

University Senate Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2003
Student Center 221

Senators in Attendance: Jim Abbott, Herb Appelson, David Applebaum, Lorin Arnold, Joe Bierman, Greg Biren, Lori Block, Carl Calliari, Bruce Caswell, Julia Chang, Jay Chaskes, Steve Crites, Joanne Damminger, Gini Doolittle, Tom Fusco, John Gallagher, Dorie Gilchrist, Jim Haugh, Judy Holmes, Gabriela Hristescu, Karlton Hughes, Martin Itzkowitz, Frances Johnson, David Klassen, Lee Kress, Kristyn Kuhlman, Denyse Lemaire, Phillip Lewis, Janet Lindman, Mary Marino, Jeff Maxson, Robin McGee, Ellen Miller, Janet Moss, Pat Mosto, James Newell, Terry O'Brien, Joe Orlins, Julie Peterson, Anne Phillips, Robi Polikar, Charles Schultz, Karen Siefiring, Edward Smith, Sonia Spencer, Robert Sterner, Eileen Stutzbach, Skeff Thomas, Sandy Tweedie, Cindy Vitto, Barbara Williams, Tricia Yurak, Faye Zhu

Not in Attendance – Represented by Alternate: Kathy Ganske represented by Nick DiObilda, Mark Matalucci represented by Bonnie Wilson, Eric Milou represented by Marlena Herman

Not in Attendance: Bryan Appleby-Wineberg, Eric Constans, Joe Davey, Diane Hughes, Bela Mukhoti, Hal Vogel

Note: If anyone was omitted from attendance list and you were in attendance, it indicates that you did not sign in and/or did not retrieve name tag. Please notify the Senate office and the minutes will be corrected.

Call to Order: President Cindy Vitto called the meeting to order at 10:50 AM.

- I. Motion to approve agenda as amended (to include introductory presentation by John Hasse), seconded and passed.
- II. Motion to approve minutes of October 20, 2003, seconded and passed.
- III. Christy Faison has asked the Senate for names of a faculty member and professional staff member to serve on the search committee for a Director of the Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Carl Calliari and Lori Block volunteered to serve on the search committee.
- IV. John Hasse, chair of the Campus Master Plan Subcommittee for Land Use, Building Siting, and Environmental Issues, addressed the Senate. Although the subcommittee has not yet taken an official stand on the building of townhouses in the area behind Hawthorn (Rowan Woods), the members decided at their most recent meeting that it was their professional obligation to express their concerns about the project. The subcommittee has drafted a letter to the Board of Trustees requesting the opportunity to present their concerns before a vote is taken to approve contracts for the townhouse project. (A special meeting of the Board of Trustees has been called for this purpose at 4:00 on November 12 in the Ballroom.)
 - A. It was suggested from the floor that the Senate should write a letter as well, urging that the Board hear the concerns of the subcommittee and postpone

the vote or, at a minimum, commit to a better process for future projects to ensure that concerns of faculty and staff are heard, especially when those concerns come from individuals with expertise in relevant areas.

- B. In response to questions from the floor, John Hasse gave a brief summary of the subcommittee's many concerns, including the fact that siting the townhouses behind Hawthorn will separate this residential area from other residential areas on campus and that the backs of the townhouses will be facing Route 322. More information about the subcommittee's concerns can be found at his website, www.users.rowan.edu/~hasse.

- V. Resolution from Senate Executive Committee as modified 11/6/03
After some discussion, the following resolution was voted upon and approved (46 aye, 7 no, 5 abstentions):

Resolution #031110-1 - Senate Priorities for 2003-2004

Whereas, the core activities of Rowan University are creating and offering learning opportunities and activities, both in and out of the classroom, to our students,

Whereas, the faculty and professional staff are charged with providing these opportunities on a daily basis,

Whereas, Rowan University must continue to improve as a university through increased support of its technological infrastructure, library holdings and staff size, and faculty teaching load, so as to reach the level of quality we all aspire to have,

Whereas, the University Senate applauds the recent commitments President Farish has made in support of a reduced teaching load, increased resources for our technological infrastructure, and increased library resources,

Be it resolved that, while recognizing the importance of current and planned-for capital projects, more resources of the university be directed to achieve the following three priority-ordered objectives as soon as possible:

- 1) the immediate equitable adjustment of the faculty teaching load for pursuit of scholarly activity, instructional improvement and development, and service to the university,
- 2) the immediate investment in the technological infrastructure, including hardware and staff, and
- 3) the immediate investment in additional holdings, staff, and space at Campbell Library.

Be it further resolved, that the three above objectives be adopted by the Rowan University Senate as its highest priority goals until these goals are achieved.

Committee Reports:

Student Relations: Lorin Arnold, Chair

-George Brelsford and Tina Pinocci are making arrangements for the Southern Poverty Law Center to conduct workshops on campus regarding diversity issues.

Tenure & Recontracting: Jim Newell, Chair

-All Tenure & Recontracting candidate portfolios have been processed and delivered to the Office of the Provost.

Curriculum Committee: Phillip Lewis, Chair

The following curriculum proposals were announced to the Senate:

Process B: Gen Ed: New courses & changes to courses

LAS: Math/Science

-Computer Science

SCC#03-04-800

Introduction to Scientific Programming

LAS: Humanities –Foreign (World) Languages

SCC#03-04-600

Renaming Elementary Spanish I & II; Intermediate Spanish I to Spanish I, II, III

SCC#03-04-601

Renaming Intermediate Spanish II to Spanish Reading & Conversation

SCC#03-04-602

Modify Spanish Reading & Composition Description

SCC#03-04-603 Renaming Foundations of French Language & Spanish Language to History of French Language & History of Spanish Language

SCC#03-04-604

French & Spanish Phonetics-change hegis # to Junior Level

Process A: Non-Gen Ed-new courses & changes to courses/programs

ENGINEERING:

-Electrical & Computer Engineering

SCC#03-04-404

Electrical & Computer Engineering –change prerequisites/Undergraduate

SCC#03-04-405

Electrical & Computer Engineering –change credit hours & catalog description/Undergraduate

SCC#03-04-406

Electrical & Computer Engineering –minor change to major degree program/Undergraduate

-Mechanical Engineering:

SCC#03-04-400

Computational Materials Science –new non-gen-ed course/Graduate

SCC#03-04-401

Introduction to Computational Materials Science –new non-gen-ed course/Undergraduate

SCC#03-04-402

Elastic Stability of Structures –new non-gen-ed course/Graduate

SCC#03-04-403

Introduction to the Elastic Stability of Structures –new non-gen-ed course/Undergraduate

Process B: Gen Ed: new courses & changes to courses

COMMUNICATION:

Radio/TV/Film

SCC#03-04-203

The Movie Industry

Campus Aesthetics & Environmental Concerns: Skeff Thomas, Chair

-The committee toured the campus on November 3rd with Russ Seagren and Glenn Brewer. Much of the tour was focused on the north side of campus, where the proposed site for the new Education building is located. Issues related to this site were discussed, including landscaping issues along Rt. 322.

Sabbatical Leave: Janet Lindman, Chair

-no report

Academic Policies & Procedures: Martin Itzkowitz, Chair

-no report

Learning Outcomes Assessment: Anne Phillips, Chair

-no report

Recruitment, Admissions, Retention : Jay Chaskes, Chair

-no report

Research & Technological Resources: Gabriela Hristescu, Chair

-no report

University Budget & Planning: Sandy Tweedie, Chair

-no report

Intercollegiate Athletics: Rob Sterner, Chair

-no report

Committee on Committees: Julie Peterson, Chair

-no report

Career Development: Sonia Spencer, Chair

-no report

Professional Ethics & Welfare: Barbara Williams, Chair

-no report

Other Committee Reports:

Campus Master Plan: Joe Orlins, Chair

-no report

World Education: Mickey Smith, Chair

-no report

Ad hoc committee for revision of the University Senate Constitution: Bruce Caswell/Karen Siefing, Co-Chairs

- Bruce and Karen have contacted three groups: those who indicated an interest in serving on this committee; those nominated by others to serve on this committee; those who volunteered to serve on a Senate committee, but were not assigned to a committee. When assembled, the committee will include representation from all areas of the University.

-When the committee concludes its work, proposed revisions will be brought to the Senate floor for approval.

-Revisions approved by the majority vote of the Senate will be voted upon by all eligible faculty and professional staff.

-Revisions become effective when approved by both a majority of the eligible faculty/professional staff and the Board of Trustees.

Open Period - President Farish:

-The proposed state bond issue, which is the Governor's initiative, is still on the table. Since specifics are not yet clear, the President is waiting to see the developments from the lame duck session of the legislature, and how the recent election affects the ultimate scope of the bond. There will likely be more information within the next few weeks.

-The President addressed a question regarding the proposed new housing for students in the Rowan Woods, particularly the concern that the back of these structures will be facing Rt. 322, since it appears that this area will be a new gateway to the campus. The President stated that the intent is to create a village-like atmosphere and that the design of the townhouses will be attractive.

-The President again expressed his concern about the problem of student housing. The University cannot continue to ask students to remain in their current tripled situation.

-The President reported that he and the Provost have been discussing the probable need to expand the size and scope of the Diversity Task Force.

-The President responded to a question as to the status of the property located in Harrison Twp for future development. Negotiations are still ongoing for this parcel of land. Plans are being drawn for the property located on the north side of Rt. 322.

-Plans for the new Technology Center have been forwarded to the Campus Master Plan Committee.

-Addressing a question on the prospect of an early retirement incentive, the President reported that there are no plans at this time.

-Asked about the issue of the faculty teaching load, the President indicated that discussions are ongoing about adjustments to the teaching load in order to accommodate expected research and service activities as well. The Five-Year Plan will also address faculty load issues.

Senate President's Report:

-A possible formation of a Chairs Council as an all-University committee of the Senate is being explored. Senators will receive a written proposal before being asked to vote on this at a subsequent meeting. Department chairs are also deliberating on the advisability of a Chairs Council to be constituted as an all-University committee.

-The Senate is planning to distribute a survey to faculty and professional staff addressing experiences with and support for teaching, research and creative activity, and service at Rowan; consistency of messages regarding the comparative importance of teaching, research and creative activity, and service; familiarity and agreement with University goals and the five-year action plan; and the perceived success of shared governance on campus.

Announcements:

-Student Affairs will hold an open forum at 10:50 AM on Monday, November 17th in the Student Center, room 221.

-The President's office, Senate, and Office of International Student Services will be hosting a Thanksgiving dinner in the Newman Center for students and faculty/staff without family for the holiday.

-A reminder to departments that textbook orders were due by November 1st.

-On October 31st, the Senate held its first special working session with the President, Cabinet, Academic Affairs Council, SGA officers, and selected administrators. The next session is scheduled for November 20th at 10:45 AM in Bozorth Auditorium. (NOTE: Location has since been changed to Student Center 221.)

Motion to adjourn, seconded and carried.