

# College Senate Meeting Minutes

## 30 August 2021

### Attendance

#### Senators Attending via Zoom:

L. Frisbee, R. Celli, L. Ciarfardoni, E. Liberatori, E. Wagner, S. Shoemaker, A. Krause, C. Rossi, M. Wake, E. Ericson, J. Cash, S. Jones, J. Fishner, L. Tessier, D. Holub, L. Jones, D. Cutting, A. Calabrese, D. Gashler, D. Aikens, N. Wagner, A. Lang, L. Reyes, J. Brosnan, J. Fitch, Genevieve Salerno (alternate for A. Balcom), M. House, J. Warren

**Senators Absent:** T. Hamblin, D. Keever, D. Wakin

**Guests:** Carol Bishop, Katie Bucci, Susan Deane, Thomas Jordan, Michael Laliberte, Tomas Aguirre, Lars Schweidenback, Michael Sullivan, Dawn Sohns, David Brower

Meeting called to order at 4:30 pm by Presider, E. Frisbee via Zoom.

Reminder: please use the “raise your hand” feature. Guests can speak, but cannot vote.

#### Welcome! – Liz

- Welcome! Thank you for attending!

#### Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve the 6-14-2021 meeting minutes: Jason Cash made the motion, Doug Holub seconded. Motion approved.

#### President’s Update – Pres. Laliberte

- Welcome back to campus, everyone! So nice to have students back on campus. Thanks to everyone who helped with Welcome Weekend. Students were really engaged and happy to be back.
- 100% compliance with regulations for students (e.g. vaccinations for being in the residence hall)
- Commuters have until Sept 27<sup>th</sup> to be vaccinated
- FDA approval does mean that faculty and staff are vaccinated or are testing every week. Until we’re told otherwise by SUNY that’s how we’ll be functioning.
- Questions re: what is the threshold for changing from in-person. Still gathering that data to make an informed decision. Info from today/tomorrow’s student testing – hope to have that by the middle of week to determine threshold. Threshold used to be 100 – but now the threshold would probably be lower. Old number was based on folks being unvaccinated. Working with public health to determine best path forward.

### **Provost's Update – Provost Jordan**

- Welcome back!
- Search for the LAS Dean – will close on Sept 1. Committee will begin to review the applications. Hope to have someone start in January.
- Automotive and Electric Vehicle track has been approved.
- 4/5 schools have hired new faculty (Vet Sci, LAS, Nursing, Applied Tech)
- Worked out deal with Blue Stone – asking folks to participate. Students will be down in Blue Stone (e.g. themed dinners, cocktail hours, etc.).
- Working with Abby to kick off Fireside Chats with Provost (e.g. one with faculty/staff and one with students)

### **E-Board Updates – Liz**

- Standing Senate link – will be reused and posted in calendar invites; working on setting up Sharepoint through College Senate email to more easily share documents with people across campus – coming soon!
- Be sure to read the bylaws – under the resources tab on the VH site.
- Pay attention to the Attendance section. If you cannot attend a meeting, please get a proxy for your vote. You can have a proxy three times in the year. We don't want to have to vacate a seat over an attendance issue.
- How to navigate Vancko Hall: Click on VH; College Senate main page; tabs for Fall 2021-Spring 2022 meetings; main page has Senate membership and term; Senate Meeting 2021-22 book; table of contents on right hand side – schedule of meetings; click on the date of the meeting and then you can find documents for that day's meeting.
- Senate Resources: bylaws, Robert's Rules, shared gov training, etc.
- Raise hand feature - please use that; Shelly explains how to find it on various devices
- Will we meet again in person? We plan on using Zoom for the Fall and then re-evaluate in Spring.
- Goals for Senate eboard:
  - Structure and flow of Senate (what comes to Senate when?)
  - Communication advocacy
  - Bylaws and delegation to Senate committees
  - Accountability

### **Budget and Planning Representative – Liz**

- Dave Wakin has volunteered (non-academic staff) via email (not in attendance)
- Motion to approve Dave: JoAnna Brosnan; second: Rich Celli; one abstention; motion passes.

## **Bylaws Proposal – Cheri**

- Motion was brought up at June meeting; changes were made based on that discussion
- Black text is current; orange is what was discussed in June; blue is the result of discussion;
- Changes that the B&P committee requested to be made as they start the new committee structure
- “Who is not already representing the Senate” (non-academic staff – represent VP area; academics – represent academic area; not Senate)
- Budget director serve as ex officio member
- Review the structure and make changes – that’s what we’ve been doing; moving to strike this paragraph
- Changing number of members from 11 to 16
- Bylaws changes need to be on two agendas; this was discussed in June and now; motion to approve the changes: Donna Cutting; second: Doug Holub.
- Discussion
  - Alice: budget director: non-voting ex officio? Need this to be clear.
  - Doug: That was the intention.
  - Amendment: motion to add “non-voting” in front of “ex officio”? Doug Holub; second: Ericka Erikson.
  - Question from Erin re: number: 2 academic senators; 2 non-academic senators; 5 from VP areas; 5 from schools; library; and ex-officio budget director
  - Motion re: adding “non-voting” passes
  - Motion re: bylaws proposal: passes.

## **Meeting Dates for Fall Senate Meetings – Liz**

- Want to make sure we’re missing holidays for staff and religious holidays
- Skipping Columbus Day/Fall Break Monday
- Any potential conflicts/issues?
  - December 13 = during finals week; could potentially change if necessary if there’s a major conflict with finals schedules

## **Curriculum Committee – Lars**

- CC21-1 and 2: Cross-listed classes NURS 605 and NURS 611 – should have same SLOs; needed to be fixed and approved before October for accreditation purposes – Motion: Dennis Aikens; second: Lori Ciafardoni; motion passes.  
Thanks, Lars!

## Shared Governance Training – Liz

- Presentation created by USF President
- What is shared governance? Structures and processes – inclusive and transparent for decision making
- Faculty should have a primary role relating to academic matters including curriculum
- Significant input through governance structure, planning, assessment, policies
- Policy-making vs procedure; not to get into the weeds of operational
- Communication is key! Representatives must inform constituents of issues and outcomes. Elected by constituent groups instead of appointed.
- Separation of governance and union
- Proactive and building consensus from beginning of planning process
- Potential issues: silence is interpreted as consent; not knowing the role; lack of consultation with faculty/staff/students; disengagement; poor communication
- Good shared governance: trust and transparency; communication; collective understanding of roles; joint decision-making
- Lou: Is this powerpoint something that our senate is reflective of or is that someone's presentation that we're trying to establish past practice of? There was very little mention of staff in this ppt.
  - Liz: This came from UFS. For our training, we can include "staff" where it says "faculty" because we are a shared senate and we all weigh in on these decisions. We have three volumes in the library on the concept of shared governance. Lots of different ideas about shared governance in articles from Chronicle, etc.
- Alice – Just wanted to point out that many of the SUNY senates are faculty only. Our strength is that we have a Senate that consists of faculty and staff. We use the phrase "academic and non-academic staff" so that it isn't a hierarchy. The materials that come from UFS might be more focused on faculty because that's more typical.
- Lori: Award for Shared Governance; forward you some of the criteria for that to see what the language for that award is; SUNY recognizes strong examples of shared governance. Sometimes SUNY/USF seems to lump faculty and staff together.

### **Announcements – Lori, Lisa, Cheri**

- Lori: Chancellor's Award Committees; Adjunct award is in the fall; nominations for that in November; short-term commitment; seats on all of the committees if folks are interested in volunteering. Reach out to Lori or Cheri if interested.
- Lisa T: Academic Planning Group – Lisa needs to step down because the group meets while she is in teaching; will assign a proxy for the first meeting (9/9) but would like another volunteer for the next meeting so we can vote you in; meetings will be Thursdays at 9am – every other week;
- Cheri: Committees – it is required that every Senator serve on one committee of the Senate; please go to the VH site and sign up using the wiki feature; if you're already on a committee, please go and make sure you're still there.
  - Particularly need folks on the Operations Committee.

Thanks, everyone!

Adjourned at 5:28pm

**Next Meeting: Monday, September 13, 2021 @ 4:30pm**