

Tentative Agenda  
Arts & Sciences Senate  
April 19, 2004

- I. Approval of Tentative Agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes from March 15, 2004
- III. Report of Arts & Sciences Senate President (J. Kuchner)
- IV. Report of the Promotion and Tenure Committee (G. Sprouse)
- V. Report by the Dean of Libraries (C. Filstrup)
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business

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Arts and Sciences Senate  
Minutes of the 03/15/2004 Meeting

The Arts and Sciences Senate met on Monday, 15 March 2004 in the Javits Room. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Senate, Joan Kuchner, at 3:33 PM.

I. Approval of Tentative Agenda

The tentative agenda was amended and approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of Minutes from February 23, 2004.

Approval was unanimous with changes described by Norman Goodman and Dean Staros.

III. Report of Arts & Sciences Senate President (J. Kuchner)

Joan Kuchner thanked the Dean for including the College in his College-wide faculty meeting and Bob Cerrato for presenting at that meeting. Joan mentioned the status of the report on non-tenured track faculty. Web-filtering is also an issue that has come up and an ongoing discussion is underway with President Kenny. They have learned that the filters have been removed from the academic side of the HSC.

There was a recent outside review of the English department. The A& S Senate had two representatives present for this review. Joan reviewed the procedures how governance plays a part in these reviews.

Joan called for nominations and volunteering for open positions on standing committees, senators at large, and the Executive officers.

IV. Report of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences (J. Staros)

Dean Staros reported that he has a meeting with the President and Provost in two weeks, and three weeks after that the Provost will present the provostial budget plan to the President's cabinet.

V. Report of the Academic Judiciary Committee (John Shea) (See attached report)

John Shea reported that there was a record number of accusations this year presented to the AJC. There appears to be an upward trend in second -offenses, which are the most serious as conviction results in suspension or expulsion. Internet plagiarism and forgery are also very frequent. Some additional effort to educate the students about the misconduct that involves technologies, such as cellphones. Norman Goodman pointed out that this is a national issue. John Shea pointed out that some students may try to



make a distinction between internet plagiarism and traditional forms. He also pointed out that it is easy to catch with a Google.com search.

Bob Kerber suggested a return to posting information in the "Statesman". Joan commented that the increased caseload may reflect successful collaboration with the faculty.

A survey is underway as to faculty and student attitudes and knowledge of academic misconduct. Maria Doelger described how the survey was put together and how it will be analyzed. She predicted that we will come out badly in this survey, because we have many of the "at risk" groups and predictors. The goal will be to determine how we compare to sister institutions and where interventions may be made.

#### VI. Report of the Proposal of the Curriculum Committee on the DEC Category (Bob Cerrato)

Bob Cerrato presented the resolution printed on page three to return the original DEC K definition. The line that "it must be completed at Stony Brook" will also be deleted because of insufficient course offerings.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

#### VII. Second Presentation of the Proposed Constitutional Amendment (Joan Kuchner and the Curriculum Committee).

Dean Staros noted some corrections to the numbering and to the final paragraph referring to the Dean of Physical Education, a position that no longer exists.

Bob Kerber commented that item #4 was awkwardly worded. Bob Cerrato clarified what was needed in the present wording.

It was passed unanimously.

Charlie Janson made a motion to review the constitution and strike all references referring to the "Dean of Physical Education". The motion to review the Constitution and alter the Constitution accordingly and then bring it to a later vote was approved unanimously. This would be a technical correction to reflect reality.

#### VIII. Report on the Undergraduate Colleges (Jeff Levinton and Iman Kao)

Jeff Levinton summarized the objectives of the system. The goal is to bring in first year students and give them both an academic and social program that will acclimatize them to the university. The goal is for next year to have all first year students part of one of six colleges. It takes advantage of structures that already exist, including residence halls, advising and the registrar. It will provide a multifaceted environment that will put them in contact with faculty and residence staff so that they get appropriate advice. The academic course the students will be looking at this fall is USB 101, and in the spring they will take a freshman seminar. Academic advising is integrated into these courses.

Jeff described some of the goals which were 1. A structured first year program, 2. Integration with other programs, 3. Membership and integration with the entire faculty, and 4. Physical facilities, and problems which include the 1. Sustaining faculty in the seminars, 2. Money and 3. integration with existing programs

Iman Kao added that other purposes are to create small communities within a larger university. The interaction with full-time faculty members appears to have an impact on their integration.



Bob Kerber suggested that a possible source of faculty would be emeriti and members of the "Roundtable" group. At present, faculty are compensated with \$1000 of professional development funds, and it is not clear if this would be a sufficient incentive in the long run.

Norman Goodman commented that the goals are also problems, and while in support of the general concept, he suggested that the program was started prematurely by the Provost before many of these issues were addressed, and this was an administrative initiative, not a Faculty-approved program.

Jeff commented that the faculty response has been very good despite many of these concerns. Norman raised another issue about the inclusion of commuter students, who, while assigned to the Colleges, have different schedules than resident students. Jeff commented that these issues are under discussion.

Joan Kuchner suggested that the Directors and other staff can communicate to the faculty at large how the concerns and problems are being discussed. Jeff and Iman responded that a fully articulated plan would not be the best way to proceed at this time. The major issue is finding directors, and a plan will be eventually developed based upon what is learned during the early experiences with the program.

Fred Walter commented that we should extend these colleges beyond the first year. Jeff commented that this is not a stated goal, but would be desirable. Another suggestion was made to integrate with the Writing & Rhetoric Program. Frank Myers raised the concern with the reliance on volunteer faculty for a program that is of such apparent importance.

#### IX. Update on the SUNY General Ed Assessment (N. Goodman)

Norman Goodman reported on a recent meeting in Albany on an assessment processes. At present, there are two assessment programs being discussed. One discussion point has been to fold them into a single program. The second contentious issue has been to what degree to require external reference measures as a validation technique. Finally, there was the suggestion that a national test of "campus academic climate" be included as a way of providing a context for understanding the assessment results.

#### X. Old Business

#### XI. New Business

A motion to adjourn being made and seconded, and the Arts and Sciences Senate adjourned at 5:09 PM.

Transcribed by John Robinson  
Secretary

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**Report of the Academic Judiciary for 2003-2004**  
Prepared by Maria Doelger, AJC Executive Officer'  
Submitted by John Shea, AJC Chair.

#### Summary of Cases Brought to the Academic Judiciary 2002-2003

A record 258 accusations were reported to the AJC (previous high was 171 in 2000-2001). 58 of the accusations were appealed. Of the 54 cases which have been brought before a hearing board, 42 resulted in a guilty finding, and 12 resulted in a not guilty finding. Four cases are still awaiting hearings due to scheduling difficulties on the part of the students. 16 accusations involved students accused of multiple instances of dishonesty. 14 cases resulted in suspension. No cases resulted in expulsion.

#### A breakdown of the types of offenses is as follows:

Internet Plagiarism	131
Forgery	53
Print Plagiarism	32



Copying	17
Falsification of Data	10
Crib Sheet	8
Electronic Device	4
Collaboration	3

#### 2003-2004 Activities

- For the Fall 2003 semester 101 accusations were reported, compared to 102 in Fall 2002.
- Efforts to educate students regarding academic integrity issues over the past year have included presentations to student groups, TA training sessions, varsity athletic teams, and SBU 101 sections.
- Currently a survey is underway to assess faculty and undergraduate awareness and behaviors regarding academic dishonesty. The results should be available by the end of April.

