

Hugh J. Silverman, President of the College of Arts & Sciences Senate, announces:

ARTS & SCIENCES SENATE MEETS
MONDAY, October 18th, 1999 at 3:30 PM SHARP

The second meeting of the 1999-00 College of Arts & Sciences Senate will be held on Monday, October 18th at 3:30 p.m. SHARP, in Javits Room (2nd floor, Melville Library).

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- I. Approval of the Tentative Agenda
- II. Approval of the Minutes of the Senate Meetings of September 27th, 1999.
- III. Report of the Arts & Sciences Senate President (Hugh J. Silverman)

Reminder of Arts and Sciences Senate Webpage:
<http://ws.cc.sunysb.edu/senatecas>. Posting of Senate Announcements, Agendas, Minutes, Constitution, By-Laws, PTC Guidelines, Curriculum Committee Forms, etc. on College of Arts and Sciences Website

Role and Status of the Arts and Sciences Senate Standing Committees on Curriculum (CC), Graduate Programs (GPC), Promotion and Tenure (PTC), Academic Judiciary (AJC), Academic Standing and Appeals (CASA)
- IV. Dean's Report: Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (Paul Armstrong)
- V. Report of the Arts and Sciences Senate Standing Committee on Academic Standing and Appeals (Mark Setton and Erich Goode, 1998-99 Co-Chairs)
- VI. Report of the Arts and Sciences Senate Standing Committee on Graduate Programs (Bernard Maskit, Chair)
- VII. Report of the Arts and Sciences Senate Standing Committee on Promotion and Tenure Committee (Everett Waters, Chair)
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business

College of Arts and Sciences Senate
Minutes of September 27th, 1999 Senate Meeting

Secretary: Robert Bloomer

The Meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

I. Agenda:

The tentative Agenda was approved.

II. Minutes from the CAS Senate Meetings on February 15, March 15, and April 19, 1999:

After the number eight was corrected to 18 to reflect the estimated number of new faculty to be appointed in the CAS Budget-Balancing Plan for 1999 (Meeting on March 15), the Minutes from these three Meetings were approved.

III. Report of the CAS Senate President (Hugh J. Silverman)

The President first welcomed those present to the new academic year. He then introduced Laurie Theobalt, who maintains the official records of the CAS Senate, and the three officers of this body: Hugh Silverman, President; Joan Kuchner, Vice-President; Robert Bloomer, Secretary.

The Senate elections during the summer were run by email, which saved money and labor time. The results for At-Large Senators and for the five Standing Committees are incorporated into the CAS Senate Webpage, which is:

<http://ws.cc.sunysb.edu/senatecas>

Here one can find announcements, Senate agendas, Minutes of past Senate Meetings, the revised CAS Constitution and Bylaws, PTC Guidelines (with changes made this past Spring), and Curriculum Committee forms.

There are five Standing Committees of the CAS Senate. Three of them are up and running in the sense that they have Chairs. The President would like the Promotion and Tenure Committee (PTC), chaired by Everett Waters of Psychology, to deliver a report on last year's activities at the CAS Meeting on October 18. The Graduate Programs Committee (GPC), chaired by Bernie Maskit of Mathematics, deals with proposals to change graduate programs and related programmatic issues, including review of the Graduate Bulletin. The Curriculum Committee (CC), chaired for a second year by Elizabeth Stone, gave a report at the present Meeting (see V below). The other two committees - the Committee on Academic Standing and Appeals (CASA) and the Academic Judiciary Committee (AJC) - are still looking for Chairs. There is also an ad hoc committee, namely the Committee on Faculty Rights, Responsibilities, and Retirements, which was formed last year. It does not hear cases, but rather examines policies, procedures, and various issues dealing with topics named in its title. These are not union topics. This committee is currently looking at departmental by-laws and other issues such as what constitutes an offer for a position at the University.

Finally, the President drew attention to the August 12th passing of Michael Sprinker (age 49) who was Professor of Comparative Literature and English. Robert Harvey from the Department of Comparative Studies delivered a statement on Sprinker's scholarly accomplishments, teaching success, and other contributions to the University.

IV. Report on Preparations for Stony Brook Response to the SUNY Guidelines on General Education (Mark Aronoff, Associate Provost)

Associate Provost Mark Aronoff briefly reviewed the history of these Guidelines. About a year ago, the SUNY Board of Trustees passed the General Education Curriculum. The SUNY Provost appointed a task force to make recommendations for implementation of this Curriculum. Stony Brook had two members on this task force, Shirley Kenny and Norm Goodman. The

task force reported a set of recommendations to the Provost, which are posted on the Provost's website. Mary Rawlinson and Mark Aronoff have been charged with responding to this. They met at a retreat with the CAS Undergraduate Directors and described what they are planning to do, for which there was broad acceptance.

The D.E.C. maps reasonably well onto their categories, but the philosophy of the D.E.C. and the philosophy of Board of Trustees are opposed in that the idea of the D.E.C. is to be as inclusive as possible, while the original idea of the Board of Trustees was to be as exclusive as possible. The Board of Trustees had in mind that we would affirm a set of ten courses that every student in the University would take. In their report, members of the task force have tried to find a middle ground by phrasing in terms of actual outcomes. This means that we will more or less be able to match the D.E.C. with their categories. Some of the roughly 1000 courses in the D.E.C. could be eliminated by applying two simple algorithms in order to reduce that number to about 600. First, if Course A is a prerequisite for Course B in some D.E.C. category, then Course B should no longer be used as a D.E.C. course. And second, if there is a course that only a very small number of students have taken within the last several years, then it should also not apply to the D.E.C. Suggestions will be made to Departments as to which courses could be omitted from the D.E.C., and any changes will go through the Curriculum Committee. Then we can go to SUNY Central and say that we are making a good-faith effort to match our curriculum with theirs.

V. Report of the Arts and Sciences Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Elizabeth Stone, Chair)

Elizabeth Stone gave a summary of a longer report, of which those in attendance had copies. The Curriculum Committee met 23 times during the 1998-1999 academic year. Significant curricular initiatives included the revision of the majors in Biology, Humanities, French, and Astronomy. It approved a change in the D.E.C. category A writing requirement as well as a revision of beginning calculus courses. It conducted several initiatives. One was to examine interdisciplinary majors, especially Social Sciences Interdisciplinary (SSI) and Multidisciplinary Studies (MTD). Moreover, it considered data about directed readings, research, and internships, and approved a standardized credit of 0-6 for internships and research and 1-6 for readings. At the conclusion of her report, clarification was offered on the proposal, which the Curriculum Committee had considered and tabled, to expand the one-year WISE program to a four-year WISE College. Mary Scranton clarified that this is not to be considered a formal proposal but rather a draft of what had been put together up to that point.

VI. Old Business: There was no old business.

VII. New Business: There was no new business.

The Meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.



"Hugh J. Silverman" <hsilverman@ms.cc.sunysb.edu> on 11/03/99 01:56:53 AM

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cc:

Subject Exec Comm. Minutes

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Dear Members of the A& S Senate Executive Committee:
Please find below the Minutes from the last Executive Committee meeting. Do keep in mind that these minutes are not for general circulation and are for the internal purposes of the Committee only.
Having reviewed the minutes, I will add the question of the A&S Senate Executive Committee representative on ARC proposal as an additional agenda item.

See you all on Monday.

Hugh

College of Arts and Sciences Senate Executive Committee
SUNY Stony Brook
Monday, October 25, 1999
Minutes of Meeting #3
Robert Bloomer, Secretary

In attendance:

Hugh Silverman (HJS), President
Joan Kuchner (JFK), Vice-President
Robert Bloomer (RB), Secretary
Ruth Ben-Zvi (RBZ)
Kathleen Breidenbach (KB)
Harvey Cormier (HC)
Peter Gratton (PG)
Elizabeth Stone (ECS)
Everett Waters (EW)

Absent:

Bernie Maskit (BM)

The Meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m.

I. Agenda and Minutes: The Agenda was approved and following two minor corrections, the Minutes from the Executive Committee Meeting on October 11, 1999 were also accepted.

II. President's Report: HJS commented on the recent Chairs' Forum, which he attended. One of the issues taken up there is women's salaries at the University. They are generally lower than those of their male colleagues, particularly at the level of Full Professor. EW would like someone to speak to us about this, as the Senate could help to establish structure. HJS suggested that we make this a Senate item, first for an Executive Committee agenda and then for the Senate Meeting in February. Also, unlike universities such as MIT and Wisconsin, SUNY has no policy on maternity leave. Discussion of these issues is ongoing.

HJS reported further that this campus has experienced an increase of approximately 500 undergraduate students but a decrease of 200 graduate students from the past academic year. The Provost, who will address this problem at the Senate Meeting on November 15th, feels that graduate programs need to be reinvigorated through funding for TAships.

Since five-year reviews of departments have proved to be impracticable, the University Senate this year approved the idea of the Academic Review Committee (ARC) conducting department reviews every seven years (Theater Arts and History are being reviewed this year). The CAS Senate already plays a small role in academic planning review process by having one representative each from the Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Programs Committee, but perhaps it was proposed that the full ARC committee have a regular representative from the CAS Senate Executive Committee. Our contribution by participating in the review process would provide the important perspective of the CAS Senate in maintaining academic quality and standards across departments particularly in the College. Should we, for example, look at ARC reports from the point of view of faculty governance in order to provide balance to the Provost's Office? And what would we like reviewers to consider in their report? In consultation with the Executive Committee, HJS will make a proposal to the Provost about our potential continuing role in the academic review process.

III. Status of Senate Standing Committees (AJC, CASA, GPC, PTC, CC): HJS affirmed that these committees are branches of the CAS Senate. Thus, they report to the CAS Executive Committee first and then to the CAS Senate.

