -- We do have the SharePoint currently updated on the SUNY Delhi website but we may still be restructuring it.

Budget Planning – Doug H. -- Only thing to add is that we are scheduled to meet this Thursday.

Campus Life -- Yassir S. -- Nothing to add.

Chancellor's Award -- Nothing to add.

Continued Term Appointment -- New chair Chris Jones has provided some info on how the committee works. Very helpful.

Curriculum Committee -- Lars S. -- Nothing to add.

Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Board still looking for a liaison.

Alice K. Any outstanding questions? Feel free to share these reports with your areas. They are there to see how the committees are working for them. Thank you for all the work you have done.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Board Liaison Election – Cheri Rossi (Operations Committee) No one has come forward for this nomination .

Alice K. -- Would anyone like to self-nominate from the floor?

Erin W. -- I am not self-nominating but I just want to say if no one is nominating I am happy to provide temporary reports since I am already on the committee.

Alice K. -- We can talk about that at a later time. That might be a good way for you to serve until we get a nomination.

New Business

Budget & Planning Committee Non-Academic Senator Rep. – Cheri Rossi (Operations Committee) No one has come forward at this time.

Alice K. Our senators have to come from different VP areas of the committee so we can have as broad a representation as possible. If there is someone who would like to serve, who is a non-academic senator rep. this is a great opportunity to learn about the budget. Any nominations from the floor?

Bylaws proposal – Cheri R. presenting for Lindsay W.

This is the first presentation of this proposal. Not being voted on tonight. Will vote on it for our next senate meeting in October.

Announcements

Statement from FCCC – Mike T. to share as Lisa T. could not be here tonight. First appearance of this agenda item. Seeking to support this and bring it forward. Setting parameters for inclusive access. Lots of concern from faculty members for institutions implementing it. Some good things about it, but seems like sometimes it is not being implemented well. Students might have to pay for OER. Open Education Resources free content. Also, books being available through multiple semesters. Some of these policies take away student and instructor choices. If campus institutes something like this, it should go through shared governance. That is what this resolution is for. I don't know if anyone on this campus is actively looking into it.

Alice K. -- Want to give clarification. Typically, we endorse things coming from UFS. Came through Spring Plenary meeting that also came through FCCC and UFS endorsed it. Now we are looking to endorse this resolution that UFS also endorsed. It was briefly discussed by some office on our campus.

Jenny C. – Wanted to provide clarification. I am OER librarian on campus. Very involved in this. OER is an aspect of this but it is not the entire thing. Just one piece. Paying a small servicing fee for OER access is not unheard of. If a student wants the book as a printed material, they may have to pay for that printing service. Other fees are flat maintenance fees. Fees are decided through SUNY cost sharing. If we support this, we don't necessarily have the power to control if this is paid or unpaid materials. Fees would not be exorbitant if they existed. We would not be able to decide what those fees are.

Alice K. – Please bring this back to your areas for discussion.

Kristy F. – Our campus has looked into this before. I know of at least two times that this has come forward. Bookstore has come forward as interested. Big financial aid implications. Institutions that have implemented this have had to jump through some hurdles with financial aid. Financial aid doesn't always cover the type of fee presented by this. Because it flattens out the price everyone pays for books, sometimes it increases the money students would pay. Sometimes this means they have to pay the fee even if they are not interested in the services.

Alice K. – Any other questions or info to share? We will vote to endorse or not at next meeting. Is there any other New Business tonight?

Cheri R. – We have a self nomination for DEI board rep. Are we willing to do an election?

Alice K. -- Yes let's do it!

Cheri R. -- Nominee is Dan G. 22 votes yes, 0 no.

Alice K. -- Ok thank you, Dan! Dan Gashler has been voted in as senate liaison to DEIAB. John Padovani had some info on the previous

John P. – The whereas clauses in the FCCC resolution related to the campus auxiliary board, stating that we do have faculty representation on the CADI board.

Alice K.—Any new business and any announcements.

Adjourn – 5:23 PM.