

College Senate Meeting Minutes

8 February 2021

Attendance

Senators Attending via Zoom:

A. Balcom, T. Hamblin, E. Liberatori, L. Aleksa, S. Shoemaker, L. Frisbee, S. Jones, D. Gashler, L. Tessier, M. Wake, R. Celli, R. Piurowski, A. Calabrese, C. Rossi, D. Krzyston, D. Aikens, D. Conklin, D. Cutting, D. Holub, E. Ericson, E. Wagner, J. Fishner, J. Lindsay, M. House, M. Fields, A. Krause (proxy held via Lindsay Walker), Sean Babcock (proxy via Mary Wake), L. Ciafardoni, J. Cash, W. Shaffer, Laurie Jones,

Senators Absent: D. Green, J. Warren

Guests: Cheryl Dietzman, Desiree Kever, Karyn Wendrow, Karen Teitelbaum, Provost Thomas Jordan, Nii Teteh (Student Senate President)

Meeting called to order at 4:33 pm by Presider, E. Frisbee via Zoom.

Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve the 12-7-2021 meeting minutes: Ward Shaffer made the motion, Shannon Shoemaker seconded. 1 abstention. Motion approved.

E-Board Updates – Liz

- Our only real update is regarding the Consultation Report. See more below.

Bylaws Update – Ward Shaffer

- Concerns regarding area-elected seats (e.g. no timeline previously)
 - Orange highlights are changes committee is proposing to make
 - Blue – changes made based on consultation with operations committee
 - Additional changes made after Ward met with e-board for further discussion
 - If a seat is deemed vacant, would follow same procedures as outlined in section 3.
- Questions/Comments?
 - Doug – why “may” instead of “will”? May seems like the Senate isn’t required to notify.
 - Issues surrounding holiday/summer. Often the Senate isn’t the party who is first alerted to a vacancy (e.g. Dean would know before Senate)
 - Amanda – what if you re-arrange this sentence to clarify?
 - Would need to make a motion to amend this.

- Need a motion to approve the new bylaws and then make an amendment to motion
 - Terry motions; Rich seconds.
 - Make an amendment to this language – motion to amend the language based on Amanda’s suggestion: Doug; Terry seconds.
 - Amanda’s proposed amended language: When an area-elected seat from an academic school has been vacated outside the Senate meeting schedule and the affected unit has not already begun the nomination and election process, the Senate Operations Committee will notify the dean of the affected academic unit, or the director of the library, by the end of the first week (?) of faculty obligation.
 - First week of obligation – what are the Senate’s feelings on this turn around? Is this timeline appropriate? Timeline seems reasonable though the new person might miss the first meeting. This seems like a worst case scenario and an alternate could always attend for that first meeting.
 - Vote for the amended language: 1 abstention. No: 0. Motion passes
 - Original motion vote: 1 abstention. No: 0. Motion passes
- Thank you, Bylaws Committee!

New ILO Assessment Process – Liz Frisbee

- Discussion on this back in December. Concern that we didn’t have enough time to take new process back to our area and get feedback. Reached out to Katie Bucci to see if we can discuss it and bring back to our areas. Steering committee has scheduled multiple meetings; meetings will be over after Feb 16. Instead of us getting feedback from our areas, Katie recommends that we go to the VH ILO hub to provide feedback. Also, we can reach out to Assessment Steering Committee with additional feedback by Feb 16. They will be finalizing the ILO process shortly after that.
- Liz asked Katie to bring back the ILO process to the Senate so we can see it and endorse it.
- Link to hub provided by Des in the chat: https://sunydelhi-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/personal/buccikl_delhi_edu/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?e=GpuBgq&CID=148a6f4c-d3b3-e7c1-b451-0a7bf461571f&share=EYAoq337W4pPvXwNGXNTXwkBpWUS4BcWncZKH9U141zO3g

Consultation Process Update – Liz Frisbee

- The Consultation Report is complete. A quick reminder of the process:
 - Between Nov 10 – 20 – team interviewed folks (including Senate members, leadership team)
 - Senate and leadership were asked to provide evidence for the consultation team to evaluate

- Draft of the report came to Presider and President on December 30, 2020
 - They were directed to make any corrections and return by mid-January
- Final report was sent to President and Presider on January 18, 2021
- Instructions from the consultation team – they didn't tell us how to share the document; hoped that Presider and President would work out how this would be shared
- Eboard met with Leadership Team to discuss and deliberate how to share the document
 - Think we're close to the final stages of these deliberations
 - Want to agree on a way that we all feel comfortable with
 - Want to build trust and work together to move forward together
 - Waiting on an email from Leadership team regarding this
 - If we don't hear by the end of this week, we'll reach out.
- Thank you all for your patience on this process! We have tried to be transparent and this is hard to not see the document yet. Thank you for your trust and participation in this process. These are hard topics to discuss. Want to have a positive outcome from all of this.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Terry – Thanks to Liz and the eboard for all you've done in this process. 70%+ of us supported this process. Thank you for working with the Leadership team on how the report is shared. You've been going back and forth with them on how to share the report. What is the deliberation? The report is done. What is taking so long?
 - Liz – Document has some hard, sensitive topics in it. Information in this report is based on the interviewees' perceptions that they shared with consultation team. Some of these topics are hard for the leadership to see, particularly if they are portrayed as attacks on leadership.
 - The Senate eboard wants to share the entire document. But we also understand that these are difficult topics in the report.
 - Cheri Rossi – when you talk about meeting with Leadership, can you talk about how far reaching that is?
 - Liz – President, the three delegates that were assigned to the Senate (Dr. Jordan, Dr. Bucci, Dr. Aguirre). Dawn Sohns was also at the last meeting. We're interested in moving forward with the leadership. Want to come up with a joint message on how to share the document.
 - Cheryl D. – This is going to go out to the entire campus, not just the Senate? Will the document include the leadership's responses? Is this document FOIA-able?
 - Liz – we don't have that exactly confirmed yet. That is the hope, but we're awaiting confirmation from Leadership.
 - Liz – By responses, do you mean the corrections we made to the draft?
 - Cheryl – If there were incorrect things in the report, will they address that?

- If the full report is shared, then the President's comments will be included.
 - Liz – we thought the document was FOIA-able, because it came through email, but we are waiting on confirmation on that from the UFS.
- Lori – Is us going to leadership part of the process or are we doing this out of a courtesy? Is the document “this is what we heard, this is what we recommend”? A lot of people were very honest in what they shared because we want to continue growing and moving forward. I'm sure everyone feels like they're on the defense. What is the next step with that report? People want to see the original report.
 - Liz – the Senate requested this. We received this document. Could the Senate just take this document and distribute it? Yes, we could do that. Is that the best decision to make if we're trying to work together and build trust – probably not. We can't do things one-sided. We need to move forward with the leadership.
 - Our goal is to be as transparent as possible and we want to share this entire document. We will be honest with you in terms of how the version that goes out is different from the original report.
- Cheryl D – wasn't one of the big issues the lack of transparency? If we see anything less than the full document, that will be a problem. Thank you for your hard work, Liz.
- Terry – Thanks, Liz, for your diplomacy and your extensions of olive branches. Does the eboard have in their mind a red line if we can't come to an agreement? What's the next step? If the Senate somehow puts out a redacted report, 1) this will hurt our credibility as a body – 70%+ asked for this process; 2) shared governance is a large part of Middle States; shared governance means we have to be partners in the administration of the institution. If this drags on, it becomes an issue.
 - Liz – we are very concerned about our credibility. We are trying to build trust both with our constituents and the leadership. We thank those who were courageous enough to come forward and participate in this process. We've really been holding the line on what we want, but we can't be mindless to the leadership as well. It would make no sense if we went through this whole process and didn't share anything. There has been a proposal made to us and we're trying to work with that proposal. We hope that we will all agree and we can just move forward.
- Doug – Do you feel that Leadership has participating in good faith in these most recent negotiations?

- Liz – yes, but I’m an optimist. Leadership team brings up valid concerns that they have.

Stable Senate Zoom Link – Liz Frisbee

- Hoping to make the same Senate zoom link so folks will be able to join more easily without requesting it. Still working on this. Stay tuned!

Resolution Committee Update – Lisa Tessier

- Hoping to have a draft of one proposal to review for next meeting
- Resolution on Racial Equity and Diversity Curriculum – draft in the works; want to seek more feedback from various parties
- Resolution on importance of monitoring shared governance in times of crisis – hoping to have that for us by the next Senate meeting
- Proposal in the works for a new local resolution advocating for our participation in the PRODIG program
- Resolution on bylaws for staff participation and leadership on Senate? Might go through bylaws instead of the resolution committee
- New resolutions also coming forward from Winter Plenary
- Conversation/Feedback?
 - Terry: How are other campuses dealing with challenges of Covid?
 - Lisa T: One tech school has reported retrenchment; one tech school reported they were required to teach F2F (face to face); we’ve been more proactive in being accommodating from what we’ve seen; other campuses have had a stronger shared governance to help them through

Winter 2021 Plenary Report – Lisa Tessier

- Lori, Liz, and Lisa attended Jan 21 – 22, 2021 via Zoom
- Please refer to the full report available in our VH space if you have more questions or want more details.
- Gwen Kaye’s report:
 - SUNY Undergrad Research Conference – April 16, 2021
- Executive Budget via Governor
 - These are the asks: not sure if these will happen:
 - Anticipated that all state agency would require 5% cut (SUNY asked for flexibility in how we choose to do that; furloughs as a last resort)
 - Extension of rationale for
 - Contractual raises – holding off
 - Proposing streamlining new program approval (SED only approve for professional licensure programs and a few others; not all)
 - Excelsior is extended at the 2016-2017 rate; burden will fall on the school to make up the difference

- Student health task force – opportunities for training for suicide prevention
- Chancellor discussed racial equity action plan
- Nominations are being taken for new president of SUNY UFS – Gwen Kaye has served her two terms
- Four resolutions that came forward – will look at one today; one was re-committed; looking at two others next meeting
 - Resolution from Exec Committee – Shared Governance in Times of Extraordinary Challenges – admin work with shared gov esp in areas of health/safety, instructional modality, budgetary concerns
- Concerns on campuses for using the same faculty for search committees
- Tech Sector meeting
 - Diversity/equity/inclusion resolutions
 - Anti-racism work group
 - Moving away from the term multiculturalism
 - Load issues; over-sized classes online; suspension of course releases;
 - Issues of Covid 1B – should be extended to F2F staff in addition to faculty
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion committee – looking at exploring accessibility in online education
- Continued advocacy for Gen Ed
- Reminders for nominations for Chancellor's Award underway
- Art in the time of Covid; PAAC prizes – more details in full report
- Library – Elsevier Update – applauding staying strong in the negotiations; SUNY researched how we were using Elsevier; helped us reach a new agreement with Elsevier in March 2020 – cost saving measure
- Leveraging purchases across SUNY – 7 schools on it now; 12 are in the process of joining
- Manage Print System (RFP) – reduce printing by 40% across SUNY (cost saving) – more efficient and unified printers (40000 different devices and 35 different brands of printers)
- Campus reserves are mostly healthy across the SUNY system
- New Interim Provost – strong shared governance advocate – former faculty member at SUNY Poly; tech sector has most F2F sections;
 - Provided additional resources for faculty and students
- SUNY Online – meeting and exceeding SUNY goals – new enrollment of 1400 students (students who would have left NYS otherwise)
 - By 2025-26, goal of having 25,000 students in SUNY online
- General Education Advisory Committee – some changes forthcoming
 - Competency as well as GE areas
 - Will need to discuss this more in the future
 - Feb – April 2021 – we should see plan
 - Hope to have final policy by June 2021

- Chancellor agrees that current situation is not sustainable; committed to going back to pre-pandemic
 - Furloughs would be last resort; he would take a furlough if need be
 - Bruce Simon – asked about Fall 2021 – Chancellor says that students don't want to be on campus if there's nothing to do, no sports/activities, etc; hoping to be F2F but masked; working with local health departments
 - Pass/Fail option came up again; continuing discussion
- Questions/concerns:
 - Ericka – are they tracking new, unique students for SUNY Online? Or are they differentiating between students who were in a program that became a SUNY Online program? Unclear if students are new or if they are really being poached from other SUNY schools.
 - Lisa - New enrollments – but will follow up on that.

Please be sure to take the resolution back to your areas for discussion and we will vote on this next

Agenda complete.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03pm

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb 22, 2021 @ 4:30pm (Zoom)