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Senate Minutes

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KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the University Senate

Room 223, McFarland Student Union Building
Thursday, December 4, 2008

M. Sanelli called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Andrew Arnold, Bobbie Berry, Ed Christian, Ed Christian, Kate Clair, James Delle, Camille DeMarco, Dennis Dietrich, William Donner, Lorri Engstrom, Diane Fegely, Sudarshan Fernando, Mitch Freed, James Hall, Gregory Hanson, Kathleen Hartman, Ted Hickman (Vice-President), Will Jefferson, Inmi Lee, Keith Logan, JoAnn Mackesy, Mark Mahosky, Susan Mangold, Elaine Mara, Robert Martin, James McNiff, George Muugi, Sylvia Pham, Ilene Prokup, John Riley, Charles Roth, Trucilla Sabatino, Paul Sable, Maria Sanelli (President), Steve Schnell, Joo Tan, Heather Thomas, Carlos Vargas-Aburto, Anke Walz (Secretary), Carole Wells, and Barth Yeboah.

Absent: At-Large Faculty Representative, Len Barish, Javier Cevallos, Samantha Dennis, Jack Entriken, Todd Folk, Jo Cohen Hamilton, James Hvidding, Joe Lippincott, Management Representative, John McAndrew, Professional Staff Representative, Christopher Sacchi, and Norman Sigmond,

Also in Attendance: Daniel Benson, Kristin Bremer, Bruce Gottschall, Bashar Hanna, Jesus Pena, and Paul Quinn.

I. Announcements

At a recent meeting, one of the members of the Council of Trustees expressed his concern to M. Sanelli about the low faculty attendance at the annual Scholarship Ball. M. Sanelli asked the senators for ideas how to entice more faculty members to attend the event.

II. Approval of the Agenda

E. Mara moved, W. Jefferson seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

III. Approval of the Minutes

J. McNiff moved, A. Arnold seconded, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2008 meeting. Motion passed.

IV. New Business

A. Approval of December Graduates

M. Sanelli called for a motion to approve the December 2008 graduates as certified by the Registrar's Office. A. Walz moved, S. Schnell seconded, to approve the December graduates. Motion passed.

B. Senate Officer Elections

The elections were conducted by J. Riley (Chair of the Ad-Hoc Election Committee.)

He announced that there was only one nominee for the President of Senate, M. Sanelli. There were no additional nominations from the floor. M. Sanelli was declared the winner by acclamation. She will remain the President of Senate during the 2009-2011 term.

He further announced that there was only one nominee for the Secretary, A. Walz. There were no additional nominations from the floor. A. Walz was declared the winner by acclamation. She will remain the Secretary of Senate during the 2009-2010 term.

V. President, Committee, and Task Force Reports

A. Senate President's Report

M. Sanelli reported that the **Institutional Climate Task Force** has met twice this semester. President Cevallos provided all task force members with a copy of an institutional climate scan that was conducted seven years ago. The data in this report (which is merely a collection of quotes that lacks any analysis) was previously not shared with the university community, mainly due to its potentially inflammatory character.

A motion was made by K. Clair, seconded by J. Riley, which reads:

That all faculty/staff/administration get a copy of this report to review.

In the ensuing debate, C. Wells and C. Vargas (representing the administration) pointed out that releasing such a document might shed the wrong light on KU.

This prompted A. Arnold to make an amendment to the motion, seconded by K. Clair, which reads:

To disseminate this report and to charge the Institutional Climate Task Force with investigating the providence of this report to address any IRB issues, to create a framing document to contextualize the report, and to get this done by February 14, 2009.

A vote on the amendment was taken. A vote count revealed 16 yes, 8 no, and 6 abstentions so the amendment passed.

Subsequently, a vote was taken on the amended motion. By vote count, there were 13 yes, 13 no, and 5 abstentions. The motion (as amended) failed.

The **Shared Governance Task Force** is comprised of Ted Hickman (Chair), Maria Sanelli, and John Riley for Senate, Paul Quinn, Steve Schnell, and Kristen Bremer for APSCUF, Charles Woodard, Carole Wells, and Jesus Pena for the administration. The task force is charged to investigate the Shared Governance System at KU and to recommend reorganizing the structure as needed.

D. Benson, Chair of the **Strategic Planning and Resource Committee**, attended the meeting to talk about the goals and objectives of the committee. There are three sub-committees: 1) Strategic Initiatives (which oversees the Strategic Plan), 2) Program Review (which oversees the 5-year reviews of departments, both academic and non-academic), and 3) Budget Review (which oversees the funding of the initiatives.) Each of these sub-committees has seven members, who are mostly faculty. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Dan Benson.

B. Committee on Committee's Report

T. Hickman presented two motions to the senators that were sent forward by the Committee on Committees. First,

To change the Bylaws of the Athletic Programs and Policy Committee so that the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics is no longer the chair of this committee.

This change was necessary to avoid a conflict of interest. Dr. Robert Ziegenfus, Faculty Athletic Representative, will now be the Chair of this committee. As all were in agreement, the motion passed unanimously.

The second motion read:

To change the terms of the student representatives on the Governance Committees so that a student's appointment is now for a 2-year term instead of a 1-year term.

T. Hickman reported that this change had been discussed with B. Watrous and the SGB. As all were in agreement, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Old Business

A. General Education Process Task Force Report

J. Delle (Chair) presented the final report of the task force. The General Education Process Task Force was charged with making recommendations on the process through which a new General Education program can be adopted by Kutztown University. This charge was divided into three components: 1) to recommend which constituencies will be represented on the committee or task force and how members will be selected, 2) to recommend a timeline for the development, approval, and implementation of a new General Education program, and 3) to recommend a process through which a new General Education program will be developed, approved, and implemented. This charge has been fulfilled, and the senators received a written report prior to the meeting.

To emphasize the urgency of the process, J. Delle informed the senators of the following: The Middle State Commission on Higher Education has mandated that the university design and implement a new General Education program by March 1, 2010, documenting 1) progress in the development and implementation of a comprehensive and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness (Standard 7), and 2) the development and implementation of a general education program, including direct evidence of student learning outcomes (Standard 12 and 14). A small team visit may follow the submission of the monitoring report. The subsequent Periodic Review Report is due June 1, 2013. If KU fails to comply, the university could be put on probation and our accreditation might be at stake. There may also be negative consequences for financial aid resources and related funds.

A lengthy discussion ensued amongst the senators and others in attendance, revealing that the report presented to the senators was not identical to the report that the task force members had signed. A small but significant change had been made which raised serious labor-related concerns. P. Quinn (APSCUF President) withdrew his support for the document.

T. Hickman made the following motion, seconded by S. Mangold:

To accept the report of the General Education Process Task Force, and to endorse its recommendations.

A. Walz moved to table the General Education Process Task Force Report, seconded by J. Riley. A vote was taken, and counted as 11 yes and 18 no. The motion failed.

After verifying that none of the senators had any further discussion to offer, M. Sanelli called for a vote on the motion. There was an objection from J. Riley who wished to be

noted for an objection against procedure. A vote was taken on the motion, and a count showed 21 Senators were for it, 11 against, and 3 abstained. The motion passed.

VII. Adjournment

A. Walz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by M. Sanelli. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Signed:

Dr. Maria Sanelli, President

Dr. Anke Walz, Secretary

12-8-08