

• COLLEGE SENATE MEETING •

SMS SENATE MEETING SUMMARY-draft

December 13, 2013 Butler 210, 2:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: meeting commenced at 2:03 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- The Senate meeting agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of 11/8/13 were approved.

4. Remarks of the Chair

- **Senator Carson gave report on the presidential search:**
 - **Senator Carson introduced Ken O'Brien (SUNY Liaison and History professor from SUNY Brockport)** Guest speaker helped with discussion on the presidential search and protocols. Ken stated that every member of the search committee will be signing a letter of confidentiality; and he noted to the Senate to not attempt to break that confidentiality and support them with that pledge.
 - **Senator Carson** then asked for questions/comments.
 - **Senator White** noted that this is a late start considering we hope to have a new president by next summer.
 - **Ken O' Brien** stated that there is no guarantee there will be a Board of Trustees (BOT) in May and that this will be on their agenda. The first meeting of the Search Committee is on December 16, 2013. A preliminary schedule will be finalized; if May doesn't work for the BOT, then this will at the BOT's June meeting.
 - There was further discussion/ feedback from the floor as to the characteristics that will be considered for the new president, and the importance for SUNY Buffalo State's future from Senators Riess, Loehr, Jarmond and Gustafson.
 - **Senator Carson** also asked the Senate if the individual considered for president should be someone that has come up through the ranks, rather than a career administrator. Should the new person have a track record of scholarship?
 - **Senator Nicholls** felt that both are good characteristics, and for the future of higher education.
 - Further discussion from the floor: **Senators Miller, Ben-Merre, and Hinderliter** all gave their feedback and concerns.
 - **Senator Carson** ended with: "SUNY Buffalo State is not a broken campus, but we need leadership direction."

5. Remarks of the President

- **Provost Ponton** gave a brief update on the Strategic Plan.
- **President Cohen** gave remarks on the SUNY President's meeting, noting that Open SUNY was a main topic; as this online style education becomes more prevalent, new formats for attracting

new students to Buffalo State, focusing on those students who might not go to a SUNY institution, and a more adult market.

- **SUNY** is contemplating switching from its current recharge system, to an assessment of service model. Recharges for the current fiscal year have increased by \$2.9m across all SUNY campuses. Our share of the increase was \$52K.
- **Vice President LeVine** gave Budget update. Budget reductions; will be providing monthly reports beginning in January 2014 to units and what they will have to spend.
- **Vice President Payne** gave an Enrollment update. Headcount was significantly down. This is a national trend.
- **President Cohen:** There were questions on Start Up New York. Our campus has completed its Start Up NY plan. Goal is to attract startup businesses; internships, faculty relationships, soliciting potential clients. The campus has also submitted for the SUNY 20/20 Grant.
- **Senator Carson** asked **Dr. Cohen** if they considered lowering the admission standards with the enrollment issues. **Dr. Cohen** said no they have not.
- **Senator Carson** noted that the Associate VP of Enrollment Management will be leaving the campus, and asked if that position be filled?
- **President Cohen:** The position will be filled with interim appointments.
- **There was further discussion.**
- Student housing was raised by **Senator McMillan** regarding capacity and future housing.
- **President Cohen** stated that building new housing is not a short term possibility, but having a housing referral service that will look into other option such as; neighborhood rentals, etc.
- There was further discussion from the floor related to the President's remarks.
- **President Cohen** then ended his remarks.

6. Committee Reports

- **Academic Plan –Senator Jason Grinnell, Committee Chair-** gave brief update.
 - Looking at perceptions of SUNY Buffalo State reputation update/status.
 - Sub-committees looking at College Relations.
 - Dual credit options
- **Budget Staff and Allocations Committee- Senator Ted Schmidt, Committee Chair**
 - Start Up NY Power Point
 - Briefly: Senate Chairs were given a chance to respond to Buffalo State's plan submitted to SUNY in early October.
 - Some early issues raised:
 - No faculty on the "management team."
 - Ensure it's aligned with Campus Mission
 - Costs and space
 - Detrimental impact on employment/programs?
 - A faculty member has since been appointed
 - Jim Mayrose—Senator and member of BSAC
- **Curriculum Committee – Senator Karen Sands O'Connor, Chair**

Final SMS draft of 12.13.13 Senate meeting, for send out and posting.

- New forms and instructive template
- MINOR routing form for minors separate from the Program routing form.
- Will be available on the College Senate website.
- 14-15 courses were eliminated from the New IF Program.
- **Instruction and Research Committee- Senator Andrew Nicholls, Committee Chair**
 - Motion for discussion, vote in February on:
Proposed Amendment to DOPS I:16:07 Change of Grade Policy.

- **Standards for Student Committee- Senator Heather Maldonado, Committee Chair**
 - Two Motions were presented for discussion on Standardized Testing:
 1. **Standardized Test Optional General Freshman Admissions at SUNY Buffalo State**
Presented at the December 2013 Senate Meeting by the Standards for Student Committee (this motion was withdrawn on terms of it being status quo.
 2. **Review of the SUNY Buffalo State General Freshman Admission Policy**
Presented at the December 2013 Senate Meeting
by the Standards for Student Committee (this motion was kept and will be voted on at the February 14, 2014 College Senate meeting.)
There was some discussion from the floor.

- **Student Welfare Committee – Senator Trivet Jarmond, Chair**
 - Brief update on Black Board and Degree Works.
 - Committee working with USG.

7. Unfinished Business

- **There was no Unfinished Business.**

8. New Business

- **Senator Carson presents slate of four faculty names for the Senate's vote that will serve on the Presidential Search Committee.**
 - SUNY Guidelines have changed in the last five years.
 - Had discussion with Ken O'Brien.
 - Four names chosen are:
 - **Pixita Del Prado-Hill**
 - **Wanda Davis**
 - **Jennifer Ryan**
 - **Gary Solar**
 - There was extensive discussion before voting on the candidates occurred.
 - **Senator Bill White**, Chair of the By-Laws and Elections Committee handed out ballots to all voting members of the Senate present. Thirty five voting members were present.
 - During the counting of ballots by Senate Parliamentarian Slade Gellin, **Senator Hotchkiss** asked for a moment of silence for **Nelson Mandela**.
 - The slate was voted in favor on 32 to 3 and was approved. These four individuals will represent the Senate on the search committee of twenty (voting) members and four non-voting members.

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9. Constituent Questions

- **Senator Goodman** asked the administration about a recent party held and with all of the budget issues how was this party funded.
 - **Vice President Payne** responded by stating that the party was not funded by any state funds.
 - **There were no further Constituent Questions.**
 - **Senator Carson** then wished the Senate a safe and enjoyable Holiday.

10. Adjournment- The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Next Senate meeting on, Friday, February 14th 2014 in BUTLER 210 at 3p.m.