

Faculty Senate Minutes #422

September 18, 2014

1:40 PM

Moot Court NB

Present (34): Chevy Alford, Ned Benton, Adam Berlin, Claudia Calirman, James Cauthen, Kashka Celinska, Silvia Dapia, Artem Domashevskiy, Janice Dunham, Peggy Escher, DeeDee Falkenbach, Joel Freiser, Terry Furst, Katie Gentile, Lior Gideon, Maki Haberfeld, Hunter Johnson, Karen Kaplowitz, Maria Kiriakova, Tom Kucharski, Carmen Kynard, Kyoo Lee, Xerxes Malki, Jay Pastrana, Edward Paulino, Melinda Powers, Marcel Roberts, Raul Rubio, Ian Seda, Francis Sheehan, Charles Stone, Staci Strobl, Robert Till, Fritz Umbach

Absent (10): Andrea Balis, Marsha Clowers, Jennifer Dysart, John Gutierrez, Lou Kontos, Vincent Maiorino, Frank Pezzella, Dainius Remeza, Raul Romero, Daniel Yaverbaum

AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the agenda**
- 2. Adoption of Minutes #421 of the September 3, 2014, meeting**
- 3. Announcements & Reports**
- 4. Ratification of the election slates for College Council and other College committees**
- 5. Report on the September 10 Budget Committee meeting and on the Senate/Chairs faculty teaching load mitigation initiative**
- 6. Proposal by the Senate Exec. Comm. regarding the FPC's appeals proposal**
- 7. A governance issue involving the NYS Open Meetings Law**
- 8. Review of the agenda of the September 22 College Council meeting**
- 9. Discussion of the 2014-18 Master Plan: what should JJ's 5 Master Plan goals be?**

- 1. Adoption of the agenda.** Approved.
- 2. Announcement and Reports.** Noted.
- 3. Adoption of Minutes #421 of the September 3, 2014, meeting.** Approved.
- 4. Ratification of the election slates for College Council and other College committee**

The election slates for the College Council committees and other college committees were approved by unanimous vote. A seat on the Auxiliary Corporation Board is vacant because Professor Susan Will is on sabbatical this year and will be outside the country; the Senate elected Senator Fritz Umbach to fill her seat.

5. Report on the September 10 Budget Committee meeting and on the Senate/Chairs faculty teaching load mitigation initiative

On September 10, the College Budget Planning Committee (BPC) met. Attending that meeting were all four Senate representatives on the BPC -- Janice Dunham, Karen Kaplowitz, Tom Kucharski, and Fritz Umbach -- and 18 of the 23 department chair members -- Valerie Allen, Seth Baumrin, Ned Benton, **James** Cauthen, Angela Crossman, Silvia Dapia, Maki Haberfeld, Jay Hamilton, Richard Haw, Jonathan Jacobs, Jane Katz, Allison Kavey, Larry Kobilinsky, Anthony Marcus, Lisandro Perez, Douglas Salane, Larry Sullivan, Roberto Visani. All 22 faculty members voted yes on the motion brought by the Fiscal Planning Subcommittee (FPS) to add an additional \$120,000 for the workload mitigation; this motion had been jointly proposed to the FPS by the Faculty Senate and Council of Chairs.

Eleven BPC members who are not faculty voted no or abstained (which is functionally the same as a no vote): these 11 are Jane Bowers, Anne Lopes, Allison Pease, Robert Pignatello, Robert Troy, Patricia Ketterer, Lynette Cook-Francis; 3 HEO reps: Sandrine Dikambi, Nikki Hancock-Nicholson, and Michael Scaduto; and one student: Norris James, the treasurer of the student government. President Travis was not at the BPC meeting because of health reasons and Associate Provost James Llana, therefore, chaired the meeting and did not vote because there was no tie.

The leadership of the Senate expressed its opinion that the no and abstention votes by every administrator who was present augurs ill and that it is likely a signal that President Travis will reject recommendations of the Faculty Senate, Council of Chairs, PSC, and Budget Planning Committee.

Several possible courses of immediate and future actions were discussed. Senator Ned Benton moved that the Faculty Senate invite the Council of Chairs to a joint Senate/Chairs meeting and that the President of the Senate write to President Travis saying that if President Travis is anticipating that he will **not** include the requested \$120,000 for workload mitigation in the college's financial plan due this month, then we request that he meet with the Senate and Chairs to discuss this matter. The motion was seconded and was approved by unanimous vote.

6. Proposal by the Senate Executive Committee regarding the FPC Appeals Committee Proposal

The Senate reviewed a letter which it received from President Travis just minutes prior to the Senate meeting in which the President disagreed with the Senate Executive Committee which had posited that the College Council that is the appropriate body to create an Appeals Committee and not the Faculty Personnel Committee. The legal interpretation of our Charter which was included in the letter was prepared by Marjorie Singer, John Jay's new legal counsel, in consultation with the Office of the CUNY Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs, and said that the

FPC has the authority to create a subcommittee to deal with appeals. The Senate accepted that interpretation.

7. **A governance issue involving the NYS Open Meetings Law.** Postponed.
8. **Review of the agenda of the September 22 College Council** meeting. Noted.
9. **Discussion of the 2014-18 Master Plan: what should JJ's Master Plan goals be.** Postponed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.