



UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING MINUTES

March 28th, 2018
Maxwell Auditorium, 4:00 pm

The Chair opened the meeting welcome everyone in attendance. Before starting the meeting, the Chair acknowledged with respect, the Onondaga Nation, the indigenous people on whose ancestral land Syracuse University now stands.

The Chair raised some housekeeping reminders to begin the meeting. When speaking, he asked that senators raise their voting clicker and say their name before speaking. The Chair announced that the CART system would be used for the Senate meeting for accessibility. He noted that for comments to transcribe to the CART system, senators need to speak into a microphone. The microphone will be brought to individuals, so please wait for the microphone before speaking.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the Senate minutes for the March 7th meeting. Minutes were distributed to the membership prior to the meeting. The Chair asked if there were any questions or corrections. As there were none, the Chair moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and the Chair asked all in approval to respond by saying aye. The Chair asked if any were opposed or any abstentions. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

The second item of business was the Agenda Committee report.

- Senate elections have been completed. The AC has the list of all the senators that have been elected for the 2018-19 academic year and we will start to put Senate members into various standing committees, which will take place over the next few weeks. Once committees are formed, senators will be informed of their committee placement.
- Election of three Agenda Committee members: the committee has decided we are not going to do the elections during a Senate meeting, using clickers. It makes the votes somewhat awkward. Therefore, once the ballot is ready, we will send the ballot out via email. Please respond and vote for three nominees for placement on the Agenda Committee.
-

At the conclusion of the report, the Chair introduced Chancellor Kent Syverud for his remarks.

The Chancellor covered the following topics:

- This year's commencement speaker is going to be Catherine Switzer - activist, alumna of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Newhouse School, best known for being the first woman to

enter and officially complete the Boston Marathon. The Chancellor thanked those who suggested her, including the students.

- President Wheeler announced his intention to step down after this academic year.
 - Some may not be aware that SUNY E.S.F recently released its strategic growth plans and they have potential implications for Syracuse University; in particular the announcement regarding the intention to create a College of General Education and shift most of the instruction from Syracuse University's College of Arts and Sciences. Given the long standing partnership between Syracuse University and SUNY E.S.F., this strategy requires us to seriously reflect on our relationship with SUNY E.S.F..
 - Asked senior leaders to look at the current developments. The administration will keep the SU community apprised
- Disability Services is looking at all of their policies
 - Currently populating the steering committee - should be announced in April. A call for nominations to serve on the committee went out last week.
- Rankings
 - In relation to the recent U.S. news 2019 edition of rankings and professional programs that came out.
 - We continue to have globally competitive graduate and professional school programs.
 - Some of our graduate and professional school programs are doing better than others in some rankings.
 - Rankings are not the university's mission, vision or academic strategy.
 - Our strategy is our Academic Strategic Plan.
- Archibald gymnasium swimming pool, being built as part of the renovations
 - Concerns regarding the number of lap lanes and some other issues related to the pool.
 - There was considerable engagement over the last several years on the design of Archbald, including a survey of 5,000 students, faculty and staff.
 - An update from Recreation Services is needed to better inform people regarding the new pool. It's our goal to meet everyone's need, most importantly our students, but also our faculty and staff.
 - Both the women's building pool and the Archbald pool will have lap swimming in the future; however, the current plan for the Arch pool is to offer different modern, inclusive, and accessible options.
 - Noting concerns expressed about the pool and the Chancellor has asked Recreation Services to consult further on the pool and particularly on the number of lanes in the new pool.

At the conclusion of his remarks, the Chancellor reminded the membership that the Senate needs to focus during the April 18th meeting on the pressing issue of sexual abuse and harassment policies and recommendations; particularly policies involving relationships between faculty and staff and undergraduates.

The Chancellor added that the work needs to be a collective priority and that tangible progress needs to be made on the issue at our next meeting, as well as the other issues identified, including training for faculty. The Chancellor asked the Agenda Committee to save time on the Senate agenda to appropriately address this important topic.

At the conclusion of the Chancellor's remarks, the Chair introduced Provost Michele Wheatly to give her report. The Provost began her remarks with a topic from the previous Senate meeting and offered updates.

- Faculty Salary Review
 - The University is on track to make all appropriate salary adjustments for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.
 - All colleges and schools have submitted their proposals in response to the report from the faculty review committee.
 - To address any inequities for the full time faculty, the complexity of the process requires due diligence and the work continues to ensure that the proposals are adequate.
 - Salary adjustments will be evident in the pay period following July 1, 2018.
 - Questions remain regarding the sustainability of this process, but the Provost noted that the data analysis that brought the inequities to light has laid a foundation for changes yet to come.
 - Committed to keeping track of trends and ongoing conversations with deans as they go through the budget process each year, and to continue to discuss with the deans all factors that may account for salary disparities.
 - Bias training is being provided for all Deans and Provost staff
 - Working with promotion and tenure and search committees to be better equipped to identify implicit bias in these processes.
 - The University is committed to ensuring equity in faculty salaries and to understanding and addressing impediments to salary equity faced by some of our faculty.

- Graduate Students
 - Our graduate students play a vital role in advancing the University's reputation and position as a leader in research, teaching and innovation.
 - The University and GSO have collaborated closely on issues that graduate students have identified as high priorities.
 - Healthcare for graduate assistants
 - Stipends
 - Child care subsidies
 - Career and professional development support

- Healthcare coverage benefits update:
 - The graduate assistants health insurance committee, chaired by Professor Tom Dennison and co-chaired by the Dean of the Graduate School, is exploring ways to strengthen benefits make them more affordable for graduate assistants and graduate fellows in the 2018-19 academic year.

- The committee has been working hard to identify the needs and interests of graduate assistants on issues related to healthcare coverage.
- Four key objectives:
 - Improving the value and strengthening the coverage
 - Maintaining access to the highest level of benefits
 - Substantially lowering graduate assistant costs
 - Ensuring access to vision and dental benefits

The committee plans to provide details on proposed coverage for graduate assistants at the April 4th GSO meeting.

- Middle States Reaccreditation
 - The University welcomed the site visit team from Middle States chaired by Dr. James Bean, Provost of Northeastern University.
 - Other team members represented American University, Cornell University, Johns Hopkins, St. Louis University, University of Maryland - College Park, and the University of Puerto Rico.
 - Today, members of the University's reaccreditation steering committee, the Chancellor's team, and others, met with the site visit team to hear a read out on their findings and recommendation to Middle States for our bid for reaccreditation.

The Provost couldn't relay the details until the official report is filed, however, she indicated that the University is on a very promising path and the site team commended the dedication of our commitment to our students and the many efforts under way to promote innovative teaching.

The Provost noted that the closing suggestions of the site team matched closely with the four recommendations that the University devised for ourselves.

- Strengthening our commitment to assessment
- Development of shared competences
- Enhancing the student experience
- Reinforcing the connection between our resources and our strategic plans

The site team will report to the commission and our site team chair will appear before the commission at the beginning of June. By the third week of June, the commission will issue their decision on our reaccreditation.

The entire process has been an important learning experience for the entire university and the insights the team gave us were extremely valuable.

The Provost thanked those who were a part of the reaccreditation process as members of the steering committee or members of one of the eight self-study teams. She also offered thanks to those who read the self-study report and gave feedback on it.

The Provost gave special thanks to Libby Barlow, Rochelle Ford, Jeffrey Stanton, and Jerry Edmonds, as well as the entire staff of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment, who have truly earned a round of applause.

The Provost concluded her report and questions were asked for both the Chancellor and Provost on various topics covered in their individual remarks. Discussion on these topics followed.

The Chair then introduced the Chair of the Committee on Curricula, Senator Kira Reed to present the committee's curriculum report.

Senator Reed asked for any questions or corrections regarding the committee's report. As there were no questions raised, Senator Reed made a motion to approve the committee report.

Prior to the vote, Senator Van Gulick noted that the committee deserved a round of applause for completing roughly 550 curriculum proposals during the past academic year. The Senate applauded the committee's efforts handling the record number of proposals.

Senator Reed thanked her committee for all its hard work and made the motion to vote in favor of the report. A voice vote was taken. All those in favor were asked to respond aye. The senator asked for any that opposed or any abstentions. The motion carried and the report was approved.

The Chair introduced the chair of the Committee on Research, Senator Jamie Winders. Senator Winders noted two aspects that should be brought to the Senate's attention.

First, Senator Winders thanked new Vice President of Research, John Liu, who has worked incredibly closely with the Research Committee. The committee appreciated his commitment to faculty involvement, even if it did double the workload. Senator Winders noted that the committee appreciates how committed he is to faculty involvement and that we all look forward to continuing to work with him in the future.

The second issue the senator wanted to call attention to is the list on the final page of the report, what the committee is calling soft infrastructure, sort of the connective tissue that links together our mission when we think about the new hires and developments that come through the Invest Syracuse initiative. The Senate Committee on Research wants to keep coming back to some things that are less visible, but deeply important to the research mission. They need our attention and they need our resourcing.

A question was asked regarding a standing issue regarding Koch Foundation funding. Senator Winders noted that one of the recommendations was the formation of an Ad Hoc committee to look beyond Koch funding to look at the broader question of research funding coming from private foundations and corporations so the Senate Agenda Committee formed an Ad Hoc committee late in fall of 2017. The committee has been meeting bi-weekly and an interim report will be provided at the April 18th meeting. Discussion followed regarding the implementation of any action items coming from the committee's work.

Senator Winders noted that the committee makes the recommendations based on their work, but further actions are the responsibility of the administration.

At the conclusion of the Research report, the Chair introduced the chair of the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, Senator Can Isik. Senator Isik briefly reviewed a summary of the four areas of the report disseminated to the Senate membership prior to the Senate meeting.

Discussion followed regarding the review of administrators, as well as some noted suggestions to the committee regarding the timely dissemination of materials to the Senate. The Chair made a comment regarding the timely submission of the committee reports to the Senate. He noted that the Agenda Committee are trying to address that issue by having the committee meetings two weeks prior to the Senate meetings.

He added that currently, the committee meets a week prior to the Senate meeting and that doesn't leave enough time to gather the reports and distribute them to the Senate. Going forward, for the next academic year, the Agenda Committee will meet two weeks before the Senate committee in an effort to address this issue. He also noted that, in general, reports needed to be submitted to the Agenda Committee in a timely manner if they are then to be distributed in a timely manner.

Senator Isik then moved to table the report until the April 18th Senate meeting. The motion was approved and the report was tabled.

The Chair then introduced the chair of the Shared Competencies Committee, Senator John Dannenhoffer to present their report

Senator Dannenhoffer reviewed the highlights of the committee's report for the members of the Senate and highlighted the committee recommendations.

- Continuance of the Ad Hoc Committee on Competencies to:
- Create and modify the composition
- Review the process by which assessment and competencies are administered together with the Institute of Assessment and Effectiveness
- Periodically review and report on assessment and shared competencies to the Senate
- Lay the groundwork for creation of a standing Committee on Assessment and shared competencies

The committee understands that such a standing committee would need to be voted as part of the bylaws and so since the Bylaw Committee is not ready to take this up at this time, we ask for a continuance of this committee until the Bylaws Committee and Agenda Committee can take up the issue of a standing committee.

Questions and discussion followed regarding shared competencies across schools and colleges. Rochelle Ford from the Newhouse School added, in response to the comment, the idea is that we would have a definition that the university community would accept and then we can develop some sort of rubric or theme or some other sort of measurement that could be used across schools and colleges. Further discussion followed.

For the final order of business, the Chair introduced the chair of the Committee on the Library. Due to the committee chair's absence, Senator Barbara Stripling presented the committee's report. The senator called attention to two items.

The open access idea is covered in the full report. The committee would hope that everyone becomes familiar with it. Senator Stripling urged senators to be sure that the library is given the opportunity to make a presentation and facilitate a conversation so that they have really broad input into the policy and we can expect a policy to come to the Senate next fall.

That being said, Senator Stripling wanted to tell everyone is that tomorrow, March 29th, at 3:00 pm, there is an opening of the Architectural Reading Room that has been renovated. It is kind of a celebration of a newly renovated library on campus and she invited everyone to attend. The senator then concluded her report.

At the conclusion of the presentations, the Chair asked if there was any old business. As there was none, the Chair asked if there was any new business, as there was none, the Chair moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 pm.

Attendees

Douglas Armstrong	Michael Frasciello	Laurel Morton
Philip Arnold	Rashmi Gangamma	Anne Mosher
Suzanne Baldwin	Bea Gonzalez	Diane Murphy
Thomas Barkley	Tula Goenka	Tina Nabatchi
Crystal Bartolovich	Ryan Golden	Cathryn Newton
Lynn Brann	Samuel Gorovitz	Amanda Nicholson
Amanda Brown	Roy Gutterman	Gabriel Nugent
Gail Bulman	Marcelle Haddix	Jae Oh
Pat Burak	Marianne Hanley	Christina Parsons
Bruce Carter	Kate Hanson	Deborah Pellow
Matthew Cleary	Brandon Hollie	Thomas Perreault
Dana Cloud	Jenny Howell	James Pezzullo
John Coggiola	Azra Hromadzic	Tommy Powell
Todd Conover	Can Isik	Sarah Pralle
Andria Costello Staniec	Nadim Jabaji	Kevin Quinn
Teresa Dahlberg	Carrie Jefferson Smith	Ramesh Raina (Ch.)
John Dannenhoffer	Eileen Julian	Rafael Ramos
Chris Day	Andrew Kim	Bredan Reaney
Steven Diaz	Melissa Luke	Kira Reed
Bill DiCosimo	Eleanor Maine	LaVonda Reed
James Duah-Agyeman	Steve Masiclat	Robert Rubinstein
Emily Duke	Katherine McGerr	Karin Ruhlandt
Fred Easton	Suzette Melendez	Bonnie Ryan
Josh Fenton	Alan Middleton	Amanda Sanguiliano
Patti Ford	Mark Monmonier	Michelle Scheider
Rochelle Ford	Young Moon	Eileen Schell

Ryan Schindler
Ralf Schneider
Khem Sedhai
Derek Seward
Brian Sheehan
Tom Sherman
Amy Sloane-Garris
John Slosson
Marcene Sonneborn
Jeffrey Stanton
Timothy Stenton
Emily Stokes-Rees
Barbara Stripling
Chancellor Kent Syverud
Margaret Thompson
Ryan Thompson
Laura Troendle
Jodi Upton
Robert Van Gulick
Andrew Vogel
Karina von Tippelskirch
Michele Wheatly
Angela Williams
Jack Wilson
Jamie Winders
Ruth Yanai
Dan Zacharia

[Submitted by Kelly J Bogart]