

THE COOPER UNION
MEETING OF THE FACULTY-STUDENT SENATE

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 2, 2012
12:00-2pm
Benjamin Menschel Board Room

Present:

Faculty and Library Representatives: Sean Scully, Mike Essl, Christine Osinski, Daniel Lepek, Stan Mintchev, Anne Griffin (Vice Chair), Atina Grossmann, Thomas Micchelli (Chair).

Student Representatives: Oliver Antoniu, Phong (Kiwi) Nguyen, Asher Mones, Shira Service, Michael Pimpinella, Osaze Udeagbala.

Ex-Officio Members: President Jamshed Bharucha, Vice-President T.C. Westcott, Associate Dean Steven Lam, Acting Library Director Carol Salomon.

Guests: Sheri Wills.

The meeting was called to order at 12:05pm.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mike Essl was nominated for Chair, elected unanimously.

Atina Grossmann was nominated for Vice Chair, elected unanimously.

Stan Mintchev was nominated for Secretary, elected unanimously.

REMARKS FROM PAST CHAIR

The outgoing chair Thomas Micchelli welcomed the new members of the Senate and congratulated the Senate on a job well done during the past year.

MINUTES

Minutes from the meeting on April 3, 2012 were presented for reading and discussion.

Revisions were solicited. No changes were made.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of April 3, 2012.

Motion passed. (12 in favor, 0 opposed)

EMENDATION OF ARTICLE II, 1(a) OF RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Senate entered a discussion regarding the election of representatives from the three schools. The discussion focused specifically on whether the qualification “full-time” should remain in the text.

A motion was made to strike the qualification “full-time” from the text.

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure, this motion was tabled and will be reintroduced at the subsequent meeting.

SENATE MEETING ATTENDANCE

The Senate discussed the possibility of allowing non-members to attend meetings.

Two separate issues were (a) attendance by non-participating alternates, and (2) attendance by faculty, student, and/or community observers.

After some deliberations, the following motion was introduced:

“At the discretion of the Chair, guests may be invited to the meetings of the Senate.”

The motion passed. (12 in favor, 0 opposed)

PRIORITIZING OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Senate discussed the issue of postponing long-standing agenda items dealing with important academic affairs in favor of discussions of pressing issues such as school finances. The body agreed that each voting member will submit a list of 4 priorities from among the following categories, after which a ranking procedure would determine the order of discussions:

- (a) Class Scheduling
- (b) Honor Code / Academic Integrity
- (c) Cross-disciplinary studies / Curricular collaboration
- (d) Distribution of students from all 3 schools in HSS classes
- (e) Student stress
- (f) Information Literacy / communication between faculty and administration
- (g) P/T faculty representation

The Secretary will analyze the priority list and submit the results to the Chair for implementation.

REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Bharucha informed the Senate that Vice-President Westcott would continue to hold information sessions regarding the institution’s finances. He especially encouraged the student representatives to inform their constituencies so that students can sign up and attend such sessions. He reiterated his gratitude to the Faculties of the three schools for their continued work on proposing solutions to the sustainability challenges facing the institution.

Meeting adjourned at 2:04pm