

Tentative Agenda
University Senate Meeting
October 7, 2002

- I. Approval of tentative agenda
- II. Approval of minutes from University Senate meeting on September 9, 2002 (see below)
- III. University Senate President's Report (B. Lindquist)
- IV. Vice President for Research Report: The Research Enterprise on Campus (G. Habicht)
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business

University Senate Meeting
September 9, 2002
Recorded by Frank W. Fowler

After a slight delay because of a room access problem, the Senate was called to order at 3:39 PM.

The agenda and the last meeting minutes were approved.

1. The President of the Senate made an oral report presenting a number of problems facing the University this year. Among these were the tight budget, high enrollments and aging facilities. It was reported that the University accepted the early retirement plan, the establishment of a center of excellence in wireless technology and this summer progress was made on the academic plan. Problems for the Senate are to determine its role working with the University President defining University policies, elect a new President of the Senate and to clarify its relationship to Health Science Center.
We were reminded that the nominations for Distinguished Service and Teaching Professors should be made now.
2. The President of the University presented a written and oral report. Her oral report announced that one half of the SUNY campuses had accepted the early retirement plan. However, this plan was not available to the hospital and the veterans' home. The early retirement will not be of much help to our fiscal problems because it was announced a little late. SAC II has opened. The stadium will open September 14 but this will not be the official opening because of a certificate of occupancy problem (some steps are of unequal height). On September 19 there will be a large Salute to Stony Brook party.
Concern was raised that a 2% budget cut in January will be equal to a 4% cut overall for the year. The opening of the Wang building is scheduled for October 22 at 2:45. A signing ceremony will occur transferring the building from C. Wang to the University. The Sunwood construction project is proceeding very well completely with Foundation funds. The Humanities move was difficult but was done this summer. Heavy engineering should be completed in a year. Work on the Staller pit has been postponed. The bridge to nowhere is down. The Student Recreational Center is going nowhere. There will be a November ground breaking for centers of excellence. The Gyrodyne property would be excellent for these initiatives.

In response to questions the President state she would look into the "asphalt to everywhere" problem and lack of a shelter for people and bicycles created by the removal of the bridge to nowhere.

In response to a question about General Education the President clearly stated that ". . . curriculum is the business of faculty not trustees".

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences also contributed to the above question by stating that he is gathering information from the affected faculty to address the above problem.

The President was given and accepted an invitation to address the Student Senate.

3. The Provost submitted a written report and an oral report was given by Mark Aronoff. James V. Staros, the new Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences was introduced. S. N. Sridhar has been appointed as the Chair of the new Department of Asian and Asian-American Studies. This is the second year of the reading program with this year's book being "The Tipping Point". Any suggestions on future books should be given to Anne Beaufort, associate director of the writing program.

The Middle States letter on our self-study design has been accepted. Action should be taken soon to address the self-study issues.

In response to a question about general education assessment MA stated that the departmental external reviews would serve for the assessments of our majors. Our plan for general education assessment was rejected as were the plans from the other university centers except for Albany which has received no response. MA will try to reactivate a joint senate-provost committee to address this assessment issue.

There was no old business and no new business so the Senate adjourned at 4:28 PM.