

MINUTES OF
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
September 1, 2020

Associate Librarian Jill Dixon, University Libraries, called the Full Faculty meeting to order at 11:46 am being held via Zoom. She welcomed President Harvey G. Stenger and turned the meeting over to him.

President Stenger began his report to the Full Faculty meeting attendees. See attached PowerPoint presentation for details. Presentation can also be found at <https://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/docs/stenger-full-faculty-sept-1-2020.pdf>.

Q: Will the George Floyd Scholarship funds be targeted to students who t qualify for Excelsior scholarships?

A: One of the criteria is leadership activities which is the dominant reason for the scholarship. We want the money to have an impact and to make sure the money helps students.

Q: We would want to see underrepresented minorities students eligible.

A: Underrepresented minorities is a criteria for eligibility in addition to students committed to anti-racism and not just social justice.

C: One Senator commented that they would like to see black student applicants first, then students of color, receive priority consideration for the George Floyd Scholarship. Another

result of a specific systemic issue -- anti-Black racism -- which seems the scholarship should first speak directly to that problem and those impacted by it.

Q: Since the students will have many restrictions this semester to help contribute to their general welfare, are we encouraging them to form committees to give themselves outlets outdoors?

A: We have offered equipment that is necessary for outdoor activities and there are tents in all of the residential communities for outdoor activities. The Student Association has been active in making sure that clubs/organizations are prepared to do a lot of their work virtually but will also have access to meeting space with proper social distancing on campus. We are encouraging interaction as much as possible.

Q: Regarding capital improvements, how long is the needed work on the Fine Arts building on hold?

A: This was not focused on over the summer even though we had formed a planning committee for a consultant to help us in the process. **Action: President Stenger** to get detailed information from Vice President Navarro.

Q: What about testing for facthe

- Q: It is behavior, but there is a fear that there is a danger we are over-policing the students and are not making it clear to them what we as faculty/staff are doing about precautions. There is a worry about the burden being placed on students in keeping campus open/safe important to recognize that staff/faculty make the campus community too.
- A: It is important to note that student having/attending parties of 30 to 50 students can be dangerous. SUNY Oneonta had 100 positives from one party. This would be a reason why we would have to go fully remote if students are inconsiderate of others.
- Q: Why not test students to be sure?
- A: **Action: President Stenger** to follow-up with Dr. Moose on decisions on who to test.
- C: It is hard to social distance from other roommates who do not want to do so.
- A: We have emphasized to students the potential for punishment.
- Q: We are happy to see an early commencement scheduled for the class of 2021. What about for the class of 2020?
- A: Commencement for the class of 2020 may be held the weekend before the class of 2021 commencement.
- Q: When will we make a decision about the start date for the spring semester?
- A: A formal announcement will be made within a week.

Chair Dixon noted that the Campus Governance Leaders (CGL) meet with President Stenger monthly (and will meet weekly in September) so Senators can notify Chair Dixon if they have any issues or questions that should be discussed.

After no questions, the Full Faculty meeting was adjourned.

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the 2020-2021 academic year was called to order by Assoc. Librarian Jill Dixon at 12:40 pm.

1. Minutes
Minutes from May 12, 2020 meeting were approved.

2. Obituary Notices
Assoc. Librarian Dixon notified the body that Sr. Catalog Librarian Donald Brister, University Libraries; ; Prof. Lisa Blitz, Social Work; Prof. Maria Lugones, Comparative Literature and Latin American and Caribbean Area Studies; and Prof. Lubna Chaudhry, Human Development passed away. Assoc. Librarian Dixon asked for a moment of silence to remember these colleagues.

3. New Business
 - a. EIT Accessibility Policy Dean Curtis Kendrick
Dean Kendrick provided an overview of the EIT Accessibility Policy for proposed technology accessibility. We want all students to have access to the education they deserve. This is not just a BU issue; SUNY is requiring campuses to have a policy and

