

UNIVERSITY SENATE

A meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **18 March 2015**, in Maxwell Auditorium.

Present were: Senators Abramovsky, Artuso, Boroujerdi, Brown (L.), Bulman, Burdick, Burstyn, Carter, Chandler-Olcott, Clarke, Coggiola, D'Amico, Davidson, Davis, Day, Dolak, Dong, Duah-Aygeman, Duke, Easton, Elin, Garcia-Murillo, Gauri, Glidden, Godfrey, Gonzalez, Gorovitz, Gouldin, Holzwarth, Isik, Ingram, Judge, Kantrowitz, Keck, Kiewe, Lee, Lewandowski, Liddy, Lore, MacNamara, Marcoccia, Middlemiss, Mohanty, Mosher, Mulvaney, Nugent, O'Rourke (L.), Osborne, Pease, Pellow, Perreault, Quinn, Reed, Rolling, Rubinstein, Ryan, Sherman, Staniec, Svetz, Syverud, Thompson, True-Frost, Van Gulick, Vidali, Vitharana, Wadley, Wasylenko, Watts, Wiklund, Williams, Winkler, Yin.

Presiding officer: Prof. Can Isik

Prof. Isik called the meeting to order and proposed that the February 11th Senate meeting be approved, with the deletion of '..for the sciences..' (p. 4040, l. 7), and the body concurred.

Prof. Isik then reported for the Agenda Committee, including a motion to approve the following calendar of meetings for 2015-16:

9 September 2015
7 October 2015
4 November 2015
2 December 2015
20 January 2016
10 February 2016
23 March 2016
30 March 2016 (if needed)
14 April 2016

The motion carried. Prof. Isik continued with a report on the Committee's decision to refer a review and close scrutiny of the report from the NCAA to the following committees: Budget; Athletic Policy; Instruction; and Curriculum. He reported that the Agenda Committee had decided to include an item on each month's agenda for the Chancellor and/or the Provost to address the Senate, if either so desired.

Prof. Isik then called on the Interim Provost to report on a meeting she had recently had with Professors Watts and MacInnes from the Academic Affairs committee, Prof. Robert Rubinstein from the Appointment and Promotions committee, and Dick Thompson and Jim Brewer from the Board of Trustees. She said that

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the meeting had been initiated by Mr. Thompson to discuss and get a clearer understanding of the various University processes. Vice Chancellor Liddy said that the conversation had been a constructive one, and that she thought they had made progress toward improving communication between the Trustees and the Faculty.

Prof. Carter then rose to a Question of Privilege, informing the body that he had been informed that in a recent meeting of the Committee on Appointment and Promotions a statement had been made by a high-level administrator to the effect that, during the time when he had chaired the Agenda Committee, he had blocked Board of Trustees Chairman Dick Thompson from addressing the Senate. Carter said that he wished the Senate to know that he had not done so, and nor had Prof. Armstrong.

Prof. Isik then recognized Chancellor Syverud, who came to the podium to speak to the body. The Chancellor began by saying that admissions were up in all the schools/colleges, and he thanked the people who had been working on the Strategic Plan. He reported progress on work with the Law School's operational plan, mentioned that the Whitman School had recently been recognized, informed Senate members that a new Chief Advancement officer and an HR officer had been hired, and that the School of Education had appointed Prof. Joanna Masingila as Dean. He told the body of a Schulz Family Foundation grant SU had received, and expressed his sadness that one of SU's students had died recently.

Chancellor Syverud went on to say that for 8 years Syracuse University had not been able to talk about the NCAA investigation, but that now it could. He urged members to read the full report, and then told the body that it was a challenge to deal appropriately with such serious issues while respecting the need for change, particularly in an environment where because of the effect of SU's reputation, everyone would be looking closely at the University's behavior moving forward. Syverud said that he had had significant discussions recently with University leaders about the issues raised in the report, and met with the entire Athletic Department that morning. He cautioned that the University's appeal of some of the sanctions should not detract from the seriousness of the violations. The Chancellor concluded by telling the Senate that he felt the most troubling aspect of the report was the lack of oversight by athletic and academic officials regarding efforts to change a grade so that a basketball player could remain eligible for a potential national title game, which he called the most salient point in the NCAA's findings of lack of institutional control. Chancellor Syverud expressed his appreciation of the strong support he had received from trustees, faculty members, athletic staff members, and others, and he welcomed everyone's help now that the University community could talk about the investigation.

Prof. Isik then called Prof. Christian Day to the podium to present the report of the Committee on Honorary Degrees. He asked that all non-senators exit the auditorium during the discussion and vote, and asked those Senate members who were sitting near the doors to invite them back in afterwards.

Prof. Day presented the report and, after an extensive discussion, all nominees were approved.

After the non-senators had returned, the chairman called Prof. Tiffany Koszalka to present the report of the Committee on Curricula, which included a motion to approve the new courses, changes, and new programs (Arts and Sciences, Sport & Human Dynamics, Visual and Performing Arts) listed in the report. The motion carried.

The chairman told the body that due to the late hour, the reports from the Committee on Research and the Committee on Women's Concerns would be postponed to the April 15th, and the meeting was adjourned.

Teresa Gilman
University Senate Recorder