The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm.

I. Approval of Agenda – The agenda was approved as distributed.

II. Minutes of September 11, 2017 – Approved unanimously.

III. President’s Report – Deborah F. Stanley

The President spoke about Legislative affairs, diversity and inclusion, upcoming searches and various campus events. See her presentation here.

IV. Faculty Senate Report – Frank Byrne

Byrne offered an overview of the SUNY University Faculty Senate Plenary that met at SUNY Polytechnic (January 18-20, 2018). He urged assembly members to read the official Plenary report themselves (link below). Byrne highlighted the following items from the plenary:

1. Oswego’s own Lisa Glidden, President of the Faculty Assembly, delivered an insightful talk on the topic of sustainability. Specifically she made the case that “systemic changes” are needed to be implemented by SUNY and as well as the global community to effect fundamental progress towards sustainability.

2. Ron Sarner, a computer scientist at SUNY Poly, shared the findings from a recent pilot program at his institution that utilized demographic information on incoming students to enhance first-year advising. Byrne encouraged assembly members that are interested in quantitative analysis and its implications for student advising to contact Dr. Sarner.

3. Byrne spent considerable time sharing his thoughts on the proposed SUNY budget for 2018-19, specifically the presentation delivered by Eileen McLoughlin, Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Chief Financial Officer. In light of the expected state budget deficit (largely a product of rising health costs), Governor Cuomo’s proposed budget falls well short of what Chancellor Johnson and the SUNY Board of Trustees requested. The direct support that SUNY will received is around $1.5 billion with an additional $50 million in “discretionary” spending expected. Byrne and a number of the assembly members proceeded to share their respective views on the gloomy budget picture. Fortunately, SUNY Oswego seems fairly well placed to weather the current storm as compared to several of our sister institutions.

4. Byrne briefly related what Fred Kowal, UUP President, had to report at the plenary. Most of this discussion related to the current state of contract negotiations between the union and the Governor’s representative. Much discussion ensued.

5. Byrne concluded his report by describing his impressions of Chancellor Johnson’s report and Q & A session at this plenary. Byrne emphasized that the Chancellor, while impressive in most every respect, seems to be still managing the steep learning curve of leading the nation’s largest public university system. In particular, he underscored his opinion, based upon repeated exchanges with Chancellor Johnson, that she does not fully comprehend the
significant role comprehensive college sector plays in the SUNY System. Byrne noted that this was undoubtedly a reflection of her own background in the private sector and at R1 institutions. Much discussion ensued between Byrne, assembly members, and President Stanley.

The Report can be viewed here.

V. **UUP Report** – Bill Canning

Bill presented an update on current UUP matters.

VI. **Faculty Assembly Chair Report** – Lisa Glidden

Reported on the program name change (to Criminal Justice) and PBJ minor revision. These changes will happen once NYSED approves the major program revision and name change.

VII. **New Business**

Elizabeth Schmitt provided background and detailed information for the following actions:

a. Action: Bylaws revision, Appendix B and D – Approved Unanimously
b. Action: Bylaws revision Article 11 Procedure and Voting – Approved unanimously
c. Action: Bylaws revision, Article 12 Councils of the Assembly – Approved Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.