

MINUTES OF  
FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
May 2, 2017

The sixth Faculty Senate meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year was called to order by Prof. Fernando Guzman, Mathematics, at 11:48 am.

1. Minutes

After no discussion, the minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

2. Tobacco Free Campus Initiative

Vice President JoAnn Navarro and Johann Fiore Conte, Assistant Vice President for Health and Wellness, reported on the Tobacco Free Campus Initiative that will take effect August 1, 2017. A committee of 30 people representative of groups throughout campus has been working on this since January 2016.

Prof. Chris Bartlett, Music, asked about the compliance portion of the policy. Vice President Navarro noted that we will be using a soft compliance with a peer-to-peer approach. If we do see an individual who is not following policy consistently, there may be a stronger discipline approach; a mechanism is in place to deal with this if we have to.

Prof. Les Lander, Computer Science, asked if vapor smoking was part of this policy. Ms. Fiore-Conte responded that yes, this policy pertains to any type of tobacco product.

3. Approval of degree candidates

The list of 3,400 candidates (2,864 under graduates and 605 graduates) was presented. This was approved by unanimous vote.

4. 2017-2018 Faculty Senate Procedures Committee





b.



Research Task Force to be assembled by the Provost and faculty, with joint chair between administration and faculty.

The FSEC will end this year with two further meetings, primarily focused on review of Road Map proposals to allow an opportunity to give significantly increased faculty input through FSEC and the Budget Review Committee.

Prof. Starks commented that he looks forward to serving with the new Faculty Senate officers next year to continue the strong work we have been engaged in on behalf of the faculty, staff, students, and the entire Binghamton University community. It has been an honor to work with Senate Chair Fernando Guzmán, whose devotion to diversity within the whole university community and to principled, faculty governance of the curriculum and its highest standards; with Senate Vice Chair Sandra Michael, a Distinguished Service Professor, and with Senate Secretary Sara Reiter, an awardee this year of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Faculty Service, nominated by the Campus Governance Leaders and the School of Management.

Prof. Jonathan Karp asked about the Excelsior program. Prof. Starks responded that we understand that the full information is not available but is in effect. We will have to take a substantial role in supporting this program financially. Provost Nieman noted that the financial impact on the university is not known at this point. He noted that we do have money in the budget to support this program which is very complicated. In terms of making the salary point progressive, it would have been a good idea. Vice Provost McGoff was on the SUNY-wide committee who will be running this program. It was designed by the highest form of government and many things were not considered. We are now trying to put some thought into this and we are hoping that at some point we will be reimbursed by SUNY.

Prof. Brendan Hennessey, Romance Languages, commented on the changes to the MAT course work in Romance Languages. Spanish is the most taught language in K through 12. Students will not benefit with a course reduction in college. As we move forward, we wish we had the opportunity to push back more on these changes. Prof. Hennessey hopes that the dialog remains open for changes that may be detrimental to students across New York State and Binghamton University.

Prof. Fernando Guzman thanked the Senate officers for their work this year. He also congratulated Prof. Sara Reiter on her Chancellor's Award.

## 6. New Business

### a. TAE Evaluation Update

Prof. Thomas Sinclair, Public Administration, and chair of the TAE Evaluation Committee, gave an update on this committee's work. The committee has been collecting data on how the TAE's have been administered, received TAE self studies in March, and held several interviews with faculty in March. The committee has decided to wait until the fall semester to administer a survey when faculty have more time to consider the questions. The report of the committee will be done by the middle of the Fall 2017 semester. Prof. Guzman thanked Prof. Sinclair for his work on this committee.

