

Faculty Senate Minutes #5

November 5th, 2024

Fireplace Lounge

Members and Senators Present: K. Ahern, S. Anderson, P. Arras, C. Badurek, , E. Bitterbaum, A. Blavos, E. Cisneros, R. Coyne, S. Daman, R. Davis, A. DeChellis, S. Decker, P. Donnelly, D. Fantacone, A. Fitz-Gibbon, D. Harms, L. Jin, M. Kent-Landes, K. Lawrence, L. Lopez-Janove, A. McClellan, H. Schmid, P. Schroeder, G. Sharer, K. Sheets, T. Suzuki, B. Williams, D. Wilson A. X, J. Zhe-Heimerman

Members and Senators Absent: R. Borden, R. Bryan, S. Clark, K. Diggs, J. Hall, J. Jones, J. Neretich, , J. Parks, R. Powell, J. Radloff, A. Thompson, M. Yacavone

I. Approval of Minutes: The Minutes from October 22nd were approved by the Senate

II. Chair's Report: K. Lawrence:

- Encouraged everyone to go out and vote for Election Day
- Announced that L. MacDonald and C. Van Der Karr would be in attendance at the next Faculty Senate meeting (11/19/24) to present the IPAC's SUNY Cortland Strategic Plan: Focus for the Future and related Data Book; questions will be taken from the floor, and then a vote to endorse will take place
- Announced that the chair of the Committee on Teaching Effectiveness, I. Strasser, will attend Faculty Senate Steering Committee on 11/12/24 (Faculty Senate on 11/19/24) to answer any questions concerning the rollout of Anthology
 - If anyone has any questions in the meantime, you can reach out K. Lawrence and she will forward to either I. Strasser, L. Kahle, and/or A. McClellan

III. Vice Chair/Secretary's Report: D. Harms:

- Presented slate of remaining vacancies to the Faculty Senate for the Spring 2024 Call for Nominations
 - Announced nominations that were submitted via email to fill senator and committee vacancies (*Please find documents attached*).
 - Number of remaining vacancies are as follows:
 - Senator vacancies (6 total)
 - Committee vacancies (7 total; including student vacancies)
 - Please note: Any seat that was uncontested by a single nominee was elected by the Faculty Senate.

IV. Treasurer's Report: C. Badurek – No Treasurer's report

V. President's Report: E. Bitterbaum:

- SUNY Chancellor met with all 64 Presidents this past week to discuss budgets and meet with local legislators
 - 134 billion available for the state to use; about 6% of that will be allocated to SUNY/CUNY (around 8 million)

- Announced that SUNY Cortland is one of only 190 universities to register students to vote on campus
- Announced newly proposed student bill of rights, Pathways
 - Purpose is to promote a seamless transfer from 2-year school to a 4-year university; would allow students who aren't accepted to transfer to petition
- Announced that SUNY has received 22 grants to create reflection/meditation spaces
- There will be a new GE on Civil Discourse beginning Fall 2026
- Artificial Intelligence (A.I.)
 - Perhaps look into inviting SUNY Albany to assist in acclimating to incorporating A.I. into the classroom
 - K. Lawrence suggested to poll Cortland faculty; see if they are willing to share with the campus
 - L. Jin commented that there were 17 thousand students enrolled in A.I. across 52 campuses back in 2023; there is also SUNY Generative A.I. Task Group. Sign-up using the link provided in email containing the Faculty Senate minutes from 11/5/24
 - K. Ahern commented the Generative A.I. Committee has met 6 times so far; suggested hosting a Generative A.I. Fair
- Mandate 125 hours (3 credit hour courses) high impact practices; i.e. student teaching, internships, etc.
 - D. Harms inquired what about the courses that already meet this mandate; would they qualify towards this?
 - S. Daman; It would more than likely count, yes; we need to assess what proportion of our courses already qualify
 - K. Lawrence mentioned many Cortland departments have already long established internships, and other kinds of high impact courses required for graduation

VI. Provost's Report: A. McClellan:

- Announced that there will be an Anthology meeting tomorrow (11/6/24)
 - Anthology has a free online training academy; we will be sending out more information regarding this
 - Faculty will be able to control the open/close window for the course evaluations; still has to be within the 3-week period (11/18/24-12/6/24)
- There are currently 17 faculty searches underway
 - Current search for Senior Director of Learning Center; we are in the semi-finalist stage of this particular search
- Hoping to have a new Dean of Professional Studies before the end of this semester
- There will be a virtual portfolio workshop on 11/14/24 from 2PM-3:30PM
- Title VI training for student employees (with the exception of Work study students); there are about 420 students that need to complete it
 - 139 have completed the training; 267 have started it
- Will begin drafting a monthly provost's report to present to the Senate
- Review sabbatical applications at the end of this week
- Hope to implement voluntary professional development week before classes begin each semester
- Wednesdays-Fridays all SUNY Provosts' meeting
- There will be a panel discussion concerning work course development and academic program review

VII. Policy Committee Reports:

Joint Committee on Student Interests: A. X/J. Radloff – No report.

Academic Faculty Affairs Committee: K. Sheets, Chair – No report.

Educational Policy Committee: J. Parks, Chair – No report.

Professional Faculty Affairs Committee: J. Neretich, Chair – No report.

Area Senators – No report

SUNY Senator/ Alternate Senator: A. Fitz-Gibbon, G. Birren, L. Jin, J. Hall – No report.

Student Senator: E. Cisneros/D. Wilson

- Reported that the SGA is doing a giveaway for students; there will be a boot basket (contains items such as socks, blankets, etc.) as well as a videogame system giveaway. To be in the drawings, students simply have to follow the SGA's Instagram page. Winners will be announced next week

VIII. Other Standing Committee Reports:

Committee on Teaching Effectiveness: I. Strasser, Chair – No report.

University Curriculum Review Committee: K. Polasek/C. Ortega, Chair – No report

Faculty Research Committee: C. Badurek, Chair – Reminded senators of the deadline to submit nominations (can be self-nominations) for the DiNardo Award (recently increased to \$1,500) is 11/18/24. Announced that the committee will be hosting an information session soon regarding grant-writing; the committee wants everyone to be successful. Last year, the committee funded 20 proposed grants, Faculty Research Committee's goal is to spur innovation and to fund a diversity of proposals

General Education Committee: D. Radus, Chair – No report.

Graduate Faculty Executive Committee: L. Gathagan/L. Reichel, Chair – No report.

IX. Unfinished Business:

- **EPC Basic Needs Statement in Course Syllabi** – Proposal recommending that department chairs and faculty members add the Cortland Cupboard's Basic Needs Statement into course syllabi was opened to floor of the Senate for debate
 - A. Blavos emphasized that this statement should be a requirement, and not optional to include in syllabi
 - No further debate
 - Vote to endorse: 25 yay, 1 nay; proposal passes

X. New Business:

- **UFS 2024 Fall Plenary** – A. Fitz-Gibbon reported on the Plenary that took place at SUNY Plattsburg; some highlights were as follows
 - One of SUNY Chancellor's biggest points was that SUNY as a whole needs to grow enrollment

- Feels that senior faculty have to step up to ensure sustainability
 - A. Blavos: Senior tenured faculty already are doing it; there are so many who already teach night classes
- SUNY Chancellor A.I. is the future; will provide personalized education
- There were 6 resolutions that were discussed; 5 passed the UFS and 1 failed to pass
 - These resolutions will be available on the UFS webpage once they have been posted
 - It was decided that we as faculty senate will no longer vote to endorse the UFS resolutions, as they have already been voted on at the UFS level; we will simply just review them
- SUNY Senator L. Jin also commented that there are 7 action items within the Climate and Sustainability Action Plan; there will be a link to provide feedback sent out to the campus
 - Announced she will be on sabbatical Spring 2025

XI. Announcements:

- K. Ahern: Sustainability Curriculum Audit; really helps with our STARS report
- K. Lawrence: 11/11/24 Fall Open House; also Veteran's Day
- A. Blavos: GO VOTE!!!!

Meeting was adjourned by K. Lawrence at 2:18PM on 11/5/24

Minutes submitted by: Amy M. DeChellis