

The University Senate meets on Monday, September 8, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. in SAC 302.

Tentative Agenda  
University Senate Meeting  
September 8, 2003

- I. Approval of Tentative agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2003
- III. Report from University Senate President (W. Brent Lindquist)
- IV. Report from University President (Shirley Strum Kenny)
- V. Provost's Report (written)
- VI. Campus Climate Survey (C. Peabody)
- VII. Report on SUNY-wide Assessment (N. Goodman)
- VIII. Reports from Senate Standing Committee Chairs
- X. Old Business
- IX. New Business

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Minutes of the University Senate 05-05-03

Recorded by Frank W. Fowler

The Senate President, Brent Lindquist, called the meeting to order at 3:36 PM.  
The minutes and the meeting agenda were approved.

Brent announced that M. Bishop would be recognized under new business to move a resolution that was distributed at the meeting.

**Senate President's report:** Norman Goodman was recognized to make an appeal for people to run for state wide senate committees. L. Theobalt will send a memo with the information. The Bishop motion led Brent to make the following comments on governance. Governance organizations on campus have evolved over the years and they have modified their constitutions and bylaws to reflect these evolutionary changes. These changes have been made in the best interests of each of the constituencies. However, these governance bodies are coupled and the changes have not been made in a coordinated manner. This has produced some awkward problems concerning elections. For this reason, the Senate President is assembling a committee to bring into agreement the constitution and bylaws of each governance body with each other and the University Senate. An appeal for nominations to this committee was made. The SUNY wide elections will be redone.

Although there are some inter-governance conflicts in the recent elections these election results should stand since each of these governance units followed their own bylaws. The Senate President thanked all of the University Committees for their contributions with special thanks to Phil Lewis and Norman Goodman.

**University President's Report:** A written report was distributed.

The President announced that she has written a letter to Gyrodyne concerning acquisition of the 314-acre property that is adjacent to the SUNYSB campus. A meeting with representatives of the University and Gyrodyne is scheduled.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees they allowed condemnation of the Gyrodyne property. Both approaches to acquiring this property are underway and may merge at a friendly condemnation of the property.

There is nothing new to report on the budget.

**University Provost's Report.** It was announced that Joanna Fowler (adjunct professor of chemistry) and P. Chaudhari (director of BNL) have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

The proposed budget for SUNYSB is terrible. One major problem is the increase in tuition for out of state students.

It is the Provost's plan this summer to work with the University Senate to review the effectiveness of the interaction between the University administration and governance. The Middle States Draft will be completed this Summer.

**V.P Mann's Report** on a plan for responding to budget cuts. His area of responsibility represents 12% (\$27 M of the campus budget) and he is planning on a \$1.7 M reduction. Vacated positions have not been filled. They can be used to help if the budget gets worse. We are not yet in a crisis situation and hope to avoid layoffs.

In response to a question it was stated that recycling cost money. Energy costs and energy conservation rehabs look good for the budget in the near future.

Professor Kerber, representing the Undergraduate Council, introduced a resolution (previously distributed) to make the online Undergraduate Bulletin the official bulletin. Brent asked Joan Kuchner to chair the meeting since he wanted to contribute to the discussion. Brent stated that it was the opinion of the University lawyer that the courts still prefer a written document as the official document. Discussion occurred pointing out that the costs of printing the bulletin should be considered and the word "official" be replaced with "preferred" in the resolution. Brent moved (with a second) *that the motion be sent back to the Undergraduate Council to redraft the resolution in light of the Senate discussion.* The motion passed.

Professor Kerber, representing the Undergraduate Council, discussed a problem with the current policy of students declaring their major after the first year. Professor made a motion to address this problem and accepted some suggestions resulting in the following motion.

*Students are expected to declare their major at the time they earn 45 credits.*

The above motion was passed.

Under new business M. Bishop introduced the motion that was previously distributed. The problem addressed by this motion was the source of Brent's opening remarks on governance and creation of a committee to address the problem of conflicting constitutions and bylaws. This motion did not receive a second and was not considered. Because of the importance of this governance issue an open discussion was initiated.

At 5:11 pm a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

