

College Senate Meeting Minutes

31 January 2022

Attendance

Senators Attending via Zoom:

L. Frisbee, R. Celli, L. Ciarfardoni, E. Liberatori, E. Wagner, S. Shoemaker (proxy held by Rich Celli after 5:30pm), A. Krause, C. Rossi (proxy held by Lori Ciafardoni), M. Wake, J. Cash, S. Jones, J. Fishner, L. Tessier, D. Holub, L. Jones, D. Cutting, A. Calabrese, D. Gashler, D. Aikens (proxy held by Matt House), M. House, A. Lang, L. Reyes, J. Brosnan, J. Fitch, A. Balcom, D. Wakin, Lindsay Walker (alt for D. Keever), Simon Purdy (alt for T. Hamblin), J. Warren

Senators Absent:

Guests: Karen Teitelbaum, John Padovani, Michael Sullivan, Jackie Howard, Mary Bonderoff, Linnea Goodwin Burwood, David Brower, Maureen O'Connor, Joshua Lopez, Susan Deane, Amy Brown

Meeting called to order at 4:32 pm by Presider, E. Frisbee via Zoom.

Welcome! – Liz

- Welcome! Thank you for attending!
- Reminder: please use the “raise your hand” feature. Guests can speak, but cannot vote.

Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve: Doug H. Rich C. seconds.
 - No discussion.
 - Y 24, N 0, 0 abstentions. Motion passes.

Dr. Bonderoff Updates

- Mary has been here meeting with folks
- Would like to meet with more students
- Dr. Andrea Wade – experience with SUNY working with middle states; served as Provost of MCC; will be working remotely 10 hours per week
 - Has done accreditation during a vote of no confidence
 - Met with Dr. Jordan today
- Going forward with mediation between College President/Provost/Cabinet with Senate Eboard; each area will have time with the mediator and then come together; think through priorities
 - Next week schedule individual meetings and then plan larger event

- Once mediation is complete, thinking about doing a retreat to consider what our shared definition of shared governance is and what we as a campus need to do to move forward
- Getting together with CET groups, look at initiatives, action plan to get approval for initiatives and look at timeline to implement these
 - Start with CET HR group – want to use these initiatives in thinking about search for VP of Finance
 - Want some of these ideas in place soon but will continue the conversations
- Still working on a report for SUNY
 - Lack of trust/communication/incivility – consultation report matches a lot of what folks have been saying
 - Across the board – not just one side
 - Group of people who are strongly committed to students, to mission of institution and to work to make institution thrive
 - Initial recommendation = mediation between Leadership Team and Senate
- New Chancellor – lots of change at SUNY
 - New chancellor began on January 17
 - Delhi was on the list of top priorities for SUNY
 - Mary is meeting with SUNY weekly
- Understand there may be frustration at the appearance of lack of action – but things are moving behind the scenes
- Mary is on Delhi's campus on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- Thanks, Mary!

E-Board Updates – Liz

- Mary and Liz are meeting weekly to discuss concerns and how to move forward
 - Talking through issues and next steps
 - Mediation between Leadership Team and Senate – this is between Senate Eboard and Leadership Team (not full Senate)
 - Meetings have been very positive and building trust
- Liz has been meeting with Provost Jordan as well – rebuild trust and relationships
- Academic Programs – deactivation/discontinuation
 - Forms that were sent to SUNY have been brought back to SUNY Delhi
 - Fred Hildebrand (SUNY) and Provost Jordan discussed these
 - Re-looking at curriculum process with Mary and Provost
 - Advocating for shared governance and current plan, but open to new ideas that might allow for more campus feedback
 - Nothing has been decided – still discussing potential ideas

- Enrollment program/review committee (Morrisville does this) – regular/annual review of programs and enrollments; help to discuss issues before programs get to the point of deactivation
 - Still discussing this idea, but may need Senate representation on such a committee in the future
- CET groups presented at Opening Meeting on Jan 18
 - Looking for feedback on this
 - Note in the Delhi Today about how to give feedback via Vancko Hall page
 - Some folks have left the committees; if you're interested in joining, contact Liz or Susan Deane
- Gave Mary the VONC
 - This information has not made it yet to the Chancellor (e.g. new Chancellor, sicknesses, etc.)
 - Hope to still get a meeting with the new Chancellor and hand deliver this document
- Advocating for shared governance in these meetings, but trying to be open minded and flexible
- Questions?
 - Lou: Which CET groups are lacking membership or Senate representatives? Liz can send out this information.

Bylaws Proposals – Alice

- Incorporated the feedback from the last Senate meeting.
- New Parliamentary Language – non-voting ex officio member of bylaws committee; wouldn't participate in debate, make motions or vote; oversee Robert's Rules of order training;
- If approved, language regarding Association Presider serving as Parliamentary would be removed.
- Motion to approve: Jason Cash; second: Simon Purdy.
- Discussion:
 - Jason – We are a small campus. If someone cannot participate in debate, that seems problematic. If the Associate Presider is serving in this role already, then are they already not participating in debate?
 - Alice – that person could still have their opinion known to their representatives. We wanted that person to maintain partiality. Right now the Associate Presider does vote and participate in debate; we didn't discuss that.
 - Jason – Finding a parliamentarian will be difficult. What are the ramifications if no one comes forward?
 - Alice – what are other suggestions then for this role? The next thing we're looking at are the officer roles.

- Jason – Is it worth doing this all at once with the officer roles? The voting piece regarding Parliamentarian (or Associate Presider if the Parliamentarian is absent) is significant.
 - Alice – Happy to hold off on this particular issue and bring it back to the bylaws committee.
 - Jason – motion to refer the parliamentarian language back to committee.
 - Vote: 27 Y, N 0, 1 abstention.
Correction: Liz looked at wrong article in Robert's Rules – needed a second. Second: Lisa T. We re-voted. Vote: 25 Y, N 0, 1 abstention
- Revised Election Process – more precise language. Motion: Erin Wagner; second: JoAnna.
- Discussion:
 - Jason – So we won't have replacement vacancies throughout the year? Alice – That's how it has been. Jason: Very concerned about this as folks may leave. Alice: This was a change we made last year regarding at-large elections. We were running elections all the time and it damaged our reputation. Wanted to revisit this, but it's been less than a year for the current language. We're happy to revisit this down the line, but we should let this new process play out. This hasn't even gone through a cycle yet. We had a lot of discussion about this at the full Senate last year. But the change for today is just to make the date more precise.
 - Jason – Agree with you regarding constant turn over of the Senate. But currently the staff are down and we can't full the vacancy.
 - Alice – Change hasn't gone through a full year of cycle. Only filling them once, not any other time.
 - Liz – if there is a concern about this, we can bring it to the bylaws committee. We are seeing folks sitting on Senate leaving the college – more seats open than normal. We're running into worst case scenario – is a concern because of lack of representation for faculty and staff.
 - Alice – This was a very recent change that we should allow to play out and see what happens. We're also in a unique time as well. I hesitate to see us be reactionary. This part was re-done last Fall. Very open to revisiting this in the future. Perhaps we should fill at large once a semester instead. But change should happen in a measured way and not be reactionary to current times. Historically, we were filling these positions all the time.
 - Vote: 23 Y, 2 N, 2 abstentions
- New Training Language – add annual shared governance training and annual Robert's Rules of Order training
 - Motion: JoAnna; second: Lori C;
 - Discussion:
 - Lou: Annual shared governance training – would this be done in house or externally?

- Alice – Haven't discussed that. The current training was created by SUNY UFS, not by Liz. This could change over time.
- Liz – We work off of the SUNY definition of shared governance, but how we implement that is a current point of discussion. Basic general training would come from SUNY definition.
- Vote: 27 Y, 0 N, 1 abstention.

Senate Membership Update – Cheri

- Cheri is unable to be here.
- Motion to postpone until next meeting: Lori C; second: Erin Wagner.
- No discussion: 29 Y, 0 N, 0 abstentions

2 Senate Representatives – VP of Finance Search

- Looking for one faculty and one staff
 - Ellen and Dave volunteer – two staff members – need to hold a vote
- Jason – Looking for someone with a finance background would be good; try to align expertise and be more strategic in voting and moving forward
 - Liz – this role would also be to represent the Senate and to ensure shared governance practices; finance expertise isn't necessarily required
 - Dave – Do have 20 years of professional experience in banking
 - Ellen – have been working with that position (Carol) for the past several years; working with that area with regard to grants; interest in serving
 - Laurie – This position has a very wide schedule of duties, oversees facilities and HR; need to keep this in mind
 - Josh – Tomas (chairing finance CET) had a meeting what the make up of the committee would be; professional rep from Senate and the areas that Carol did oversee; looks similar to what I put forward at Open Forum.
 - Liz – Looking for a faculty representative as well
 - Lou – Search committee was created based on the guidance of the CET group? Josh – yes, Mary, Tomas, union reps, etc. met to discuss this. Used SUNY and Empire State's policy on hiring a dean as a model. Lou – Good step in the right direction.
 - Ellen cedes to Dave.
 - Lisa T – when do you need the faculty rep by?
 - ASAP. Need to fill Carol's position. Could put staff member forward and wait if folks need time.
 - Lisa – Process regarding selecting people in other areas: elected or appointed?
 - Liz – Election of people from areas was proposed.
 - Mary B. – Put it out to the division/area. If more than one person applies, then there would be a mechanism to select individual for

the role. Not as formal as with Senate. Most people were not anticipating more than one person applying for the role. Not meant to be appointments.

- Lisa – If this is a process in place for this search, is this the process for all searches?
 - Mary: This is for the recommendation about a non-academic VP role. Still in conversation about other search process. Want to get some of the pieces in place. It may change. Give the committee broad representation.
 - Liz – A pilot of some of the CET recommendations. Re-evaluate afterwards before officially implementing.
- Alice volunteers for the faculty position.
- Josh – Please look at the CET recommendations in the OneDrive
- Motion to approve Alice and Dave as the Senate representations of VP Search: Simon, Jason. Y 28, N 0, 0 abstentions

UFS Resolutions – Lisa

- Three resolutions from the previous plenary
 - Executive Budget Resolution – support Governor’s budget and advocate for SUNY and CUNY
 - Telecommuting Policy – urge Chancellor to extend telecommuting policy (has been extended through June already), discussion of flexibility and permanency
 - Support of AAUP Joint Statement on Legislative Efforts regarding teaching race; promote equity and academic freedom;
- Erin – regarding the funding/budget, the Union sent out an email regarding this as well; commend AAUP for making this statement
- Liz – Please take back to areas for feedback. Vote on this at the next meeting.

UFS Winter 2022 Plenary Report – Lisa

- Very positive experience: optimism around the new Interim Chancellor and new budget from the governors
- 3 Day meeting
- Concerns regarding Open SUNY (SUNY Online)
- Report from FCCC – resolution for campus-based-approval of gen-ed (no longer going to SUNY); resolution that this should go through shared governance; resolution on presidential searches/guidelines;
- CUNY UFS – Concerns regarding lecturers becoming dept chairs (no research or full-time background); imposed consolidation/reorientation/closure

- Contract negotiations – UUP/CSEA
 - UUP said that UFS must be engaged in conversations regarding program changes and curriculum; strong support for shared gov
- Tuition freeze to tuition free; emphasis on mental health of students
- Sustainability issues – a study found that 75% of students are looking at environmental commitment
 - 20% increase in square footage at SUNY with 2% increase in energy usage; sustainability intertwined in gen eds
- NYS Joint Commission of Public Ethics – not take gifts of more than \$15; who is giving them (conflict of interest?); honoraria are okay if tied to expertise and discipline (e.g. giving a talk, etc.)
- Financial report: page 10 of the report – some positive things coming
 - Salaries disparity between faculty and administration
- Provost in Charge – more on GE – fall of 2023 for AS/BS; fall of 2024 for AAS and AOS
 - Posting resources on the suny website (helpful for implementing in our classes)
- D2L Update – transitioning to a new learning management system;
 - Sandbox courses available
 - Thank you, Callas Center!
 - 30 campuses are in the first cohort and are in the process of changing
 - Hoping everyone will get their first choice for timeline of migration
 - Brightspace will help with transition
- SUNY enrollment is down across the system (down about 9%)
- Interim Chancellor – Dr. Stanley – previously at SUNY Oswego – committed to shared governance
 - Enhanced sector of technology – what does this mean?
 - Dr. Stanley isn't sure what the governor meant, but we will help define it.
- Committee reports on page 14+
- SUNY Graduate Research Conference – two Delhi students in Nursing have submitted to this – kudos!
- Two new resolutions will be coming forward: advancement of historically under-presented faculty and SUNY general education regarding diversity; and one endorsement of a FCCC resolution.
- Thank you, Lisa!
- Questions? None.

Announcements?

- Jason F. – VP of Marketing/Communications – Zoom interviews; feeling good about the candidates; by end of Feb, this committee should be wrapped up. More information regarding open sessions for the candidates will be coming.
- Abby Brannen-Wilson will present at next meeting with updates.

Adjourned at 6:04pm

Next Meeting: Monday, February 14, 2022 @ 4:30pm