

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Senate**

**December 9, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 4:34.

### **1. Consideration and vote on the November 2014 meeting minutes**

The minutes from last month were approved.

### **2. Process for selecting student speakers at commencement**

Rodger Jackson opened the floor for discussion on the process. Discussion included clarification that students who self-nominate need a faculty sponsor. Faculty who want to nominate a student also need the student to submit an application. Susan Davenport introduced a draft rubric covering basic and qualitative selection criteria. A committee of faculty with a representative from each school would finalize the rubric. Arnaldo Cordero-Roman asked about the process for dual-degree students, or students who seek a second degree. Susan Davenport responded that if a student got a second degree, they could technically apply to speak again. Arleen Gonzalez noted that athletic performance was not included in the rubric. Susan Davenport clarified that the omission was not deliberate; the rubric includes suggested criteria, but should still be considered a draft. The committee, once formed, should have some say in the final instrument.

**The senate voted unanimously to approve the process.**

### **3. Informational item on status of Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality**

Rodger Jackson announced that he is keeping tabs on the process of establishing the Center. There are issues regarding space and staffing, but the issue has not been dropped. The senate will continue to be notified on the progress of the Center.

### **4. Consideration and vote on Life Cycle Program document**

Academic Programs and Planning approved the document and recommend that it be adopted by the senate. Rodger Jackson opened the floor for discussion. Discussion included questions about whether there are enough protections in place for faculty and students in the case of program closure or suspension. Vicky Schindler explained that faculty vote for program redesign, suspension, or change/consolidation. If the majority of faculty do not vote for the change, the procedure ends, and faculty meet with dean to consider other options. Susan Fahey expressed concern that the procedure could be used until faculty voted in accordance with administrative preference. Vicky Schindler responded that the document attempted to capture what has been happening already and that faculty input in the process is substantial. Vicky Schindler also responded that the committee would consider capping the number of times the administration could ask the faculty in a program to deliberate on the same issue.

Further discussion highlighted that the document specifically references workload issues and the Master Agreement. Anne Pomeroy asked if the document addressed questions of workload

as they pertain to the Master Agreement, and Rodger Jackson directed her to the relevant clauses.

This document applies both to programs that are physically represented on campus as well as those that may exist entirely online in the future. Establishing a market demand for new programs is built into the program proposal process, and the flow chart that was part of previous versions of the document has been eliminated. Aakash Taneja pointed out that the language “pass by a majority” should clearly refer to the entire program faculty, not just those at the meeting, and the Senate concurred. Vicky Schindler agreed that her committee would incorporate the agreed upon, proposed changes into the document.

**The senate voted unanimously to approve the document with the proposed changes.**

#### **5. Consideration and vote on Proposal for an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership**

Academic Programs and Planning voted 13 to 1 (abstention) to recommend its adoption. Rodger Jackson opened the floor for discussion, which included whether EDUC is the appropriate home for the program, whether the number of faculty proposed is sufficient, and whether the program is sustainable. Others suggested that the program targets many different industries and it is supported by several other schools in addition to EDUC. Moreover, the title combines business and education, and that a fourth faculty member would be on board by the time the first cohort of students reaches the dissertation phase.

Other questions addressed concerns about the structure of phase I, the nature of the 54 credits, and whether students need to be employed to be admitted. Administrators responded that Phase I of the program was satisfied by specific set of in-person and hybrid courses listed in the appendix of the proposal document, admissions would work with students to find sponsoring institutions if they don't have a job, one credit courses could be combined for a 3 credit course in certain circumstances that involved specially designed workshops developed in partnership between the College and a specific company requesting such workshops, and that market survey work included surveys, phone interviews, and focus groups.

**It was moved and seconded to use a ballot vote for consideration of the Doctorate in Organizational Leadership. The vote was 20 in favor, 11 against, no abstentions. The motion carried.**

**The senate moved into closed session.**

#### **6. Consideration and vote on motions from the Senate Executive Committee on the charge and membership of a Task Force for Atlantic City Campus**

Rodger Jackson announced that a vote by Board of Trustees on acquiring the Atlantic City property was postponed at the December 9 Board meeting. The recommendation of the Executive Committee was that the senate vote on the charge and membership because the Board might still vote before the senate meets again. Senators asked about whether there was more information available about the administration's plan, the reasoning behind the Executive Committee selecting the task force members, and whether voting could be construed as

endorsement of the administration's decision. The Board is only required to give one week's notice that they intend to meet.

Michelle McDonald suggested a statement be added to say the senate is prepared to assemble a joint task force should the proposal pass the Board, but that action does not represent disapproval or endorsement of the decision. Senators also asked why the administration has not provided more information about their plans for the property and it was suggested that they may not yet have plans. Anne Pomeroy said Montclair was successful in filing a request for the minutes of a closed session of their Board of Trustees, so Stockton is working on finding out how to do the same thing should it prove necessary.

**There was a motion to amend the resolution to include language that says this process does not constitute any endorsement for or against such a project in Atlantic City. The vote was unanimous in favor of the amendment.**

**There was a motion to vote on the creation of the task force. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

**There was a motion to empower the Executive Committee to establish the membership of the task force. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47.

Senators absent: Emari DiGiorgio, Stacey Cassel, Michael Rodriguez, Gurprit Chhatwal

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Lyke, Secretary of the Faculty Senate