

TENTATIVE AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
MARCH 6, 2000

- I. Approval of Tentative Agenda
 - II. Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2000 (attached)
 - III. Report of Acting Provost (R. McGrath)
 - IV. Report of University Senate President (B. Godfrey)
 - V. Report from Polity: Andrez Carberry, President of Polity
 - VI. Old Business
 - VII. New Business
 - VIII. Adjournment
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University Senate

DRAFT - Minutes of the February 7, 2000 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Bill Godfrey, President of the Senate at 3:35 p.m. A search of the audience then occurred seeking a volunteer to serve as secretary, for this meeting only. After much painful silence and as desperation began to set in, a volunteer was found.

- I & II With the approval of the agenda, the minutes of the December 6, 1999 meeting were reviewed, and with notation of a "typo or two", a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. No dissention was recorded.
- III. Report by President Kenny. The President welcomed those present, senators and guests, to a new semester and a new year. Although there was not a written report submitted, the President made several announcements: A new SUNY Chancellor has been appointed. The overall campus budget is significantly better as compared to the budget for the last five years. There is \$24 M new money and the contractual obligations are supported, which is *good* news. Enrollments are up this spring semester, approximately 500 students over last spring, and with fall semester's overall student increase, this will help in the budget process for next year. USB (University at Stony Brook) Day is planned in Albany tomorrow, February 8. More people than ever before are planning to go to Albany and meet with our government leaders. SUNY is ranked 12th in the nation in royalty income, which really means USB is in this position as "we" produced the vast majority of these funds! The USB Foundation for the first 6 months of this year has raised more than two times what was raised all last year.

There will be a new summer camp program offered this year. The University may be close to actually "signing" papers regarding the long awaited hotel building and with the increased enrollment, new garden style apartments are in the planning stage. An Information Center for the University is being developed and will be temporarily housed this spring in the Administration building, next to Admissions. The goal is to provide better communications to the general public.

The audience raised several questions, the first dealing with Hospital funding and the overall budget crisis – debt that University Hospital is facing. The governor and legislature need to address this basic funding issue. The next question centered around classrooms and facilities in light of the enrollment increases and on-going maintenance issues. Approximately \$110 M in capital budget funds has been made available over the next five years for a building program. Heavy Engineering, Humanities and Computer Science are slated for significant (heavy) renovations. President Kenny has \$1M earmarked as a contingency for campus life and emergency improvements. Someone from the audience mentioned that sidewalks are necessary, as a health and safety need, especially from South campus to the Main campus as pedestrians are forced to walk in the streets. Senate President Godfrey thanked President Kenny for her report.

- IV. Report by Acting Provost McGrath. A written report was available. Additional highlights: A committee for the new Asian Studies Program is being formed. The Provost has a new and improved web-site... check it out. In conjunction with the Graduate Dean, Lawrence Martin, it

was announced that fellowships have been made available to increase stipends to recruit new doctoral students. This was necessary because of the competitive nature of other institution stipend offers. Regarding enrollment targets, no increase in the number of undergraduates are being planned for next fall. The goal is to increase graduate student enrollments and the Graduate Dean will personally help in this effort.

- V Report by University Senate President Godfrey. A faculty senate meeting was held in Buffalo. The new SUNY Chancellor was introduced. He will plan on coming to our campus to meet the faculty. Provost Salins implied that there may be another round of general education requirement reviews. The latest review was referred to as "Gen Ed One". This comment segued into comments by Mark Aronoff and the recently submitted (January 26) General Education plan. There has been no response yet, one really wasn't expected so soon, but we may have to have a negotiation session. As mentioned previously, the next effort, Gen Ed II, may have more to do with assessments. We await their response.
- VI Undergraduate Council Resolutions as presented by Co-Chair Ben Walcott. Handouts were available which described the four proposals.
1. The Undergraduate council recommends that "the deadline date for West campus undergraduate students to withdraw from a course or to elect the pass/no credit grade option be returned to the end of the ninth week of the semester". This change in policy would be coupled with a statement in the Undergraduate Bulletin, such as "Instructors are responsible for providing students with appropriate and timely notification about their academic performance in the course. When appropriate, an examination or other assessment measure should be administered, graded and returned to students before the end of the ninth week of the semester." This policy should be included in correspondence sent to instructors at the outset of the semester and monitored by department chairpersons. After much discussion, which also displayed much displeasure by the student representatives, the recommendation was Moved/Seconded and Approved by a vote of 17 ayes and 9 nays.
 2. The Undergraduate council recommends that "the P/NC grade option may be elected only once for a given course". After a much shorter discussion, the recommendation was Moved, Seconded and Approved with no nay votes.
 3. The Undergraduate council recommends that "Full-time students (those registered for 12 or more credits per semester) may not take more than two courses per semester under the P/NC grade option. Part-time students (those registered for 1 –11 credits) may not take more than one course per semester under the P/NC grade option." This recommendation was Moved, Seconded and Approved by a majority vote, which had two abstentions.
 4. The Undergraduate council recommends that "grades of NR which have not been replaced by a final grade or by a W by the end of the ninth week of the fall semester (for spring NR grades), or the end of the ninth week of the spring semester (for fall NR grades), will be converted to one of the following grades: N/F, N/U or N/C as appropriate. The grade of N/F will be treated as a failure for the purposes of academic standing (it will be averaged as an F when computing the grade point average". Again much discussion occurred and differences of opinion were evident. The recommendation was Moved/Seconded and Approved by a vote of 17 ayes, 7 nays and 2 abstentions.

The meeting of the February 7 University Senate then ended by a vote of feet to the door.

Respectfully submitted, as a substitute for Edward O'Connell, permanent University Senate Secretary,

Dennis Geyer
University Registrar