



Faculty Senate Newsletter

Seton Hall University

Fall 2009

Welcome to the Newsletter of the Seton Hall Faculty Senate

Below are some highlights of the work of the Faculty Senate during the fall semester. Meeting minutes, detailed committee reports, and agendas of upcoming meetings are available on the Senate web site at <http://academic.shu.edu/senate>.



Highlights from the Executive Committee

Chair: King Mott

- We are pleased to report that the composition of the Presidential Search Committee has been set, and both King Mott and Mary Balkun are members of the committee. The committee will allow us to express the continued priorities of the Senate before the Board of Regents.
- The 2008-09 Year End Report written by the Senate Chairperson can be found [here](#).
- The Senate continues to feel strongly that the most qualified candidate committed to the mission of the University should be hired as the next President. Additionally, the Senate has asked the Board of Regents, through Senate Resolution, to change the by-law that states that the next president must be a priest.
- The Senate supports the Provost's commitment to raising the academic profile of the University. One important part of this endeavor is to ensure that the faculty in all schools and colleges have the right to self-governance under the Faculty Guide.
- The University is confronting grave economic uncertainty, challenges unseen here at Seton Hall since the 1980s. It is ever more important that the faculty participate in decision making regarding the financial stability of the University and, most importantly, the impact that budget reductions have upon the quality of research and teaching. The Senate chairperson promotes this agenda by sitting on the University Budget Committee.



Activities of the Academic Policy Committee

Chair: Anne Mullen-Hohl

- The senate approved the proposal for an MA in Special Education with Concentrations in Autism and Instructional Design and Technology which include New Jersey Teacher of Students with Disabilities Endorsement. A description of the programs can be found [here](#).



Activities of the Committee on Admissions

Chair: Brenda Petersen

- The Senate recommended that Seton Hall University migrate from the paper based admissions response system for undergraduate programs to an electronic admissions response system which shall allow our undergraduate student applicants the opportunity to review the progress of their application electronically.



Activities of the Calendar Committee

Chair: Thomas Rzezniak

- The Calendar Committee developed a calendar for the 2012-2013 academic year, which was approved by the Senate. This calendar can be found [here](#).
- The Committee continues to discuss the administration's desire to regularize the academic calendar such that classes begin the week before Labor Day in the fall semester and the week before Martin Luther King Day in the spring.



Activities of the Compensation and Welfare Committee

Chair: Roseanne Mirabella

- Due to the current budgetary constraints, The Compensation Committee has been working on developing the priorities of the faculty. The Senate passed several related resolutions, including a statement indicating opposition to any decrease in faculty compensation as well as cuts in travel funds. The Senate also believes that budget reductions must be prioritized and should come from outside academic areas.



Activities of the Core Curriculum Committee

Chair: Mary Balkun

- The [core proficiency rollout plan](#) was approved by the Senate.
- The Senate approved the definitions and objectives of the "*Proficiency Policies*." The official document can be found [here](#).
- The Senate approved the processes for developing and approving proficiency-infused courses. The official document can be found [here](#).



Activities of the Faculty Development Committee

Chair: David Beneteau

- The Senate approved the members of the provost's committee on faculty development. The members are David Beneteau, Mary Ann Clark, Colleen Conway, Mark Holtzmann, and Amy Hunter. The committee developed [recommendations](#) which were supported by the Senate. The committee worked with Vice Provost Robinson to determine how these recommendations can be enacted and has requested a response from Provost Esteban regarding a timeline for implementation of these recommendations.



Activities of the Faculty Guide and Bylaws Committee

Chair: David Beneteau

- The Senate approved a change in the Faculty Guide regarding teaching load. The language as approved by the Senate would state that the basic teaching load for full-time faculty members is eighteen (18) credit hours per academic year and shall normally be nine (9) credit hours per academic semester. This change has been approved by the provost, who has created a task force to determine the details of implementation.
- The Faculty Guide Committee proposed and the Senate approved a [resolution](#) extending the grievance procedure in the Faculty Guide to faculty in the School of Health and Medical Sciences. This resolution awaits the approval of the provost.
- [Guide interpretation](#) regarding the acceptability of substituting a term contract for a probationary contract. The Executive Committee continues to discuss this with the provost's office.



Activities of the Graduate Studies Committee

Co-Chairs: Kelly Goedert and Ann Marie Mauro

- The Graduate Studies Committee of the Senate was created and its [bylaws](#) approved by the Senate.
- A subcommittee is discussing with the provost's office the possible creation of a dean of research and graduate studies.



Activities of the Instructional Technology Committee

Chair: Bert Wachsmuth

- After a discussion with the Student Government Association, the full-time student free printing limit was raised to 800 pages for the Fall '09, 600 pages for the Spring '10, and 400 pages per semester for the following academic year. Clubs and organizations will receive additional allocations in cooperation with Community Development.
 - TLTC will start efforts to promote electronic means to save paper and the IT Committee would like to remind all senators and colleagues to be aware of these limits on free printed paper when asking students for hard copies.
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Activities of the Program Review Committee

Chair: Mary Balkun

- Six programs were approved by the Senate. These programs include Catholic Studies, Math & CS, Psychological Studies, Seton World Wide MASCL, & Diplomacy.
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- As a reminder, Senate meetings are open to all interested faculty, as are all committees. Our meeting schedule can be found [here](#).
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