

SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Faculty Governance

Meeting of the College Faculty
22 January 2004
Alumni Lounge
4 PM

1. The meeting was called to order by Ruth Yanai (in the absence of Executive Chair Scott Turner) at 4:04 p.m.
2. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as distributed.
3. There were no information items from the floor
4. Resolution from the SUNY Faculty Senator: Scott Shannon.

The resolution below that was distributed to the faculty this week was presented and explained by Scott. The resolution addresses the system wide assessment initiative and seeks to keep a dialogue going between the Chancellor and the SUNY Senate on this issue. The Resolution passed.

**SUNY-ESF RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT SUNY FACULTY SENATE EFFORTS TO
ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR SYSTEM-WIDE ASSESMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED the Faculty of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry supports the following resolution as passed by the Executive Committee of the University Faculty Senate recommending the next steps for establishing a framework of “system-wide” assessment:

RESOLUTION ON NEXT STEPS FOR AN ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Whereas, the request of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges and the University Faculty Senate that the Board of Trustees suspend the implementation of its June 17, 2003 resolution on assessment in favor of a continuing dialogue on this issue has been honored; and

Whereas, Chancellor King has “invited faculty governance bodies [to] take the lead in developing a draft of a revised proposal” for university-wide campus based assessment of the “building blocks of general education;” and

Whereas, the Executive Committees of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges and the University Faculty Senate believe that such a dialogue would be beneficial to the process of

searching for a joint agreement on a framework for university-wide campus based assessment that would satisfy the concerns of both the faculty and the Board of Trustees; therefore

Be it resolved that the faculty of the State University of New York accepts and supports Chancellor King's invitation *to continue the dialogue* to create a system of University-wide, campus-based assessment of the building blocks of general education that involves the four following goals:

1. The establishment of an assessment framework for determining the level of achievement and/or the increment of growth in learning achieved by SUNY undergraduates in the building blocks of general education. In addition to those measures already in place in campus plans, this framework should include "externally referenced measures" of the campus's choice -- either nationally or SUNY-normed. For campuses choosing a value-added approach, this framework should consist of a set of instruments administered at two points in time: close to the student's entry to the institution and at some later date when the student has completed this learning.
2. A survey instrument that will provide for an understanding of the indicators that reflect the campus academic environment (e.g. National Survey of Student Engagement-NSSE).
3. An analysis of the relationship between academic assessment results and these environmental influences. This analysis would be done at the campus level and included in campus reports.
4. An indication of how individual campus plans will be folded into the GEAR approval process, including the specific criteria that GEAR will use in approving them.

5. Subcommittee on Instructional Quality: Eddie Bevilacqua

The Eight College-wide Symposium on Teaching and Learning will be held on Friday March 5, 2004. The speaker will be Dr. David Campbell, Program Director, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, and member of the NSF Working Group for Environmental Research and Education. Round table discussions will focus on a college-wide view of Environmental Education and Research.

6. Committee on Instruction: Craig Davis

A number of curriculum and course proposals that had been discussed by the Committee on Instruction were presented for approval in the following groupings:

A motion to drop the following courses was presented by the COI. No comments were received by the COI and none of these courses have been taught in at least two years. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

- FOR404 Economics of Wood-Using Industries
- FOR445 Hydrological Techniques

- FOR449 Hydrology Computer Laboratory
- FOR450 Environmental Impact Analysis: Principles and Strategies
- FOR562 International Timber Trade
- FOR630 Tropical Forest Ecology and Land Use
- FOR640 Isotope Hydrology
- FOR650 Environmental Impact Analysis: Principles and Strategies
- FOR677 Advanced Forest Management
- FOR735 Forest Soil Fertility (Applied Studies)
- FOR754 Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Analysis

A Motion to add the following new course in ES was presented. Comments received during the review process had been addressed. There was no discussion from the faculty at this time. The motion passed.

- ENS 550 Environmental Impact Analysis

A motion to approve the following new majors in EFB was made for each of the following. Each major was presented individually with a plan sheet for each before the faculty. Craig indicated that comments received about these new majors had been addressed, adjustments were made and the committee recommended approval of each. There was no discussion from the faculty. Each motion passed.

- Aquatic and Fisheries Science
- Conservation Biology
- Forest Health
- Natural History and Interpretation
- Wildlife Science

The COI presented a name change for an existing major in EFB as follows:

Change name of existing major: from "Environmental and Forest Biology" to "Environmental Biology" and drop existing options

There was some discussion concerning current students and their programs. Current students follow current plan; future students follow future plan. Motion passed.

Course revisions for EFB were presented for approval as a group. There was no discussion. Motion passed.

- Renumber EFB540 Forest Health Monitoring to EFB439 Forest Health Monitoring
- Change credit hours for EFB421 Ecology of Freshwaters from 2.5 to 3

New courses in CM & WPE were presented for approval. There was no discussion. Motion passed.

- WPE303 Construction Management and Wood Products Engineering Internship
- WPE335/ERE535 Cost Engineering

Curriculum modifications for CM & WPE were presented for approval as a group. The motion passed.

- Construction Management & Engineering Option
- Wood Products Option

A new major in CM&WPE was presented for approval. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

- Construction Management

A new Degree Program in OI&GS was presented. This has been reviewed by the COI who recommends approval.

There was some discussion. This is a new agreement with SUNY Upstate Medical University, not a new degree for us. Three years would be completed at ESF, the remaining three at Upstate. A degree can be granted from ESF before completion of the doctorate at Upstate. This arrangement could be a model for other agreements with Upstate (eg. Biotech major). This agreement could take effect as soon as we approve it as Upstate has dropped its undergraduate and masters degree programs in physical

therapy. There is an Organic Chemistry requirement in the program. The motion to approve this program passed.

- 3+3 Doctor of Physical Therapy (with SUNY Upstate)

7. There was no old business.

8. New Business: Dr. Murphy presented a brief report highlighting the following from recent cabinet meetings:

- Syracuse Center of Excellence: This was mentioned in the Governor's State of the State Address clearly indicating ESF's role in this area of renewable energy sources.
- Numbers in the Executive Budget: the governor in his executive budget, which will be presented to the legislature, adapted the SUNY Trustees flat budget (no additional resources). (By way of comparison, most state agencies are looking at a 5 % cut.) The capital budget initially included 19 million for ESF; we campaigned that this was inadequate and the number now is 45 million. Of the 15 million for the BioTech Research Center there is 6 million for ESF. For the Center of Excellence there will be 4 million in the ESF budget. This is all good. It gives ESF more influence in these projects and completes the governor's commitment to the BioTech Center. We will need to seek federal matching money now. Money is needed to finish Baker, work on piping in Walters, and begin a planning process to renovate Illick.
- ESF has a grant from the Dept. of Labor with the Central New York Manufacturers' Association for 1.2 million. (\$606 for ESF) This is a project to provide technical training for domestics for jobs in Central New York rather than spend money to secure Visas to bring trained folks from other countries here. Discussions are currently underway regarding our role and how training would be delivered. This will be a very visible project within the community.
- A question was asked about the lack of a tuition increase for SUNY this year. Dr. Murphy indicated that it was most likely a political election-year decision not to request a tuition increase this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth A. Elkins, who most graciously agreed to take the minutes for this meeting, on her birthday, so that Ruth Yanai could preside over the meeting for Scott Turner.

