

Welcome to the Newsletter of the Seton Hall Faculty Senate!

Below are some highlights of the work of the Faculty Senate during the 2014-2015 academic year. Meeting minutes, detailed committee reports, and agendas of upcoming meetings are available on the Senate website [here](#).

Highlights from Select Committees

1. The *Academic Facilities Committee* has continued to work on improving communication between faculty and administration in charge of construction and management of University facilities about projects that are impacting faculty.

2. The *Academic Policy Committee* has evaluated a variety of proposals from various bodies across campus. Among their efforts include approvals for the following programs by the Senate and the Office of the Provost:

- Arabic Language minor in the College of Arts and Sciences
- Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis
- Certificate in Business Analytics
- Certificate in Global Health Management
- Certificate in Pastoral Music Ministry
- Certificate in Post Conflict State Reconstruction Sustainability in the School of Diplomacy
- Changes in the delivery of the MA in Instructional Design and Technology including a completely online option
- Changes to the MA program in School Psychology
- MA in Social Work in the College of Arts and Sciences
- Minor in Military Science
- The College of Communication and the Arts
- UN Studies Certificate Program in the School of Diplomacy

As friendly reminder, APC Reporting Guidelines, New Program Proposal Guidelines, and the New Program Approval Form may be found [here](#).

3. The *Compensation & Welfare Committee* has continued working along with the Executive Committee and Senior Associate Provost Guetti on the salary study being coordinated by the Sibson Group. The work is continuing over the summer. The committee advocated for adjunct salary adjustments and there will be a raise for adjunct faculty in 2015/16. The committee is also addressing issues related to health benefits and pay schedules.

4. The *Faculty Guide & Bylaws Committee* continued to work with the EC and Senior Associate Provost Guetti to clarify language, correct some inconsistencies, and address issues related to a maximum number of faculty in the Lecturer Line proposal. The revised Lecturer Line was approved by the Senate at the April Senate meeting and was approved by Provost in May. The committee proposed a number of FG changes related to the Faculty Associate line (reducing teaching load to 12 from 15 and not requiring review by the College Rank and Tenure committee every 5 years) that were approved by the Senate but are still being reviewed by the Provost. The committee also proposed a FG change clarifying the role of the EPC at the College level that was approved by the Senate and is under review by the Provost.

5. The *Graduate Studies Committee* brought a motion to the Senate in Spring 2014 requesting that the University develop a comprehensive plan for increasing the number of graduate assistantships and for addressing the immediate gap in graduate student stipends with planned cost of living increases built into future-year budgets. The Senate approved the motion. The Provost discussed the need for a comprehensive plan for graduate education with the Executive Committee in response to this motion. This year the Graduate Studies department followed up with a survey to all graduate program directors. The survey results suggest that the number one reason for not attending a graduate program at SHU is financial. The program directors believe that increasing the scholarships, assistantships, and stipends to offset the tuition would increase our ability to attract students. The committee also continued discussions related to online standardized graduate student course evaluations.

6. The *Nominations, Elections & Appointments Committee* presented a revised formal procedure for the selection of the annual winner of the Albert B. Hakim Faculty Service Medal to the Senate and it was approved in June.

7. The *Program Review Committee* completed reports for the History Department, the English Department, and the Masters in Experimental Psychology.

8. *Intellectual Property Task Force* representatives and members of the EC have worked throughout the year with the Provost's office to finalize an intellectual property policy. The goal of the Senate is to have an inclusive IP

that is fair and ensures the protection of the faculty and the University in place by Fall 2015.

Message from the Executive Committee

Members of the Executive Committee have been in regular contact with the administration through monthly meetings with the Provost and President and biweekly meetings with the Senior Associate Provost as well as meetings with other members of the Provost's Office as needed.

We made significant progress on some of the major initiatives before the Senate for 2014-15:

- (1) *Lecturer Line.* This line was approved by the Provost in May.
- (2) *Academic Integrity Policy.* The EC worked with Dr. Burton and brought a revised policy to the Senate in April. The Provost suggested some valuable additions to the policy. The revised policy will be brought back to the Senate for approval in Fall 2015.
- (3) *Intellectual Property.* The Senate approved a revised IP policy in November 2014. Since then representatives from the EC and the IP task force have worked with the Provost's office to come to agreement on issues related to faculty compensation for online courses. The work will continue over the summer and the EC hopes to bring a revised IP policy that incorporates the Provost's suggestions back to the Senate early in Fall 2015.
- (4) *Sibson Compensation Study.* We had expected a report earlier in the year but as of July there was no formal report. The EC and members of the compensation committee expect to meet with the Provost's office this summer for discussions. We understand that a plan for adjustment of faculty salaries will be presented in Fall 2015.
- (5) *Baccalaureate Education Task Force.* As a result of a motion from the Senate recommending a Liberal Arts Task Force, the Provost appointed a *Baccalaureate Education Task Force* to discuss and develop guidelines for across schools general education requirements. The EC was involved in recommending members for the task force.

- (6) *Honor Code Task Force.* Representatives from the EC and student representatives have been working with the Provost's office to determine the feasibility of a modified honor code. Student and Faculty surveys will be sent out in Fall 2015.
- (7) *Medical School.* In April the Senate approved the following motion: "If the proposed medical school is approved by the University's Board of Regents, the Senate urges and expects that additional resources will be made available to the academic units on the South Orange campus to accommodate potential increases in the number and quality of students and student preferences for majors and programs".
- (8) *Language regarding the expectation of continued employment for tenured-track faculty.* We have asked the Faculty Guide & Bylaws Committee to review language suggested by the EC and discussed with the Provost's office and bring a proposal to the Senate in the coming session.

The Executive Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all 2014-2015 Senators for their dedicated service to the Senate and the University. Progress on these initiatives would not have occurred without the hard work of every Senator.

At the May Senate meeting, in accordance with its bylaws, the Senate welcomed a number of new Senators. A new Executive Committee was also formed: Philip Moremen was elected Chair of the Senate, Mary Balkun was re-elected as Vice-Chair, Marianne Lloyd was elected Executive Secretary and Treasurer and Marta Deyrup and Elizabeth McCrae were elected as members-at-large. Congratulations to the new EC!

Thank you to Beth Bloom and Irene DeMasi for their service to the 2014-2015 EC as members-at-large.

The major initiatives for the Senate for 2015-2016 include continued work on and approval of the following:

- (1) *Academic Integrity Policy.* We hope to vote on this at the September meeting.

(2) *Sibson Compensation Study*. We look forward to working with the Provost over the summer with the expectation that there will be a plan for adjusting salaries over time by Fall 2015.

(3) *Intellectual Property Policy*. The goal is to have an approved policy by the early Fall 2015.

(4) *Language regarding the expectation of continued employment for tenure-track faculty*. We hope to have a proposal from the Faculty Guide & Bylaws Committee and to the Senate in the next academic year.

Reminders

All Senate meetings, normally held in the Beck Rooms of Walsh Library, are open to all. We invite you to attend and participate actively.

A roster of the Senate's different committees may be found [here](#). Please consider whether you might volunteer for one of these committees and gain a valuable and interesting service experience. You do not need to be a Senator in order to serve on a committee.

The next Senate meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 11, 2015 at 1 p.m. in the Jubilee Auditorium.

Faculty convocation will be held on Friday, September 18, 2014. We look forward to seeing you there!

We welcome any questions or comments for the Faculty Senate; please feel free to contact us at senate@shu.edu.

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The 2014/2015 Executive Committee of the Senate

Judith Lothian, Chair; Mary Balkun, Vice-Chair; Philip Moremen, Executive Secretary; Beth Bloom and Irene De Masi, Members-at-Large