

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Meeting No. 1, Fall Semester 2022

Plenary Session

16th September 2022, 2pm

Room A402

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

In attendance:

- Professor O
- Professor Hsieh
- Professor Omondi
- Professor Han
- Professor Pennings
- Professor Hong
- Professor Kang
- Professor Quan (Alternate for Professor Jeong)
- Professor Houghton

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Accepted by all parties with no amendments.

3. Remarks by the Convening Chair

At this point no secretary had been elected.

4. Elections of Officers

Professor Omondi was nominated for the position of chair by Professor Houghton. Professor Hsieh nominated himself to be the vice-chair. Professor Houghton nominated himself as the secretary. No election took place as there were no other candidates. The vice-chair and the secretary shall serve for one year.

5. Remarks by the Chair

- Highlighted the importance of the faculty senate.

- Asked that all senators act to represent the whole faculty. As elected representatives, the senators have a duty to act in the interests of and to seek advice from their departmental peers.
- Asked that the senate works together to show to the university's administration how we are representing the faculty.

6. Determination of Length of Terms for Senators

Names were written on pieces of paper. Ms. Lee, acting as the neutral party, conducted a lottery, pulling four names out of a hat. These four will have terms of two years:

- Professor Jeong
- Professor Kang
- Professor Han
- Professor Hsieh (to be rechosen due to the conflict as vice-chair)

Professor Omondi as the chair will have a two year term. All other senators will have a one year term. Professor Ryoo will stand in for the CS department.

7. Establishment of Committees

No elections were necessary for any of the committees. The committees were established as follows:

Executive Committee

Professor Omondi – Chair

Professor Houghton

Professor Hsieh

Professor Han

Professor O

Academic Personnel Committee

Professor Hsieh – Chair

Professor Jeong

Professor Omondi

Education Council

Professor Pennings – Chair

Professor Kang

Professor Houghton

Campus Environment and Faculty Welfare

Professor Hong – Chair

Professor Jeong

Professor Pennings

Academic Planning and Educational Services

Professor O – Chair

Professor Kang

Professor Han

8. Plan of Action for this Semester

The chair called on the senators to share any concerns voiced by faculty members, or any actions that senate members believe should be undertaken.

Professor Houghton – FSH

1. Suggested splitting the FSH and English departments to allow fairer representation.
2. Asked for the senate to meet with the student council for input.
3. Asked for consistency in the staff members appointed to the FSH department.
4. Reorganisation of overtime contracts.
5. Changing the dates of annual pay raises, to align those hired in the spring and the fall semesters.
6. Offer longer term contracts.
7. Asked for support from the university for the Faculty of Sciences and Humanities to be able to achieve as the other departments do. Suggested supporting research in the department.
8. Asked for the senate to act on the current class size discrepancies between the New York campuses and SUNY Korea.
9. Voiced concerns regarding a lack of input for class scheduling.
10. Spoke of the current housing situation for faculty living in the Guest House.

Professor Hsieh – Business Management

1. Asked for further ongoing budgetary support for interdisciplinary activities (academic fairs)
2. Develop a culture of knowledge sharing between departments.
3. Asked for a monthly off-campus faculty team building, with all departments participating.
4. Make salaries competitive to attract the best and most famous candidates.
5. An increase in IFA funds.
6. Incentives for publications.
7. Access to databases. These are currently not shared by SBU in New York.

Provost Hefazi

Reaffirmed the university's commitment to shared governance. Encourage active participation from the senate and other faculty members.

Eugene Park – Dean of Academic Affairs

Promised to help solve any problems.

Chair Omondi

1. Asked for more information for new faculty. Particularly on the website. Research pages should be more complete.
2. We should identify what new faculty need in terms of support in their research.
3. Called for the Faculty Handbook to be updated and rewritten due to current inconsistencies.

Professor Pennings

- Stated that of several candidates for tenure in DTS, one had been unsuccessful. Called for clarification in the post-tenure process, if the candidate does not successfully receive tenure.
- Chair Omondi stated that the Senate exists to deal with broader cases and policies, not individuals. This would probably be a case for the department chairs to deal with.
- Provost Hefazi stated that the Faculty Handbook currently forbids a review process.

9. Agreement on Dates for Next Meetings

Future meetings will be held on the second Friday of every month at 2 pm. This was agreed upon unanimously.

10. Any other Business

None

11. Adjournment

Chair Omondi adjourned the meeting.