

# • COLLEGE SENATE MEETING •

## SMS SENATE MEETING SUMMARY-draft

September 12, 2014 Butler 210, 3:00 p.m.

- **Call to Order: meeting commenced at 3:01 p.m.**
- **Senator Carson** welcomed SUNY Buffalo State's new President, **Dr. Conway-Turner** who will join the Senate at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. She is at a SUNY meeting today.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda


- The Senate meeting agenda was approved.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of 5/9/14 were approved.

### 4. Remarks of the President

- **Provost Ponton** gave report on behalf of President Conway-Turner.
- **Provost Ponton** updated the Senate on several areas including:
  - Inauguration Committee; will share more with campus. Inauguration activities designated for October 14<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>.
  - On Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> President Conway-Turner will host day of service in Buffalo and the involvement of SUNY Buffalo State. (More information forthcoming).
  - Meetings of Presidents and Chief Academic Officers that took place in May 2014 at Cornell University.
  - Addressed retention issues and importance for SUNY Buffalo State. Retention for first year students. Best practices evolve from successful programs. Connecting people with the institutions, mid-terms grades, class attendance. Communication with students and finding the right fit for them, classes, etc.
  - New tutoring program.
  - Early warning system using MapWorks.
  - Deans talking about peer support models, high degree failure, looking at national models, focuses the mindset of the student.
  - Retention programs developed at John Gardner Center of Excellence.
  - First and second year retention and further focus on third and fourth year retention.
  - Had conversations/follow-up with Strategic Plan; looking at presidential guidance moving forward.
- There was question from **Senator Grinnell** on academic array program updates.
- **Provost Ponton** responded. Information will be sent to the Chairs next week.
- Need to filter out unnecessary programs not being used/needed. Departments asked to look into this. Deans asked to work with department and get back with information/updates.
- **Vice President LeVine**
  - Science building water issues: problem identified but not resolved. High levels of bacteria in water supply. A specialist was hired to do testing a evaluate options to

- fix this problem. Chlorinating/Flushing water being done. In June special packaging laboratory-reverse osmosis. The temperature was raised for hot water systems. Increased bacteria level in hot water. D.I water system continued to have bacteria.
- Town hall meeting will be scheduled so faculty and staff can hear and ask questions on this continuing problem. **VP LeVine** noted that the drinking water was okay at this time, and the source of the bacteria has not been found.
  - Start-Up NY- a third amended plan sent to Empire State Development; as we do not have the adequate space to house all businesses that are interested in this program. Some leased space at Pierce Arrow Building may be used; floor plans need developing by owner of Pierce Arrow Building.
  - Further discussion with **President Conway-Turner** to take place, as this is an important initiative for our campus.
  - Construction Update/New signage going up.
- **Vice President Payne**
    - Preliminary Enrollment Update- (as of 9.12.14)
    - **More in depth report at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the College Senate.**
    - Undergraduate enrollment up 10.2% over Fall 2013.
    - Currently there are 10,557 students  from target of 10,750. Additional contracts not included in this total.
    - With enrollment numbers up this year, there will be no budget cuts.
    - There are 1,182 freshman students and 1,040 transfer students.
    - 6, 429 returning students. Retention for returning and continuing students, this needs to improve. Will be looking at ways to improve retention in this area.
    - Graduate students there are 357 new Grad students, and 818 continuing.
    - Housing is a challenge with Tower One offline this year. There are 2,826 in occupancies: 1,396 returning, 231 transfers, 1,145 first year and 81 RA staff.
    - Only one hotel accepted our proposal to house students off campus.
    - Canisius College is housing 160 students in their dorms, including 6 RA staff members.
    - Students living 35 miles or more are asked to live on campus; a policy for local students took place, and they cannot live on campus.
    - Because of enrollment increase freshman students are living in triples (1,141 total triples). Record number and it has been extremely challenging.
    - **VP Payne** thanked the many staff and administrators for their herculean efforts to accommodate students, and working at retaining them continues.
    - Some questions were taken from the floor regarding VP Payne's report.
    - **VP Payne** also stated that a Housing Master Plan is being developed with consultants and also with **VP LeVine**. This HMP would develop physical housing options for students on our campus.
    - Further discussion ensued.
    - **VP Payne** introduced **Erin Alonzo**, the new AVP for Enrollment Management to the Senate.

## 6. Remarks of the Chair

- Approval of the Senate Roster. Motion made by Senator Lysiak and Senate Grinnell seconds. The Senate Main Roster is approved.
- New Chairs opening remarks to the Senate. (full remarks in the Senate Minutes)
- Chairman Carson introduces new Senators (full list will be in the Senate Minutes)
- Committee Rosters pre-approved via email and in accordance with Senate By-Laws.

**7. Committee Reports-full details will be in the Senate Minutes**

- **Academic Plan** – Jason Grinnell, Chair
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
- **Budget Staff and Allocations** – Ted Schmidt
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
  - **Senator Hotchkiss** asks when there will be a new Dean for the School of the Professions.
  - **Provost Ponton** responds to **Senator Hotchkiss's** question. “Several internal searches proved unsuccessful and with the budget cuts last year that put things on hold. Now with no budget cuts, we will move forward with this.”
- **By Laws & Elections** – Amitra Wall
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
  - **Election of Student Chair of Student Welfare Committee (paper ballot)**
    - **Senator Lanning** nominates herself to run for Chair of the Student Welfare Committee. **Senator Sutherland** then nominates **Senator Grant** for the same position. **Senator Wall** asks for further nominations, hearing one then motions to close the nominations, **Senator Schmidt** seconds.
    - **Senators Lanning and Grant** both give brief statements as to why they would be a good candidate to serve as Chair of the Student Welfare Committee.
    - **Senator Wall** then passes out the paper ballots to the voting members of the Senate. Once the tabulations were completed, assisted by **Vice Chair** of the Senate, **Bill White** and the **Senate's Parliamentarian, Slade Gellin**, the results were announced. **Senator Ashley Lanning** was elected as the next Chair of the Student Welfare Committee.
  - **Elect Student representative for Senate Agenda Committee (non- ballot)**
    - **Senator Wall** motions to open nominations for a student senator as a representative on the Senate Agenda Committee, **Senator McMillan** seconds. **Senator Grant** nominates himself. **Senator Wall** asks for other nominations, hearing none. **Senator Wall** motions to close the nominations; **Senator C. Jones** seconds. **Senator Terron Grant** is elected as Student representative to serve on the Senate Agenda Committee for 2014-2015.
- **Curriculum Committee** – Karen Sands O'Connor
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
- **Faculty and Staff Welfare**– Amy McMillan, Chair

- Committee Overview for 2014-15.
- **Instruction & Research** - Kevin Williams, Chair
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
- **Standards for Students** – Senator Jennifer Hunt presented for Heather Maldonado
  - Committee Overview for 2014-15.
- **Student Welfare** will report at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting.

#### **8. Unfinished Business**

- SIFOC- IF Overview **Senator, Amitra Wall**
- Intellectual Foundations website:
- Students enrolled from 2006-2014 in IF will continue with the original IF program. These students will not be moved into the IF -14 program but must remain with the original IF program they signed up with.
- Students enrolled from Summer and Fall 2014- onward, will take IF -14 program.
- Discussion ensued from the floor.

#### **9. New Business**

- There was no New Business
- There was some brief discussion.

#### **10. Constituent Questions (Full Questions/responses in full Senate Minutes)**

- There were several Constituent Questions.
  - Online advisory committee. Provost Ponton response.
  - Outside window cleaner vendor being used. From Senator Lysiak
  - Online campus phone book issues. From Senator Fish
  - Handicapped parking spaces. From Senator Hunt
  - UPD review-Margolis Healy Spring 2014, no follow-up as yet. From Senator Stewart
  - New campus signage costs? From Senator White

**11. Adjournment-** The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

**Next Senate Meeting: Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm, in Butler 210.**