

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE OF MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY

Montclair, NJ 07043

December 21, 2016

Called to order 2:49

Roll called 2:50 (36 present at rollcall): Abrams, Allen, Alo, Alvares, Bellum, Berger, Chang, Curnutt, Cutler, Dacey, Dinour, Domine, Field, Fleming, Friedman, Gainor, Gaynor, Gingerich, Goldfarb, Gurskis, Higgins, Hunt, Jacobson, Lal, LaFountain, Lucas, McDermid, Misra, Murray, Noonan, Nurse, Panorkou, Parashar, Pemberton, Sadowsky, Strickland, Sullivan, Trubatch, Wolfson

Minutes approved unanimously

Admin report

- DACA students discussion – Cole has signed 2 statements. Student affairs reps have links; Trubatch will post links under this meeting's docs on Canvas.
- Tobacco policy – students recommend partial ban; plan is to work with students early in spring semester to reach conclusion

Dean Hunt presents Digital Commons Repository – PPT available on Canvas. Questions & comments:

- Sullivan – if journal has copyright, can't be included in repository? Hunt: yes. Preprints are OK. Domine: University can start own journals.
- Gaynor: please work on theses & dissertations! Hunt: working with Graduate School; tech is in place.
- Gaynor: no science faculty on advisory cmte from CSAM. Hunt: we have one; will update list.
- Trubatch: involve faculty as material is very diverse and faculty will have great insight into uses of repository. Hunt: Yes, advisory cmte will be very involved.

Academic Affairs Council report

- Katia Goldfarb presented issues on Dec 8 email regarding Gen Ed course scheduling: Timing of new policy; impact on students and adjuncts who work; lack of motivating rationale; impact on research schedules & productivity; uncertainty about implications for graduate students. Gingerich: none of these concerns were a surprise. Jim German: addressing issues and anticipates clarification email to be sent in next few days. Pedagogy is still primary, but want to push towards this as feasible to utilize classroom space. Gingerich: primary motive is classroom use. German: specifically Gen Ed courses because usual rationale of a pair of 2.5 hour courses to fill same block for majors does not apply. Domine/Trubatch: not clarifying yet... especially as the distinction to Gen Eds was not clear, as many Gen Ed certified courses are also major requirements. Alvares: what about online issues, in addressing classroom space? Gingerich: online still being pursued (full programs and individual course offerings.) Don't know Gen Eds specifically. Goldfarb: a solution could be "mirroring" pairs of 2/5 hour sections. Also, the new

“grid” given to chairs is constraining choices. Gingerich: we will discuss more in Chairs’ Council in spring, with schedulers. This change may be very similar to the change from 3x/week to 2x/week; still need discussion but we can do it. Friday scheduling is advancing, and we are committed to it. Trubatch: the analogy to the 3x/2x shift may be accurate, but does not mean there were no pedagogical tradeoffs in that shift either. Domine: Course scheduling is high priority, and also complex and individual to departments; would be useful to have support and detailed feedback about scheduling from above. Gingerich: Chairs’ Council is where we should work these things out. Sullivan: was here for 3x/2x shift – Math and Languages had data to ground their reluctance. Lab courses are an issue; labs shared for research and currently Fridays are research day in the lab. Q from audience: what about ‘common hour’? Gingerich: no plans to mess with common hour. This term’s Wednesday-as-Friday was confusing. Wolfson: Do we have enough classrooms in Partridge for nursing, or are they going to make it worse? Gingerich: yes. Gainor: religious issues about Friday, and work issues about Friday classes. Gingerich: yes, should be considering these issues.

Cmte of the Whole: Gen Ed “L”

- Tabled last time for consideration; motion today to endorse recommendation
- No discussion, question called
- Unanimous consent, motion approved.

Cmte of Whole: Amendments

- 26 voters present
- Motion 1: 25/25 yes (Trubatch no vote b/c no tiebreaker needed)
- 2: 25/25 yes
- 3: 24/25 yes, 1 abstention (Curnutt)
- 4: discussion of intent of motion; 25/25 yes

AA Council report:

- Asked Jim German for data on repeats; waiting
- Mathematics remedial courses being considered for elimination; Council will monitor. (MATH 071 currently offered as remedial; does not count towards degree but is (of course) part of student’s workload during term.) Has broad implications for Gen Ed, retention, changes to undergrad curriculum.
- Gingerich: This is “stage 3” of a longer term attempt by MSU to resist/roll back remedial education because we are a public-access institution, and favor. Writing’s new system to handle weaker writers is now in place; reading also out of remediation business. For math, we require Algebra 2, but subsequent placement tests sometimes show admitted students can’t effectively do college level work. Sadowsky: timeline for changes? Gingerich: expectation is this summer is last offering of 071; fall should have new system in place. Dacey: teacher ed might be able to help, have developed systems to raise math performance so students pass PRAXIS 1. Curnutt: Is removal of SAT to blame for this, would restoration help? Gingerich: there have always been placement tests, there have been these remedial courses during SAT-required era. Trubatch: we’ll end discussion by referring to Council for more discussion & investigation

- Academic Information Tech Cmte: anticipate January meeting to discuss items on agenda.
- Domine concerned about level of engagement on Councils
- AAC will look to develop needed bylaws

Admin Affairs Council

- Lifecycle survey will stay open past due date; will present results in January
- Exam scheduling: Senate conflict! And, 24-hour rule on changing rooms. Both addressed in Council.

Student Affairs

- Working on DACA statements; members should work over break

NAL Report

- No real news to report, other than discussion about “system-wide” instructors similar to instructional specialists
- Noonan: Draws our attention to State Senate bill regarding 3-year Colleges – passed. Sullivan: Assembly won’t address until June.

President’s Report

- Imminent clerical assistant hire(s) to take notes at meeting, for Recording Sec to compile into minutes. Murray & Field will hire.
- Need a RS to complete the Board!
- Smoking policy: SGA does not like complete ban.
- Continuing to urge admin to include Senate in process of administrative aspects of computer lifecycle issues.
- Sandra Adams is the new faculty rep on BoT; report included here and Senate page. Wolfson: Contract totals have always been public, but more detail in report here than is typically made public.
- Sullivan: tobacco taskforce did have minority view for partial ban, and looked for suitable ‘smoking zones’. Trubatch: very interested to hear from Senators on our response, invites former task force members

New business

- Wolfson: minutes should reflect congratulations to Noonan on nomination to State Board of Education.

Adjourned 4:41