

**Tentative agenda
University Senate Meeting
December 4th, 2000**

- I. Approval of the Tentative Agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes from University Senate meeting November 6, 2000 (attached)
- III. Campus President's Report (S. Kenny)
- IV. Provost's Report (R. McGrath)
- V. University Senate President's Report (B. Godfrey)
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business

Next University Senate Meeting: February 5th, 2001 at 3:30 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium

University Senate Meeting
November 6, 2000

Meeting called to order at 3:37 P.M.

I. Approval of tentative minutes

B. Walcott so moved, seconded B. McAdoo

II. Motion to accept the minutes – L. Ripa seconded B. Walcott

We will now have a report from the President.

III. President Kenny's report (copies available in back of room): The President opened by mentioning that our enrollment figures are very close to 20,000 and the question that we have to ask ourselves is where do we go from here. We are at a crossroads. Do we settle in or look to expand our class room space and residence hall capacity. By next fall we should be up by over 1,000 extra beds (completed rehab & new garden apartments in place). There is a Dining Space Committee and an on-campus housing committee making recommendations. The cabinet is meeting on these issues and a retreat is planned.

Other news:

- The 5-year plan is almost complete with minor checks being run.
- The U. Hospital is undergoing its JCAHO review during the week of 11/6.
- The Recreation Center vote recently was passed 2:1. No need for a hand-count.

[this building will be paid by student fees; however, the students will not start paying until the facility is completed]. The President pointed out that this is an example of how new structures will be built on campus --- our next round (5 years) of the Construction Plan will focus on the rehab of existing space and the infra-structure. We need to continue to lobby the Construction Fund because under their formulas --- they are under the impression that we have plenty of space.

- Press release: Incubator at Calverton is planned (3 million in funding secured by Senator LaValle).
- Director named and funding for Cancer Institute announced. Congressman Michael Forbes announced he has secured \$5.5 million in funding for the Cancer Institute of Long Island at Stony Brook. Last month, I announced, Dr. John Kovach (Mayo Clinic) as the Institute's Founding Director. We are looking at building a 20 million dollar building and a 20 million dollar research clinical care program.

- 2000/01 will be the Year of Community Service (YOCS). The YOCS theme will be kicked off at the “Networking for the Common Good” Conference in the SAC on 11/29.
- Joanna Harris has been named as the new Director of Disabled Student Services

Final word: Tomorrow is Election day – be sure to get out and vote.

IV. Provost McGrath’s report (copies available in the back): The Provost was pleased to announce the “good news” the Sidney Gelber’s book on Stony Brook is finished. A book-signing event has been scheduled for December 11th. Additional details will be sent out from the Office of the Provost as they are finalized.

- Stony Brook faculty continue to garner recognition for their scholarly activity.
- The Provost lecture series is in full swing.
- Provostial task forces being formed in order to pick out areas where we can make improvements. The Provost is creating taskforces to study four key operational areas: academic space/support, undergraduate administration, operational processes/practices, and faculty recruitment, development and retention.
- Search updates: Meeting with CAPRA re: proposal to make a Department of BioMed. Ben Walcott to speak on this issue in more detail later.
- Report of a committee re: Asian Studies this summer was sent to CAPRA for review.
- Committees have been finalized for the MBA Dean and Chair of the new Asian/Asian-American Studies Department. Plus a national search for the new Director of the EOP/AIM program will also be started shortly.
- The Provost ended his comments on the issue assessments. The Provost’s report outlined a number of recommendations that were produced by an Advisory Task Force on the Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes. Clearly the role of assessment is a Campus responsibility. Norm Goodman was quick to add, the SUNY Senate rejects the notion of a SUNY-wide assessment in favor of the task residing with each campus.

V. Report on SUNY Faculty Senate in Morrisville - George Tortora:
George provided a brief overview to the topics that were discussed. Questions surrounding the assessment issue came up several times and several resolutions were passed (see appendix):

VI. Undergraduate Council Proposals. Ben Walcott

Two Undergraduate proposals were introduced and were discussed. The outcome of the proposals were as follows:

Resolution 61100A*

Proposal #1) - Item one was passed with the proviso that it would be enacted as people soft is enacted. That is we can program the system to allow early registration for up to 19 credits but it would become effective only when people soft is operational.

Vote: all in favor - aye one opposed

Resolution 61100B

Proposal #2) - it was sent back to the committee to be rethought.

Senate instructions... There was concern that it was overly restrictive on both students and faculty to prohibit adding a class in the second week. It was suggested that we think about some other way to encourage early decisions on registration and to reduce the stress on the Registrar's office.

Vote: Unanimous

VII. University Senate President – Bill Godfrey:

Bill reported that all committees are up and running except one. In addition, Bill updated the Senate on a conference he attended in the city that was sponsored by the Change NY folks. The conference was all about Charter Schools and Charter Colleges (even Colleges within Colleges). This is a bad idea (DOA) going nowhere. Other news: The Faculty & Staff Directory is out in a more timely fashion.

VIII. University Department of Biomedical Engineering – Ben Walcott

CAPRA has received and reviewed the proposal that takes what already exists (7.5 FTE) and creates a Department. The program will have a Ph.D. program with a BME minor. There will be a BME track for undergraduate Bio majors. The program will have lab space in BLL (Biology Learning Lab) and the group has been successful in tapping into significant grant money. There will be put in place a small advisory committee with Sr. Faculty to assist. CAPRA has been working on this program for two years and feels that it was a good proposal. The framework of getting all the people together in one place will also help the faculty when it comes to applying for money. The Senate Exec. has also reviewed the proposal and it approves.

Comments: Norm Goodman raises the question of Library resources; especially if they plan on establishing an undergraduate major. Ben assures the group that both Library and Lab resources have been accounted for.

No other objections are raised.

Godfrey makes a motion for approval. So moved.

Meeting adjourned 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. O'Connell
Senate Secretary

APPENDIX I

**Report on SUNY Faculty meeting in Morrisville
And Resolutions**

126th Plenary Meeting of the University Faculty Senate
SUNY College of Agriculture and Technology at Morrisville
October 19-21, 2000

President Joe Flynn called the meeting to order and introduced host Gladys Cleland and President Raymond Cross who welcomed the senators to the meeting.

Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Richard Miller reported on the administrative reorganization of the Chancellor's office, demonstrating the rather complicated pre-existing table of organization and the simplified T.O. as it now exists. He spoke of the efforts of the chancellor on behalf of SUNY in what was generally an upbeat positive manner, which was well received by the faculty senate. There were concerns expressed by various members of the senate covering the possibility of statewide evaluation rather than campus evaluation. There was agreement amongst the members of the senate that this topic would be brought up again with the chancellor following an impassioned statement by senator Marvin LaHood concerning the faculty responsibility in relation to teaching, pointing out the 700 year history of universities.

Joe Flynn discussed a report entitled "What Students Don't know" promulgated by an organization known as the "Center for Excellence in Higher Education" which proved to be a quick and dirty survey of knowledge of history of SUNY students. This was a biased scientifically unsound survey which did not include students of private universities and criticized the poor showing of SUNY students. Joe Flynn further pointed out that there was interlocking membership of this and other organizations such as "Change New York" and other organizations and felt that this was a new form of political influence to establish a "way of thinking" and which would lead to a "stealth form of governance".

The afternoon session began by breaking into sector meetings for the sharing of concerns. The groups were as follows: Universities, University Colleges, Health Sciences Centers, Ag. and Tech. Colleges, and Specialized Colleges. Each Sector then reported to the Senate.

The discussion then turned to an organization known as the "New York State Public Higher Education Conference Board". Vince Aceto explained what the board was and why the Faculty Senate should vote to become part of the board and provide a voting member. At that point the board consisted of one voting representative from each of the following:

New York State United Teachers
Professional Staff Congress
United University Professions
NYSUT Council of Community Colleges
NEA-NY Community College Council
CUNY Faculty Senate

Although the Faculty Council of the Community Colleges voted not to join as of April of this year, Joe Flynn reported that they were going to reconsider their decision. There was considerable discussion following this proposal with Senators Miller, Hildreth, Goodman, and Collier advocating an affirmative vote while Senators Adams-Volpe and Margo encouraged a negative vote. It was pointed out that we needed a lobbying effort to counteract the effort of organizations such as "Change NY" and "Center for Excellence in Higher Education". Senator LaHood asked whether other states had this kind of group. Senator Aceto replied "Other states have Boards of Trustees that serve as advocates" which was followed by a round of applause from the senate. Following the discussion, the resolution recommending affiliation with the New York State Public Higher Education board was passed.

A resolution on Mission Review Memoranda of Understanding urging that each campus academic governance body use its appropriate governance powers and mechanisms to review and respond to the proposed memorandum of understanding was passed unanimously.

A strongly worded resolution concerning the Provost's Advisory Task Force on General Education (PATFGE) charge to the Provost's Advisory Council on General Education (PACGE) was considered at length with a number of suggestions for rewording the resolution. The executive committee agreed to modify the resolution and add another whereas clause to be considered the following day after the chancellor's report.

Chancellor Robert King delivered his report on Saturday. Once again, it was an encouraging upbeat report. He noted that SUNY has 18,000 graduate students, and spoke of the SUNY learning network. He further reported that Louis Gerstner, the CEO of IBM had chosen a site in East Fiskill for computer chip manufacture worth 2.5 billion dollars, citing support from SUNY in both the engineering and technical areas played a key part in the decision. He spoke of the notion of SUNY acting as a system rather than a federation of 64 campuses and the need to do things as a coordinated body, e.g. one contract for telephone service, rather than 64, the issuance of an RFP to build and operate communications to allow the system to reach public schools and libraries. He spoke of the fact that other states do a much better job of obtaining federal funds and announced the hiring of a lobbying firm in Washington, D.C. to accomplish a number of objectives. He detailed his meeting with the NYS Business Council and relayed their feeling that investment in higher education was their highest priority.

During the question and answer period, the issue of system-wide assessment was again brought up. Chancellor King was asked if a reported statement he made to the Senate's Executive Committee to the effect that if the faculty were not supportive of a program of system-wide assessment that it would not be possible to implement was correct. He said that was correct. He was then questioned about the Provost's approach to General Education, and he said that we (meaning the faculty, system administration, and the Trustees) have to come to some agreement on the issue. Senator Goodman responded by saying that PATFGE (on which he served along with President Kenny) thought it had such an agreement with the Provost's Office and the Trustees in its final report on the role of campus faculty determining the content and requirements of its General Education Program and the assessment of it, with the Provost's Office monitoring both programmatically through the Mission Review Process. He further stated that this issue revealed one of the key problems for the chancellor: maintaining the delicate balance between maintaining campus autonomy for the richness in diversity and creativity that it provides and the need to maintain the advantages of the systemic nature of SUNY. On the issue of General Education and assessment of student performance, the attempt to provide a course-by-course approval mechanism by the Provost's Office and a single system-wide assessment program placed too much on the side of the system and too little on the campuses. Particularly on academic matters, he pointed out; System Administration had to trust the faculty and academic administration of the campuses to fulfill their missions responsibly. Chancellor King, in response, simply stated, "I agree."

After Chancellor King left, the resolution on PACGE was discussed at length, with input from many of the senators concerning the exact wording. The resolution was passed, not without disagreement from some. Also, the Senate unanimously passed a motion by Senator Goodman that reaffirmed its historic support for campus-based assessment and its strenuous opposition to system-wide assessment of student learning outcomes or performance. (A copy of both resolutions are attached to this report.)

The standing committees delivered their reports and the 126 Plenary Meeting was convened.

Resolution on Assessment

To: University Faculty Senate
From: Executive Committee
Re: Resolution on Assessment
Date: October 21, 2000

RESOLUTION

The University Faculty Senate reaffirms its historic support for campus-based assessment and its strenuous opposition to any form of system-wide assessment of student learning outcomes or performance.

RESOLUTION on PACGE

TO: University Faculty Senate

FM: Executive Committee (Forwarded)

RE: Resolution on PACGE

DATE: October 21, 2000

RATIONALE Whereas the Provost's Advisory Task Force on General Education (PATFGE) called for the creation of a Provost's General Education Review Advisory Council which was later named the Provost's Advisory Council on General Education (PACGE), and Whereas, PACGE's charge as recommended by PATFGE was to "make recommendations regarding General Education program and waiver proposals" and

Whereas the Provost's charge to PACGE differs substantially in spirit and content from the report of PATFGE, and

Whereas the members of PACGE have nevertheless accepted the daunting task and worked diligently throughout the past year in an effort to implement the Trustees' resolution and the PATFGE Guidelines, and

Whereas there is a growing concern on many campuses that the Provost's Office may have been causing implementations inconsistent with the Trustees Resolutions and/or the Task Force, and

Whereas campus-based academic decision-making regarding general education is being stifled and thwarted, if not abrogated, and

Whereas The Board of Trustees' Resolution (98-241) on general education passed in December 1998 specifies that

"1. The faculty of each institution will retain the responsibility for establishing the specific course requirements and content of a General Education curriculum reflective of the best practices in American higher education."

RESOLUTION

Therefore be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate calls upon the Chancellor to insure that PACGE is reconstituted in accordance with Senate Resolution 125-1 and that it review the work and charge of PACGE to insure that the traditional rights of the faculty and the campuses to determine academic courses and programs are reaffirmed and that the SUNY commitment to producing campus-based general education programs worthy of nation emulation is sustained.