

The September 4, 2012 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 4:05 by Senate President Sandra Collins.

- I. Roll Call: Recording Secretary Kathy Sadowsky called the roll. Present at the meeting were the following members: Allen, Alvares, Ambrose, Benfield, Chapel, Chrite, Collins, Cutler, Gardin, Gaynor, Gingerich, Gurskis, Hain, Hunt, Kelshaw, Lakusta, Lal, Mahadevan, McCann, Meneghin, Mengara, Morrissey, Nurse, Oluwole, Oosting, Peterman, Powell, Prezant, Rodak, Rubin, Sadowsky, Specchio, Sullivan, Wilson, Wolfson, Yu, and Zamanian
- II. Approval of May 9, 2012 Minutes – Approved.
- III. Good News/Announcements
 - a. Welcome to Dean Peterman and Dean Gurskis
 - b. We commend the Office of Government Relations on voter registration efforts for college students. Shivaun Gaines has reported 1400 student voter registrations.
 - c. “Bioethics and the Body Politic” is the theme of National Constitution Day, September 27. Events begin at noon in University Hall.
 - d. Jonathan Cutler, Joseph Oluwole and Danne Davis were nominated to be academic affairs council chair, administrative affairs council chair, and interim recording secretary. All nominations were approved.
- IV. Faculty Representative to BOT Report – no report
- V. Greetings from President Susan Cole
 - a. We need to do a lot of clean-up with our academic policies and procedures, many of which are obsolete and don’t support student progress. A number of drafts will be coming to the senate from the Provost and VP of SDCL. I urge you to give them immediate attention so we can get new policies implemented to support student progress.
 - b. The Capital Bond is very important and highly political. It is being put together by politicians, but they are involving the higher ed community. It will fall to us to reach out to our constituents and encourage them to vote for the bond. My goal is to have it passed big because it is only for \$750 million and we need closer to \$3.5 billion. The governor wanted the bond bill small. We want to demonstrate that the people of NJ support higher education. We don’t know what percentage of the bond money would be allocated to MSU. The eight state colleges would get \$270 million. We should get resources to address our top capital priorities. We have shovel-ready projects, such as the Center for Environmental Life Sciences, slated to be built on the site of the former McEachern, which puts us ahead. The School of Business in Overlook and the Communications and Media facilities are other priorities. There is a 25% match on the bond funds, and we are ready to go on our share. Above the bond, there is also up to \$500 million that can be reauthorized without going to the voters. The money would need to be reallocated and it is not written into the statutes how that would be done. There will be impetus to move the money south for the Rutgers/Rowan changes but the northern schools will fight for our share. There will be materials produced to help us explain the bond issues. A lot of polling is going on.
 - c. With regard to the weekly schedule we are looking at how we can use the full scope of the week to make full use of our resources. Lots of other schools have had great success with intensive weekend programs, particularly at the graduate level. We need to think more creatively. No scheduling dictum will be passed down from the top. Ideas can rise from the academic units and I hope the community can work towards this together.

- d. Comments and questions from senators:
 - i. Sullivan – the lack of paper towels in University Hall is still an issue. This is a health, morale, and noise issue that has not been resolved. President Cole will look into it again
 - ii. Collins – Congratulations on the periodic review report. What is the state of Kean? President Cole congratulates the provost and all who worked with him. The result was incredibly positive. We need to treat the accreditation process with respect. We will do well, but it will be hard work.
 - iii. Zamanian – The parking office staff has been impolite to faculty and they do not respect us. Can someone speak to them? President Cole – if you have an unacceptable experience with anyone, inform the right person, which for parking would be AVP Tim Carey. The sooner you report, the sooner it can be addressed.
 - iv. Meneghin – Considering all of the changes the university is going through, I would love to find solutions that allow people to work on campus as opposed to in a per diem or contract capacity. Can we have a pool of employees who work according to our need, as opposed to people who work for us temporarily? President Cole – I encourage you to think as creatively as possible about all our challenges.
- e. President Cole wishes us a productive, healthy and happy year.

VI. Report from Administration – Provost Gingerich

- a. I am delighted the new deans are here. We have a great team back in place.
- b. We have hired a new director, Merrill Brown, for the School of Communication and Media. His appointment sent waves across the country. We are looking to launch a professional school that will be premier in the region. He has linked us with WNET and WNYC and he is speaking with public tv in Philadelphia. We will be the nexus of news service for the state in the near future
- c. We received 7 commendations in the Periodic Review Report. It is very unusual to receive any. Thanks to Joanne Cote-Bonanno, Barbara Ritola and the team that collaborated on this. Joan Ficke helped organize and Joe Moore drafted some pieces. The report was a joint exercise we all contributed to, which gives hope for the full report in 2016. We need to keep things moving. The collection of data and then using the data to make changes is what makes the report convincing.
- d. Aditya Adarkar has retired as chair of the Gen Ed committee. He very effectively delivered changes in the retirement of the interdisciplinary requirement. Kirk McDemid will be the new chair and has a number of ideas about how to get faculty energized about gen ed. He wants to effectively sell gen ed, which will need to be part of the Senate's business. Christine Lemesianou will head the Gen Ed Assessment subcommittee. Allyson Straker-Banks and Joanne Cote-Bonanno are looking at how freshman seminar is organized and what its purpose is.
- e. We have 7 new initiatives that will affect advisement, retention, and time to graduation. Mandatory freshman advising is one of the first initiatives.
- f. At the next Senate meeting I will talk about online education and MOOCS. The MOOC movement caught on very quickly and we need to know about it. I signed up for a MOOC on contemporary poetry through the University of Pennsylvania.
- g. We brought a group of international faculty to campus this summer to teach advanced ESL.
- h. I am surprised there are questions about Friday and Saturday classes as we have been pushing this conversation for a year and there are more classes offered these days.

- i. There are 132 items in the strategic plan, President Cole mentioned the top 25 in her address. They are very front-loaded to the first five years. It is difficult to know what we'll need to do after 2016. We need to strategize around getting the initiatives delivered.
- j. We have moved up and are now number 96 on the Sierra Club's list of coolest campuses. We needed to complete a rigorous survey dealing with environmental responsibility.

VII. NAL Report – Richard Wolfson for David Benfield

- a. We have reached a tentative agreement. Ballots will be mailed September 7 and voting lasts through September 28. Please vote. Both sides worked very hard on this agreement. Any questions can be addressed at the first Union meeting on September 12. If you hear of anyone who thinks they should get a ballot and doesn't, please let us know. Ballots are going to the home address that is officially listed with the University.
- b. Council President Nick Yovnello tragically passed 2 days after the signing of the tentative agreement after being in an accident with a drunk driver. There was a memorial service. Our constitution says that the executive VP takes over as president. Bill Sullivan is serving as President of the council until September 14 when there will be an official vote. Bill is running. On behalf of the Senate we say good luck.
- c. Judith Hain expressed appreciation from the administration for the civility, openness, and ability to listen to each other's positions during the negotiations process.

VIII. New Business

- a. University Senate Council Assignments for 2012-2013:

Academic Affairs Jonathan Cutler, Chair	Administrative Affairs Joseph Oluwole, Chair	Student Affairs Michael Allen, Chair
Patrali Chatterjee Jason Dickinson Fredrick Gardin Laura Lakusta Pankaj Lal Lori McCann Jennifer Pardo Denise Rodak Bill Sullivan	Lisa Ambrose Jack Gaynor Todd Kelshaw Betsy Lin Carole Nurse Wing Poon Gabriel Rubin Susana Yu	Chiaho Chang Danne Davis Glen Gill Meena Mahadevan Cindy Meneghin Steve Oosting John Specchio Leslie Wilson Zaman Zamanian

IX. Adjournment at 5:03 p.m.

Minutes Approved September 19, 2012

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary