

The meeting was convened at 3:30 p.m. by President Cynthia Davidson in the Javits Room.

I. Approval of tentative agenda: approved.

II. Approval of minutes from September 24th, 2007 (with corrections to Dean Staros Report): approved.

III. Curriculum Committee Report (N. Tomes)

- The Curriculum Committee is the most hard-working and committed that Dr. Tomes has ever served on in her 30-years at Stony Brook.
- The committee met every week with much of the work involving Southampton. There are external pressures being brought to bear on the committee in its deliberations and the introduction of issues that are not suppose to govern the decisions of the Curriculum Committee. These are the issues that are being discussed by the A&S Executive Committee.
- The A&S Executive committee is working on a resolution regarding external pressures on committees.
- Dr. Frank Myers inquired about a Journalism course that would be required for all students. Dr. Tomes: the decision to require that course was not made before grant money was available to fund that course.
- Dr. Norman Goodman stated that Southampton went right to the Curriculum Committee without first going to the Undergraduate Council. Dr. Joan Kuchner felt that CAPRA and the FRRP Committee had the same encounters. FRRP Committee may be good committee to be involved.
- Dr. Goodman: For the Journalism course, it should have been vetted before they put the grant money out. There are rules and guidelines for creating schools, programs, colleges, etc. Dr. Davidson believes that the A&S Executive committee should be informed. Dr. Goodman believes that this should be brought up to the Executive Committee before the President and the Provost.
- Dr. Tomes: the innovations with Southampton have merit.

IV. Report on the College of Arts & Sciences (J. Staros)

- Have met with Provost Kaler. Provost Kaler came on board with no new resources (his understanding was that the budget was in balance).
- Initial deficit has grown to over \$3 mil because we were shorted on adjunct money. The Provost cannot provide the needed funds.
- Working closely with the Provost's Office. All the college has in terms of budgetary flex is personnel. As positions turn over the Provost is going to have to decide (with the expanding student body) whether or not to replace personnel.
- Provost released six searches throughout the college.

V. Promotion and Tenure Committee Report (J. Davila)

- The committee has met all year and is functioning well.
- There were 25 Promotion and Tenure cases between May 06' and August 07'. Of those, 16 cases were for Promotion with Tenure. (See report for more information)
- Discussions are in progress regarding the merger of the Library PTC with A&S PTC.
- Assisted by Peter Koch, PTC is progressing toward an electronic dossier system.

- Still have problems with the Chairs' letters. They simply reiterate or quote from outside letters.
- Some files lack required information. Dr. Davila stated that departments are encouraged to provide the PTC with the most thorough explanation of the file as possible. We would like to hear more about departmental opinion.
- Dr. Davidson asked if the PTC has conversations with Departmental Chairs. Dr. Davila: We are thinking about instituting something where we might start to provide systematic feedback.
- Dr. Silverman: Some departmental chairs feel uncomfortable in evaluating what they are sending forth. They would prefer to simply present the position of the department and the outside letter. In some cases it is probably better they do this because if they can mold and shape the recommendations, it might generate negative reaction from members of particular faculty.
- Discussion ensued regarding placing a PTC chart on the website with case outcomes and to update them often
- Dr. Goodman protested the decision by the PTC as stated in its report that it would continue to "require all formal written [department] documents....to be included in promotion and tenure dossiers" despite the fact that the A&S Senate specifically rejected that proposed amendment to the PTC Guidelines at its meeting on April 23, 2006. Dr. Davila indicated that the PTC would abide by the A&S Senate decision in this matter.

VI. A&S Senate President's Report (C. Davidson)

- The next general meeting will be on November 19th. The new Provost and Dean Schoonen (Southampton) will be joining us. There will also be a presentation from the Task Force that has been working on the language of the Constitution.
- On November 7th there will be a Coordinating council meeting. If the Chairs of the committees cannot attend, please send a committee rep or email a report.

VII. Old Business:

- Dr. Silverman questioned Dean Staros regarding retention and faculty members who take a position at another university. Dean Staros reported at the last senate meeting that if a department loses a line it goes back to the common pool. Dr. Silverman thought that it is important to retain Sr. faculty. Dean Staros explained that under the current Provost's budget guidelines, he has to get approval to make a retention offer. It still has to come out of the A&S resources. So far, the cases have been very solid.

VIII. New Business: No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Submitted by: Laurie Theobalt, Secretary