Faculty Assembly Minutes

March 10, 2014

Chair: Joan M. Carroll
Recorder: Sarah Balseiro

Members Absent:

- ART – Chris McEvoy
- ECE – Rachid Manseur
- ENG – James Pangborn
- MUS – Marilyn Smiley
- PHY – __________
- SA – __________
- SA – __________

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm.

I. Approval of Agenda

After removing the BA Chemistry and the BS Track I from Unfinished Business, since those revisions had already been approved at the February 24th meeting, the agenda was approved.

II. Approval of minutes February 10 and 24 meetings

Will be reconsidered at March 31st meeting.

III. FA Chair’s Report – Joan Carroll

Online Faculty Activity Report & DSA – It is likely that we will have to go one more year with the current Online Faculty Activity Report and separate submission for DSA.

Open SUNY Institutional Readiness Review with representatives of System Administration will be held after spring break.

Two full meetings left – March 31 and April 14 – so please let your constituents know that anything to be considered this semester must be moved quickly to appropriate councils.

Please state your name and constituency before speaking so that we can learn one and other’s names.

Please continue to support our green initiatives by bringing your own reusable beverage container to FA meetings.

Please continue to send handouts and reports to faculty.assembly@oswego.edu Sarah will convert handouts to PDF files for posting on our website and sharing through Google Drive.

IV. University Faculty Senate Report – Peter Knuepfer, President

Updates on some of the major system-wide initiatives:

- Seamless transfer is in final phases; by the end of the month the revised transfer paths can be viewed online
- Open SUNY – continues to be a priority of the chancellor; Oswego is an outstanding example of online education
- SUNY Board of Trustees put admissions requirements across the board for SUNY, including separate entrance requirements for students in Education programs. System is setting up an advisory committee to look at teacher education in the long run.
- SUNY has been trying to exit the Long Island College Hospital (LICH) in Brooklyn; however the process has been tied up in litigation. Big dollars at stake – $550 million and the potential for about $330 million in liabilities.

A discussion ensued after this report. James Early asked if there has been any discussion regarding revenue impacts as students make reasonable decisions to take online courses and stay home
instead of residing on campus. Pete said that they are doing everything they can to make online courses complementary to school. It is not believed that Open SUNY will appeal to students already on campus.

Equivalency between courses for transfer students is and will be a problem. There are a few options available for faculty to try to mitigate this issue, but that will be dealt with by individual schools for now.

Start-Up NY was brought up. The benefits of this initiative will vary across campuses, depending on the space each campus has available, the type of company that comes in, etc. Each campus will have control over the negotiations with each potential company.

The most significant question that resulted from the discussion was “How can or should we be able to identify whether a course from another college was taken online and make a decision as to whether it can be deemed equivalent to our campus course?” Identifying that quality difference is very difficult and is a factor for any transfer course, online or traditional. Unfortunately, there is no clear-cut solution for that problem. The only suggestion Pete could make was to ask campuses to indicate on transcripts whether or not a course was taken online. It was requested that there be a system-wide set of suggestions and guidelines on what policies should be in place regarding this issue for organization and to prevent being “divided and conquered.” There is nothing like that right now, but Pete said he would bring the suggestion with him.

He reminded us to keep in mind that the courses being discussed (for seamless transfer) are only SUNY courses.

V. Reports of Councils, Committees, and Task Forces

- **Governance Task Force** – Kathryn Johns-Masten
  Report has been completed and distributed at today’s meeting. Motion made and seconded to move discussion to next meeting; passed 36-3.

- **General Education Council** – James Nichols
  Met February 25th and approved WST 200 - Introduction to Gender and Women’s Studies for the World Awareness-Humanities category.

- **Personnel Policies Council** – Gwen Kay
  Met February 25th and discussed the issue of representation on FA and changing it to one representative from each department across the board. They are also working on bylaws changes. Appendix D will be modified to cover promotion only. A new appendix, E, will be created for DSI and DSA. Human Development (HDV) and Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) are not currently in the bylaws, nor, in some places, is the School of Communication, Media and the Arts. Anticipating approval by FA, Earth Sciences should be replaced by Atmospheric and Geologic Sciences. To facilitate corrections and recommendations, we will crowd-source the proposed revisions. Jeff Schneider will create a Google Document with changes marked in red, and everyone is encouraged to participate in reviewing it.

- **Information Technology Council** – Ben Entner
  Met March 4th Sean Moriarty gave a presentation on current CTS projects. There will be an outage on March 16th 6 AM to 12 noon for upgrades which will result in a 25% increase in capacity. LyndaCampus is going well. Please email the council with any questions.
Emergency cancellation text messages will be more clear and specific in the future since there was confusion with the last emergency texts.

- **Priorities and Planning Council** – Laura Brown
  Met February 28th and received a presentation and handouts about the executive budget for 2014-15.

- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council** – James Early
  Met March 5th and approved the following course proposals:
  - BRC 370  Comparative Studies in World Broadcasting  (Update)
  - CHE 343L  Comprehensive Physical Chemistry Laboratory  (New)
  - HDV 376  Sustainability and Human Behavior  (New)
  - HDV 432  Canine-Human Relationships  (New)
  - ITA 202  (Prereq)
  - MGT 494  (Prereq)
  - NAS 340  Native American Women  (New)
  - PBJ 337  Child Abuse and the Legal System  (New)
  - PHY 312L, 313L, 314L, 321L, 322L  (Added CoReq)
  - PSY 456  Trauma & Children  (New)

- **UUP** – Lori Nash
  Lori asked the group about using undergraduates as teaching assistants and giving them upper level credits for that. She wanted to know specifically which departments are doing so, which turned out to be quite a few. Many members of UUP are afraid that current procedures might be inappropriate, so she wanted to get a sense of what’s going on and get people talking about the issue so they could figure out what they think should be happening.

VI. **Elections**
No nominations.

VII. **Unfinished Business**

**Proposed Earth Sciences Department name change**
Approved 37-0.

**Proposed revisions to Chemistry Certification/General Sciences Extension – Adolescence: 7-12**
Approved 37-0.

**Proposed revisions to Faculty Bylaws-Article XIX, Graduate Council Membership**
Approved 37-0, meeting ⅔ requirement for bylaws revisions.

VIII. **New Business**
No new business.

*Meeting adjourned 4:30 pm*