

College Senate Meeting Minutes

3 May 2021

Attendance

Senators Attending via Zoom:

A. Balcom, T. Hamblin, E. Liberatori, 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. Cutting, D. Holub, E. Ericson (proxy held via JoAnna Brosnan), E. Wagner, J. Fishner, M. Fields, A. Krause (proxy held via Lindsay Walker), L. Ciafardoni, J. Cash, W. Shaffer, L. Jones, D. Conklin, M. House, L. Aleksa, S. Babcock

Senators Absent: D. Green, J. Warren, J. Lindsay

Guests: Desiree Kever, Nii Tete (Student Senate President), Bret Meckel, Carol Bishop, Susan Deane, David Brower, John Padovani, Joanna Brosnan, Michael Sullivan, Michael Laliberte, Dana Santos, Katie Bucci, Ted Martin, Adam Lang, Shawn Brislin, Steve Cembrinski, Maureen O'Connor, Amy Brown

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

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

Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve the 4-19-2021 meeting minutes: Rich Celli made the motion, Lori Ciafardoni seconded. Ward: strike Ward's comments from the minutes as he spoke out of turn. One abstention. Motion approved.

Eboard Update – Liz

- Apologize that we had not conveyed that we were working on the joint statement before the last Senate meeting.
- Not apologizing for the joint statement itself. Important that we move forward with the recommendations. Feel free to email Liz regarding this.
- Last week we had an executive session to get everyone on the same page about what constituents are saying and that we're all hearing the same information. We heard each other.
- Provost Jordan feels uncomfortable coming to Senate meeting now that we asked Provost and President not to attend Executive Session. He will not be attending unless asked by the President. We will still continue to reaching out.

- Katie Bucci and Liz are co-chairing the task force for campus effectiveness. They've been moving forward on organizing this. More on this later in the meeting.
- Questions?
 - Doug: Did the Provost indicate if there was a particular reason for not attending?
Liz: Concerned that the Senate are not comfortable with his presence and feels insulted that his presence prevents others from speaking their mind. Liz will continue to reach out and explain more about executive sessions and why this is an option.
 - Lori: Email came to Liz after executive session was called and that, while they have ex officio seats, they were asked not to attend. But the email is regarding the remainder of the sessions, not just regarding last week.

Ward Shaffer

- As noted in amending the minutes, I spoke out of turn and was out of line. I would like to apologize for that. It was uncalled for and shouldn't have happened.

Chancellor's Awards Updates – Lori Ciafardoni

- All of the Chancellor's Awards have been approved and moved forward. Will notify the chairs
- Awardees will be notified shortly
- Still have the financial support of CADI so awardees will still receive medallion and stipend
- Congrats to the recipients!

Academic Planning Committee Update – Lisa Tessier

- Academic Planning Committee met on April 21
- Planning on being face to face in the Fall 2021
- Provost Jordan made the fall calendar with Nancy; Fall calendar is set;
 - Is allowing us to provide feedback on Spring calendar
- Carrie Fishner gave library update; question: will community members be able to use the library? Unclear yet.
- Social distancing and mode of learning: Provost wants each Dean to figure this out for their area. No determination of this yet.
- Provost does not like asynchronous mode, even though it was noted that Nursing is an award-winning, established asynchronous program
- Committee members asked that they should meet more frequently
- No additional meeting set yet.
- Donna C: State ed and the accrediting body has approved the Nursing program as asynchronous. On-ground Nursing program will be back in person in Fall.

- Liz – so to clarify, the discussion was more about the classes that want to go asynchronous classes rather than those already established as asynch? Donna: yes, more about the LAS courses; this conversation seems separate from the already established online programs.
- Susan D: we have no intention of going synchronous in Nursing. That would never work for our students.
- Doug H: Some discussion about the possible scenarios regarding 3' or 6' distancing (or no distancing); charge from the Provost for the deans to come up with plans for their areas. No over-arching plan put forward.
- Bret M: To clarify re: synchronous or asynchronous: provost has a preference that if it is online, it would be synchronous. Classes would revert to pre-Covid delivery method.
- Thanks, Lisa et al!

Spring 2022 Academic Calendar Options Feedback – Lisa

- Spring 2022 academic calendar options were posted on VH
- 4 options with different breaks/start/end dates
- Feedback on the calendar options to the Academic Planning Committee?
 - Doug: At the last Academic Planning meeting, we were shown these options and voted; most folks wanted option 2. However after that, we were told that because of the Moodle upgrades at end of the semester, that would compress summer sessions right into the Fall 2022 semester. Proposal to perhaps condense summer sessions into 5 weeks sessions instead of 6 or 7.
 - Shannon S: We had a 5 week summer session during the 1st session last summer. Personally, I taught during that time and it was not a large shift to accommodate.
 - Lori C: would these dates impact the Nursing program? Susan: No. Our dates are our dates.
 - Jason F: schedule that ResLife would go with is Option 2. Having two breaks is essential to students' mental health. Want to avoid short breaks so students who have financial difficulties as they can't easily go home.
 - Susan D: Moodle Updates used to be done in August, but now they are done in May. The calendar choice would affect summer sessions.
 - Donna C: Starting on a Wed is difficult for lab instruction. No one really liked Option 4 either. Nursing liked Option 2. Option 3 is the second favorite in light of summer session compression.
 - Rob P: From an enrollment perspective, starting later for spring is always preferred. Option 2 in the effort to support the campus community as a whole.
 - Mary W: This semester has really brought to light the need for breaks and mental health and stress levels. We've done the one week before and waited too

long for that. Students respond better when they can chunk it up. And having 5 weeks in between semesters is also helpful for ResLife. There will be a serious transition back into the classroom next year and we need to take that seriously.

- Nii: From a student perspective, Option 2 is better. Option 1 is too close to break (folks might not want to go home for such a small option). Option 3 feels too similar to this semester. 5 weeks/break/5 weeks/break/5 weeks is a model that works.
- Amanda (in chat): it's great to have Nii here-- we don't usually have a student perspective when we have this discussion
- Thanks, everyone for their feedback!

Work Group on Workplace Violence Statement Update – Doug, Don, Rich, Ellen

- Workgroup has been working on this. Had planned on having this done for today, but we're extending this for a week.
- Update from the group?
- Rich: making good progress. Generalized the statement more. Should be ready to go by the end of the week.
- Ellen: Thank you, committee, for indulging my schedule (e.g. NYSED review, caregiving).
- Rich: Liz, can you update with regard to the legal issue?
- Liz: I reached out to Carol regarding sending the document to legal for initial review. Carol did that. The response back is that they represent the college, not the faculty, staff, and senate. I reached out to Gwen Kaye regarding this. Her response is that the counsel represents the college and admin, not the views of faculty, staff, or shared governance. They are unlikely to comment on this. We will share this on the 10th for review. If we agree on it, then we can release it.
- Ellen: Clarify my context/motivation for requesting that (asking legal counsel). We should vet this in a way that are not putting us at risk as a collective group, that could be misconstrued as slanderous, libelous, or causing undue harm. Vetting is always a due diligence. If we don't have the counsel from SUNY, then what do we do to ensure that we're in the parameters of a legal framework?
- Liz: Definitely see the value of ensuring that we aren't saying anything problematic. But between the work group making revisions and then passing it by this group, then it will say what we want it to say. If someone sees something they disagree with, they should bring that up when we review it and vote on it. Let's show people that we care and want to make positive change on our campus. Thank you to the work group.
- Rich: Thank you to Doug and Ericka for doing so much work on this.
- Liz: Thank you everyone!

Budget and Planning Elections for Senate – Liz

- Hopefully you saw the statement on the agenda. Last meeting we decided to get this committee up and running. Liz sent emails to the different deans to get their representatives. Waiting on their elections.
- For Senate we also need two academic senators and two non-academic senators (from different VP represented areas)
- Anyone interested from Senate?
- Cheri: So do we need four people or two? Liz: Four: two academic and two non-academic. One of the two academic and one of the two non-academic will also serve on the RATF.
- Doug H and Shannon S (academic) are interested. Cheri R and Ellen L (non-academic) are interested.
- Erin: The part in the bylaws where it says “which is not already represented by a Senator” does that mean that if Doug is elected, we can’t have an LA&S representative?
- Liz – no, so Shannon is the Senate representative for Business; so she couldn’t also be the representative from Business for this committee.
- Carol – Ellen technically reports to the Academic Affairs, like Cheri, so there’s a conflict there.
- Ellen: Technically report to Provost, Susan, and Carol.
- Ward: When we drafted this we weren’t thinking of people who make multiple reports.
- Liz: Then I guess that would mean you’re under Academic Affairs.
- Lori: Who does your annual report? Provost Jordan. Then that’s a conflict with Cheri.
- Liz: Ellen, you could run against Cheri and we could do a vote?
- Ellen: I’ll concede.
- Liz: Then we’re still in need of a non-academic person to represent Senate.
- Don: When is our first meeting scheduled?
- Liz: Between May 17 and 24 if we get committee populated by then.
- Ward: Reviewed Steve’s email. He will call the meeting once we have populated the committee.
- Two academic and one non-academic interested. Will vote to accept these and hope we can find another non-academic senator.
- Motion to approve these volunteer: Ward; second: Terry. 2 abstentions. Motion passes. Thank you for volunteering!
- Action: need to find an additional non-academic volunteer (not academic affairs).

Survey Results for Monday Meetings – Liz

- 24 answers total. 14 = yes; 10 = no;

- Will be holding a meeting every Monday. Monday, May 10 we will do a Consultation Update.
- Use the non-normal-Senate Mondays as Consultation Task Force Updates.
- We may not need to meet every Monday. Once we get the task force committees set up, we could use the time for the committees to meet.
- Want to get organized, roll things out. Then eventually we can have the committees report out at normal Senate meetings.
- Any feedback regarding the plan as proposed?

Survey Results for Consultation Plans and Next Steps – Liz

- Hybrid plan was voted in based poll results in Vancko Hall
- Katie and Liz met to create charge for task force and then process on how to have work groups organized, populated, and working
- Katie: discussed mimicking Middle States self-study process; overall task force will be chaired by Katie and Liz;
- Short-term, long-term action plans
- Role of every week Senate meeting
- Task force will be an inclusive, campus-wide group; question if they should be separate meetings
- Work groups will be 7-10 members
- Co-chairs will be elected within each group
- Ask someone to be a scribe (minutes, action items, etc.)
- Hope to have at least one meeting by the time we get the call out for volunteers, etc.
- Liz and Katie will ensure that folks are getting off the ground
- Using a lot of verbiage from the consultation report to create charges of work groups; happy to edit; kept these kind of broad so the members can have flexibility
- Want to get the call out to campus ASAP so members can serve
- Questions?
 - Doug: Is there a proposed composition of these work groups in terms of how members are recruited? Concerned about it being lopsided? Katie: That is something we are aware of. When we have folks volunteer, we will consider that when creating the work groups to ensure balance.
 - Liz: You know your constituents best. Remind them to look for these calls for volunteers. If they want to see a specific change, then they should join the work groups. We know that everyone is tired. We'd love to see some work done before the summer, but are trying to be realistic and think ahead to the Fall.
- Next step is a message to the campus and sending that out through email. Keep folks updated on volunteering.

- Amanda C: Wondering if you are okay with sharing this document with constituents or summarize? Katie: this document will absolutely be public and can be shared. It will be on sharepoint. This is an inclusive call, but not all senators are required to be on these workgroups.
- Liz: If anyone sees anything missing in the charges, let us know ASAP. As Katie said, this is not mandatory for Senators to be on the workgroups. If you feel you can help, you are welcome.
- Katie: Also welcoming students on these groups as we need student input.
- Liz: Yes, definitely! But we are also mindful that students are also very tired and stressed out. But yes: happy to meet with student constituents to discuss further. Please let us know if you have any changes to these charges that will be in Vancko Hall.

New Business? – Liz

Don: Elections for next year. Will post in the Delhi Today as well as contact Deans. Stay tuned.

Donna C: Should we gather information from constituents re: calendar? Are we voting on this?
Liz: Important that you gather information from constituents and report that to Lisa for Academic Planning (or your Academic Planning representative). We aren't voting on this officially.

Lisa: Follow up: we don't know when the next academic planning meeting will be, so any feedback you have in the meantime is helpful.

Liz: From questions in the chat, we do not have a Senate meeting on May 31 (Memorial Day). Liz will post in Vancko Hall May 10, 17, 24, and June 7; then one more meeting after that. If we don't need the June 7 meeting (e.g. we have the work groups up and running) we won't meet. Once we know Curriculum Committee's last meeting, we will schedule our last meeting.

Adjourned at 5:41pm

Next Meeting: Monday, May 10, 2021 @ 4:30pm (Zoom) (Consultation Business)