

- I. The September 16, 2015 meeting of the University Senate was **called to order** at 3:06 pm. (Collins)
- II. **Roll Call** - Present: Abrams, Alvares, Brook, Collins, Curnutt, Jerry Cutler, Jonathan Cutler, Fails, Fleming, Friedman, Gainor, Gardin, Gaynor, Gingerich, Higgins, Jacobson, Kelton, Lucas, Mengara, Murray, Noonan, Oosting, Pemberton, Pennington, Powell, Prezant (Jaber), Rubin, Sadowsky, Salzman, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Trubatch, and Wolfson.
- III. **Approval of September 1, 2015 minutes** –motion passed.
- IV. **Good News/Announcements**
  - a. The Cross-Disciplinary lunch series will take place in Student Center Ballroom C from 12-1:30 on October 26, November 23, and December 7. We are looking for presenters.
- V. **Elections Committee Report**
  - a. Senator David Trubatch was nominated to fill the NAL rep position. He was elected with one abstention.
  - b. An at-large election will take place shortly. This position is open to tenure-track faculty. The nominations will be open until September 21. Questions were raised as to whether an election for the at-large instructional specialist seat that was added in May would also take place at that time. The question was unresolved.
- VI. **Report from Administration** –Provost Gingerich
  - a. The provost announced the search committee for the Dean of CEHS search. The committee consists of Eva Goldfarb, Kathryn Herr, Jennifer Robinson, Leslie Kooyman, Jennifer Goeke, Jennifer Urban, Fred Gardin, Sumi Hagiwara, Joan Ficke, and Eden Kyse.
  - b. Welcome to Dr. Robert Friedman, the new Dean of CHSS. He was previously at University of Washington Tacoma, and NJIT. Welcome to Dr. Greg Cant the new Dean of the School of Business.
  - c. CELS will be inaugurated on October 13. The astronaut, Mark Kelly, will be present at the ceremony. If possible, his brother will be joining from space.
  - d. The search for the director of extended learning is ongoing.
  - e. Today is census day. We are above our enrollment goal, and the freshman class is 3100, the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest in history.
  - f. Remember that this is an important data-gathering year for MiddleStates.
  - g. Remind your colleagues to use Canvas.
  - h. Regarding parking concerns, we have been looking into the situation. There is availability. Please use the Parker App. Many senators stated that parking has been more difficult this year than in years past, and that sometimes spots are not even available in Lot 60. It was suggested that we look at spots in construction lots and use the data from the parking app to do some analysis. It was also requested that we get further information on how ground spaces are counted for the app. Parking may become more difficult in January when spots in Lot 60 will need to be reserved for people who come for clinical services. It was requested that meters be extended to two hours to better accommodate 75 minute classes. The Provost reminded departments and faculty to think about spreading classes across the entire day and week to help with parking problems.
  - i. The Provost shared a Chronicle article which provides an excellent defense of the liberal arts and an examination of what learning how to think really means.
  - j. The MiddleStates self-study design has been reviewed, vetted, and approved. It will be posted to the website. Senator Trubatch requested an administrative response to the resolution regarding the integrity of web spaces in Canvas. The Provost stated he will need to look at the resolution, but that while attendance tracking will not be done through Canvas, data analytics for retention and time to degree are essential.

- k. The School of Business, not the Business Building, has been renamed to the Feliciano School of Business.
  - l. Dr. Fleming will follow up on whether courses disappear from Canvas if a course is canceled.
  - m. It is hoped that by the end of the semester there will be a posting for the Director of RAUL.
- VII. **Academic Affairs Council Report** – No report
- VIII. **Administrative Affairs Council Report** – No report
- IX. **Student Affairs Council Report** – Nicole Canchucaja is the recipient of the Senate Book Award for her essay, “The Power of Gratitude: Giving Something Back.”
- X. **NAL Report** – Senator Trubatch looks forward to making the most of his new position and helping to clarify where terms and conditions ends and governance begins.
- XI. **Motion to Amend 1995 Constitution**
- a. Many questions were raised as to how to move forward as this is a new Senate, and some Senators have not had exposure to the conversations of the past year. The rules were reaffirmed: that the Senate will vote on submotions individually, a 2/3 majority is required for a motion to pass, and there are three readings before a vote.
  - b. Senator Mengara reviewed the motions that were voted on in May and the results of those votes.
  - c. Motion 1.7 – “the two (2) voting student representative seats, which have been negatively affecting the University Senate quorum due to the students’ inability to assume their representation, be moved from the voting membership to the non-voting membership, and the existing three (3) non-voting student representative seats be removed altogether;” Questions were raised as to which students should be representatives, and it was suggested that the “ex officio” language be removed since the SGA president cannot attend and there is no longer a Graduate Student Organization. Grad students are not represented by the SGA.
    - i. Senator Kelton moved to table the motion until we could invite students to take part in the conversation. Dr. Wolfson added a friendly amendment that the president of the SGA should be present. Senator Kelton accepted the amendment. Senator Alvares seconded the motion. The motion to table motion 1.7 passed. President Collins asked Senator Allen, chair of the Student Affairs Council, to pursue inviting the SGA president to the conversation
  - d. Motion 3 – The provision be stricken from Article V, Section A; The role of the immediate past President be confined to a transitional and advisory role outside of the bounds of the Constitution; And that it be left to the new Executive Board and President to consult the immediate past President as needed not only for transitional purposes and record transmission, but also for historical memory purposes.
    - i. Senator Wolfson moved to table this motion until there is a term limits conversation. President Collins stated there is no motion on the floor pertaining to term limits. Senator Wolfson stated he made the motion before the Constitutional process started, and Senator Mengara stated this came after. Senator Samuels moved to table Motion 3 until term limits are discussed, Senator Sullivan seconded. 8 were in favor of tabling the motion, 9 opposed, and 6 abstentions. The motion to table Motion 3 did not pass.
  - e. Multiple Senators spoke against motion 3, stating that it is a common position in many organizations, and should not be eliminated because of personalities, or if a person in that role chose not to serve. Senator Mengara raised questions as to what is the limit of the position, what if the person is no longer on the Senate, and suggested there can still be a transmission of information without a mandated process.
    - i. Senator Kelton moved to table Motion 3 until the Constitution Committee can clearly define what a past President is. Senator Oosting seconded. 18 were in favor, 2 opposed with 3 abstentions. The motion passed.
- XII. **New Business** – none
- XIII. **Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved October 21, 2015

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary