

ROWAN UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES

General Meeting
December 11, 2006

Attendees: Bonnie Angelone, Herb Appelson, David Applebaum, Joe Bierman, Lori Block, Kate Boland, Luis Brunstein, Bruce Caswell, Jay Chaskes, Kevin Dahm, Robert D'Intino, Carol Eigenbrot, Kathy Ganske, Dorie Gilchrist, Erick Guerra, Karen Heinz, Vasil Hnatyshin, Elisabeth Hostetter, Frances Johnson, Candace Kelley, Ernst Knoesel, Lee Kress, Phillip Lewis, Yuhui li, Matthew Lund, Julie Mallory-Church, Brenda Marlin, Mark Matalucci, Afrodesia McCannon, Yusuf Mehta, Phyllis Meredith, James Newell, Bob Newland, Anne Phillips, Henrietta Pichon, Anthony Robb, Tanya Santangelo, Dan Schowalter, Kathleen Small, Tony Smith, Rob Sterner, Eileen Stutzbach, Susan Taber, Skeff Thomas, Sanford Tweedie, Bernadyne Weatherford, Patrick Westcott, Barbara Williams, Cathy Yang, Tricia Yurak, Hong Zhang

Not in Attendance/Represented by Alternate: Cristina Iftode represented by Gerald Hough, Mary Marino represented by Joe Cassidy, Karen Siefring represented by Toni Jennings, Don Stoll represented by Jennifer Courtney,

Not in Attendance: Joe Basso, Greg Biren, John Hasse, Ihsan Isik, Eric Milou, VP (attending Conference in D.C.), John Pastin, Robi Polikar, Marilyn Shontz, Marian Stieber

Call to Order at 11:00a.m. by President Newell.

Introduction of Visitors: Joy Xin, Special Education Services, Chair of the World Education Council ; WHIT reporter; Gerald Hough, Biological Sciences, serving as an alternate.

Approval of Agenda: by unanimous consent.

Approval of November 27, 2006 Minutes: passed unanimously as amended to include correction of the name of the Chair of the Promotion Committee and addition of departments to the Promotion Report.

Open Period: no advanced speakers were scheduled to speak.

President's Report, James Newell

President Newell noted that there are three types of changes reflected in the proposed Constitutional amendments. They are:

1. Wording changes
2. Membership changes
3. Minor procedural changes

President Newell suggested that the body focus first on the minor procedural suggestions; then begin a multiple meeting discussion of membership. A summary of suggested changes had been previously distributed.

He then clarified the discussion as New Business in the agenda.

The Provost's view of and role in T&R was mentioned as follows:

Raising the rigorousness of the process is a priority.

The mechanism would be through the departmental committees' criteria. This year, the Provost only received 1 of 37 criteria. He will be visiting with each department to discuss his concerns. Presentations at conferences and submission of articles may not be sufficient scholarly achievement. President Newell has invited the Provost to address the Senate at the January meeting. He noted that what will be approved is changing.

Question from the floor: Does the Provost have the authority to change the criteria?

Response by P. Lewis: Departments that are unclear in their criteria will have to clarify them as opposed to the Provost will change them. President Newell further elaborated that for those already in the system, individual departments will have conversations about how the Provost's philosophy may affect change.

Question from the floor: How will this philosophy affect professional staff?

Response: Performance on the job will be the priority in evaluation. Only if scholarship is part of the job description will it be considered. It was noted that professional staff must not be demeaned in the process. A concern was expressed that he not by-pass the various units by going through the departments. A concern was also raised that, department by department, the institution could be moving to publish or perish by having separate meetings with each department.

Since no decision was being made immediately, S. Thomas motioned to move the agenda which was approved.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Committee, Kevin Dahm

Chair referenced his green handout. He stated that faculty from Liberal Arts and Sciences are proposing a new degree program for students to graduate with a degree in liberal studies science. The question to be considered was whether the Senate thinks this is a legitimate degree. It was clarified that there are no new degree programs with 90 credits. This will be reviewed on the 15th by LAS. It was stated that every department will participate in this and that the full proposal is in the data base. A question was raised regarding the degree options for this program. It was stated that the program is for people who don't need a traditional degree, but who want credentials.

Promotion Committee, Kathy Ganske

The committees have been formed and are electing chairs. Chair reiterated deadlines for activities as follows:

December 22nd: College Promotion Committees submit the names of their elected chairs to Esther and a copy to Kathy.

January 5th: Candidates submit portfolios to Department Promotion Committees

February 2nd: Department Promotion Committees complete their work.

Committee on Committees, Dorie Gilchrist

The Chair recommended membership to the Diversity Committee. A question was raised from the floor as to whether the committee is open to membership. It was clarified that certain constituent groups were to be represented (i.e.- race, gender, etc.)

Motion to accept the whole list as proposed passed unanimously. A question/concern was raised regarding the charge of the committee. (i.e.- Will it address “diversity of academics?”)

Professional Ethics, Barbara Williams

Chair stated that “academic integrity” will be operationalized. On January 25, 2007; there will be a speaker from Rutgers, Donald McCabe. More details will follow in an announcement.

Old Business

World Education Council, Joy Xin

The Chair’s motion for a committee name change to the International Education Council was passed unanimously.

New Business

Constitution Committee, B. Caswell

Chair, B. Caswell, referred to the list distributed by President Newell as an alternative to discussing the changes article by article and paragraph by paragraph. He shared the history of having gone through multiple changes in language and stated a preference for wanting to avoid discussions of language at this point. A written report, *Senate Constitution Procedural Matters*, was distributed at the meeting.

Discussion was made on the following revisions suggested:

Article IV- Officers

In Paragraph 1- a grammatical change.

Paragraph 2 recognizes changes in practice that are inconsistent with the Constitution.

Paragraph 3 – clarified that the possibility of advanced nominations allows for discussion with constituencies.

Paragraph 5- suggests change in the President’s duties to include attendance at the Board of Trustees Meeting would reflect a change in practice.

A question was raised from the floor as to the Senate’s role- clarification was to summarize changes, then to open to debate, then to either approve or not approve en masse.

Paragraph 7

Regarding duties of the Secretary, two changes were suggested:

1. Webpage duties

2. To chair the Election Committee. This was stated as being consistent with language in

the By Laws reflecting the difficulty of revising the Constitution without going through the Board of Trustees.

Discussion ensued that these duties should fall to the VP; that the Secretary has enough responsibilities and that this duty go to those not running for offices.

Not having the Secretary chair the election was taken as a friendly amendment.

Paragraph 8

A concern was expressed that the President, if elected as a senator “at large”, may not be representing his/her department when voting. The President would not vote except to break a tie.

Wording will be clarified regarding librarians and professional staff with regard to the same issue of whether the individual represents his/her department. It was stated that , should such an individual be elected to serve, the next person on the At Large list would be brought into service.

Article V - Committees

Paragraph 1 – the immediate past president serves as ex-officio on the Exec (as already in the Constitution, but simply moving to the appropriate place.) The revision would also be putting practice into the Constitution of inviting chairs when needed.

Paragraph 4- the President, Vice President and Secretary would be ex-officio to all committees except where it is inconsistent with the bargaining agreement. This addresses the inconsistency of practice.

The President with the approval of two other officers can call summer meetings as needed in response to summer decisions and the state budget cycle.

Article VI -Meetings

6- Non-members may speak with one week prior notice.

Question from the floor: Does the President have the authority to say “no?”

Answer: In practice, the president tends to allow speakers if requested; it is unclear in the By Laws.

President Newell then requested a motion to move the above items en masse. The motion carried with two nay votes.

Opposition Opinion Noted: Concern raised that the process is fundamentally flawed in that “one person, one vote” should be the rule for the president.

B. Caswell then provided a brief summary of the suggested membership changes with intent to discuss at the next Senate meeting. Senators were instructed to go back to discuss the following proposed changes with their constituencies:

- Recognizing the Camden Campus through senator apportionment the same as for professional staff and faculty, treating it as a department.
- Student representation of two chosen by the SGA in keeping with the Preamble.
- Representation of CWA and IFTE with two per unit. (Comment that another bargaining unit exists.)

- With Adjuncts as part of the bargaining unit acknowledgement of how this affects departmental elections. A concern was expressed as to whether they could serve as officers.

Motion to Adjourn at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Mallory Church
Senate Secretary