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Senate Minutes

Kutztown University Senate

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KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the University Senate
Room 261, Boehm Science Building
Thursday, November 1, 2007

M. Sanelli called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Present: Len Barish, Deborah Barlieb, Bobbie Berry, Ed Christian, Kate Clair, James Delle, Camille DeMarco, Mike Demeter, Patricia Derr, William Donner, Jack Entriken, Diane Fegely, Rosemary Fliszar for Ilene Prokup, Lisa Frye (Secretary), James Hall, Jo Cohen Hamilton, Gregory Hanson, Kathleen Hartman, Ted Hickman, Kristine Killingsworth, Keith Logan, JoAnn Mackesy, Mark Mahosky, Susan Mangold, Elaine Mara, Robert Martin, James McNiff, George Paterno, Sylvia Pham, Dennis Rains, John Riley, Charles Roth, Trucilla Sabatino, Paul Sable, Christopher Sacchi, Maria Sanelli (President), Loline Saras, Steve Schnell, Judith Smith (Vice-President), Heather Thomas, Carlos Vargas-Aburto, Madan Varma, Rhonda Wall, Anke Walz, Lee Weyant for Roger Hibbs, and Barth Yeboah.

Absent: James Hvidding, Joe Lippincott, John McAndrew, Justin McCleary, Robert Ryan, and David Wagaman.

Also in Attendance: Deryl Johnson, Dan Spiegel, and Carole Wells.

I. Announcements

M. Sanelli, University Senate President, announced that The Frederick Douglas Institute at Kutztown University will be holding a discussion in the Voices & Choices Center Gallery in the Rohrbach Library on Wednesday, November 14, at 12:00 noon. The Discussion Series will be facilitated by Dr. Nathaniel Williams, the FDI Scholar in Residence, and the discussion topic is "Building an Inclusive Community: Who Gets Included? When and How?". All are invited to attend.

II. Approval of the Agenda

E. Mara moved, J. Hamilton seconded, to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

III. Approval of the Minutes

J. Hamilton moved, M. Varma seconded, to approve the Minutes of the October 4, 2007 meeting. J. Riley asked for a re-wording of a statement he made at the last meeting in section 6A, on page 3. It currently states "KU is reactionary" and he really said "like most institutions, KU tends to be reactionary". The minutes were approved as amended.

IV. President, Committee and Task Force Reports

A. Senate President's Report: University Governance

M. Sanelli reported that she has met with several people since the last Senate Meeting including the Provost, President Cevallos, APSCUF President Michael Gambone, Senate Executive Committee, and a Council of Trustees member. There were three issues that were discussed: 1) the Early Learning Center, 2) safety issues, and 3) the Strategic Planning & Resources Committee.

The President of the Council of Trustees has requested that a member of APSCUF attend the next Council of Trustees meeting as they will be responding to APSCUF's request that the ELC remain open for at least another year, through 2008-2009.

APSCUF sent a memo to M. Sanelli to communicate three messages to Senate regarding the ELC: 1) thanking the Senate for keeping the topic open and in discussion, 2) thanking Senate for voicing a need for a long term commitment of the administration instead of a year to year uncertainty, and 3) the need for a President-appointed Task Force to be more than a front for the administration disseminating actions without input and the need for the university to put an effort in finding solutions to ensure the long term viability of the ELC.

Dr. Gambone has made two formal requests to Dr. Frederick McCoy in regards to the ELC: 1) to address safety issues that pertain to the ELC and 2) to address the space issue. APSCUF is requesting concrete data in writing on both items before the November 5th ELC meeting. If this is not presented by this time, APSCUF will file a Step 1 Policy Grievance.

M. Sanelli reported that the motion that was passed at the last Senate Meeting about panic buttons being installed throughout campus was not passed by APSCUF. There was a consultant on campus last week to help KU investigate a comprehensive safety plan. Bill Mioskie will attend the next Senate meeting to follow up on what the consultant recommended, as well as any concerns about safety issues on campus.

B. Committee on Committees

J. Smith, Chair, asked for a motion to accept James Rose as the At-Large Faculty Representative for the Student-Faculty Judiciary and for Marilyn Meder as the At-Large Faculty Representative for the University Judiciary. This motion was made by J. Riley and seconded by C. Roth. The motion passed.

J. Smith reported that there were five revised Mission Statements & Bylaws that the committee reviewed. The Grade Appeal Board Mission Statement & Bylaws were approved by Committee on Committees so the next step is for this to be approved by the Academic Standards & Policy Committee before coming to Senate for final approval.

C. Strategic Planning & Resources Committee Report

The Strategic Planning & Resources Committee did not meet in the month of October.

M. Sanelli reported that the Strategic Planning Retreat will be held on January 7 and 8, 2008. At this time the Mission Statement & Bylaws will be revised along with a long term plan for the Strategic Vision of the university. All faculty and staff are invited to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

D. Johnson, Vice-Chair, reported that the model for the upcoming retreat was discussed at the first meeting of the year. The Mission Statement and Bylaws will be revised at the retreat. The last five years of the strategic plan will be reviewed and the new strategic plan for the next five years will be discussed.

The Ad-Hoc Committee of the Budget Review Committee for decentralization completed their task. The budget process is now back to the SPRC budget committee. T. Hickman mentioned that a recommendation was made that some of the previous members of the BRC should continue to serve in their positions as the budget decentralization moves forward. The reason behind this is because these members understand the budget decentralization process. T. Hickman asked that D. Johnson be sure to mention this to the Strategic Planning & Resources Committee members.

D. Middle States Accreditation Report

C. Wells reported that the preliminary visit of the Middle States Accreditation Team has been completed. Dr. Speert has sent a letter thanking all who participated. Dr. Speert mentioned that he had a very positive experience while on campus.

Some portions of the Self-Study need to be rewritten to reflect the fact that the evaluation team knows nothing about KU. Dr. Speert also suggested that more success stories be included to reflect the positive changes made over the past several years at KU.

V. Old Business

A. Safety Issues

M. Sanelli mentioned that the safety issues are in the hands of the consultant that was on campus, the University Safety Committee, and Bill Mioskie of Public Safety.

B. Academic Disruption Policy

M. Demetor spoke on the Academic Disruption Policy that was distributed to all Senate members. The Student-Faculty Judiciary Committee developed this policy with Bob Watrous, Dean of Student Services & Campus Life. This policy is in response to unacceptable student behavior that is increasing on campuses throughout the country with about seven to ten each year at KU.

Several suggestions were made for Mike to take back to the Student-Faculty Judiciary Committee for updates to the policy. L. Barish suggested that under Implementation I., syllabi are already getting long and this language would not be necessary in syllabi since the policy would be published in the Key and students are responsible for all policies in the Key. Each semester an E-mail is sent to all students informing them of the Key and their responsibility for adhering to all policies in it.

A motion was made by L. Barish, seconded by R. Martin that states:

Senate Representatives take this policy to their constituents for discussion.

J. Hall called the question, seconded by L. Barish. Call to question did not pass.

T. Hickman made a friendly amendment to the motion, accepted by L. Barish, to change the motion to read:

Senate Representatives take this policy to their constituents for a discussion after it receives the changes that were suggested at today's meeting.

The motion passed.

VI. New Business

A. Senator Officer Nomination Process

A Nomination Committee was selected that consists of John Riley (Chair), Anke Walz, and Steven Schnell. There are two vacant offices on the University Senate for the next academic year, which includes the Vice-President of Senate and the Secretary of Senate. The Vice-President is a two-year term and the Secretary is a one-year term. All nomination forms need to be returned to the University Senate Office, OM 121A, by November 15th. The vote will occur at the December Senate meeting.

L. Frye reminded everyone that if their term expires in August 2008, they cannot run for an office. The member must be a Senator for the duration of the term for the office elected.

B. Environmental Task Force

M. Sanelli announced that President Cevallos will be establishing an ad-hoc Environmental Task Force. This committee would consist of 5 to 7 people, including faculty, staff and students. The two main purposes of the task force will be: 1) to generate new ideas about environmental issues on campus and 2) to inform the campus community of changes and processes that are occurring throughout campus related to environmental issues.

C. Sacchi stated that there is an Environmental Science Club on campus and they would be more than willing to help with this committee.

C. Academic Technology Acceptable Use Policy

D. Spiegel, Chair of the ATC, spoke on the updated Acceptable Use Policy. This policy has been through legal counsel at least two times.

R. Martin moved to accept the policy. Seconded by C. Roth.

J. Riley asked for clarification of item fifteen regarding “usage that interferes with an employee’s work responsibilities”. D. Spiegel will investigate.

T. Hickman stated that the original policy had more specific language about when or who could authorize investigation and that language has been removed. There was also language that was removed about the system administrator and their responsibilities.

S. Schnell questioned what personal enterprise means in item fourteen and he feels that it is too vague.

J. Riley moved to table this motion (accepting the AUP). Second by T. Hickman. The motion passed with C. Roth opposed.

C. Roth stated that if the motion is tabled then there can be no action taken.

A motion was made by K. Clair, seconded by L. Barish that reads:

Anyone that has suggestions on the Acceptable Use Policy please email them to Dan Spiegel of the Academic Technology Committee.

The motion passed.

D. Center for the Enhancement of Teaching (CET)

The CET director resigned at the beginning of this semester and there is currently no director. Dr. Vargas will be appointing an Interim Director soon. Dr. Vargas also stated that he is looking for volunteers to review the current mission of the CET. It was suggested that this be the current CET's advisory committee. This was deferred to that committee for discussion.

M. Sanelli sent a document to Dr. Vargas regarding the search committee for a new director. This committee should consist of 4-5 Senate and 4-5 APSCUF members.

E. Announcements from Dr. Vargas

Dr. Vargas announced that an additional \$1,000 was added to the supply budget of each academic department on campus that produces credits. This was also announced at Chairnet on the 25th of August and this is a permanent funding.

Dr. Vargas announced that they just released 43 tenure track lines for next academic year. Most of these lines are replacements with nine new lines announced.

J. McNiff commented that the current faculty search process is not efficient and has caused KU to lose some good opportunities for new hires. Dr. Vargas stated that he is looking into the current process.

VII. Adjournment

K. Clair made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by K. Killingsworth. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Signed:

Dr. Maria Sanelli, President

Lisa M. Frye, Secretary