

Stamford Faculty Council Meeting
April 10, 2023, 7:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Minutes by Jonathan Gilbert

SFC Attendees: Jonathan Gilbert, Claudia Kraemer, Felice Lesser, Bill Schwendner, Johanna Ortner, Beth Ginsberg, John White, Marie Ruiz Martinez,

Guest Attendees: Sharon Lattig, Chris Carney, Lauren Bruzzone

GUEST SPEAKER: Aris Ristau – Director of Operations & Distribution

- I. Space remediation projects that have been going on for the past couple of years should be completed by this summer.
- II. There will be an increase in hiring faculty and staff for next semester.
 - A. Office spaces are limited. Aris is/will be asking faculty for collaborations/ assistance in figuring out how to address all the faculty office space needs.
- III. Beth asks about the spaces that have been lost – art gallery, gym, etc. As the campus becomes more residential, more support services will be needed. Are these on the long-term agenda? Any plans to purchase additional buildings?
 - A. A committee will be formed with Aris to discuss the needs of the campus and convert the spaces for needed uses.
- IV. Bill asks what the gym on the first floor (currently used by construction) will be used for.
 - A. Once office construction is complete (should be by Fall semester) the space will be ready to use.
 - B. There are no immediate plans for the space.
- V. By gathering a list of needed spaces, Aris hopes to build a 5-year plan to better position him (and the university) to receive funding for space.
- VI. There are a variety of other locations throughout Stamford that are currently being used by UCONN (like the 9west building) and there are more possibilities in the Park Tower.
 - A. There are no current plans to purchase/lease space, but Aris is aware of the options and will pursue them if necessary.
- VII. Beth asks what issues faculty or staff should be directing toward facilities.
 - A. Aris has been working on several projects.
 - I. He is working on streamlining communications. A central website for flyers & campus wide email distributions.
 - II. Working on getting a meal plan instituted for the Stamford campus.
 - III. He is acting as the liaison of all construction on campus (part of the facilities duties)
 - B. Aris will work with Laura to produce a list for faculty that outlines their roles & facilitate requests/communication.
- VIII. Marie asks if there are no plans to build more classrooms.
 - A. Aris says that is correct. There are no plans to build more classrooms.

- B. She expresses concerns about the quantity of chem students. Particularly a room that can support more than 48
 - I. Aris says there are plans to enlarge some rooms with chairs. This summer an inventory will be taken.
 - A. Marie expressed concern that for testing situations this may not work as the students are too close to one another.
 - B. Marie adds that the tables are not ideal for testing situations and the swivel chairs seem to work the best.
 - C. Felice adds that there is no dance space and asks for help developing a plan.
- IX. Aris asks for assistance with identifying any offices that may be empty and/or unused.

GUEST SPEAKER: Laura Tropp – Director of Academic Affairs & Associate Campus Director

- I. She is working on several projects.
 - A. For now, wants to engage with faculty to address the needs and wants of faculty.
 - B. Working with registrar to address class schedules & the needs of Stamford for classes on a -bi and/or -tri weekly basis.
 - C. Working on the FYE courses and making it more specific to Stamford.
 - I. Looking for faculty volunteers to assist with the program.
 - D. Taking back the tutoring center.
 - I. Ideas to reinvent the area. Wants it to grow and
 - II. Working with Beth on a mentoring program for faculty at the Stamford campus.
 - A. It will start small and focus on 'In-residence' faculty.
 - B. She asks for volunteers to be mentors.
 - E. Kevin anecdotally states that the 1 class per week is best for him.
 - I. She will work on it and wants to offer flexibility to both students & faculty.
 - A. Other members agree that choices are important.
 - F. Marie mentions that she would like to assist with the tutoring, particularly in languages outside English.

OPEN COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- I. Follow up status.
 - A. Dr. Tropp meeting with Beth and Bill (3/24)
 - I. Agreed to collaborate & partner.
 - II. LatinX / Q center issues
 - III. Security on Campus
 - IV. Student preparedness

- V. Space management for new incoming faculty
 - B. Faculty parking – no updates
 - C. Adjunct data Stamford Directory
 - I. Aris updated the list and will be updated on the website shortly.
 - D. CPR/AED certification class (3/31)
 - I. Excellent class.
 - II. Process: First Call 911
 - E. Police presence
 - I. Has spoken to Jennifer about some concerns with the campus security
 - A. Was told that there will be an increased presence in the fall
- II. Faculty Colloquia
 - A. March 28th (Beth)
 - B. April 26 – Joel Blatt, Remembering Vietnam
 - I. Beth recommends the event details be broadcast to honor students.
 - C. Fall '23 target: 3-4 faculty speakers (Jennifer driving)
 - I. Felice asks if she could get some help driving support for the HipHop dance Thursday (4/13) at 7pm in the Schreiber room.
- III. Council membership
 - A. Sharon Lattig expressed interest in attending the council meeting.
 - I. Full-time faculty membership position
 - B. David Anderson also expressed interest in an SFC membership position.
 - I. Adjunct faculty membership position
 - C. Today there are 12 members. New member load at 9 for fall
 - I. Johanna will leave in the fall. Bringing the new member list to 11. What do we do about these new positions?
 - A. A proposed by-law to change from a hard 9 members to a floating 9 to 11 members.
 - I. Proposed changes to by-laws: new min to 9 members to unlimited max.
 - I. Beth proposes, Kevin seconds, no abstains.**
 - II. Sharon & David joins the committee.**
- IV. Claudia asks who writes changes to the By-laws.
 - A. Jonathan says he will re-write the by-laws, then post them to the website.
- V. Council co-presidents
 - A. Bill will continue as a co-president.
 - B. Beth will not continue as co-president and will need a replacement. She thanks the committee for her service.
 - I. Claudia says she will volunteer as co-president.
 - II. Bill asks if anyone else would like to be co-president.
 - A. No response
 - III. Proposed: Claudia & Bill will be co-presidents**
 - A. Beth seconds, no abstains.**
- VI. Jonathan will continue his roles as secretary & webmaster

- VII. Johana's duties of communications will be given to Marie
- VIII. SFC Meetings will be held the second Monday of each month
- IX. Next meetings:
 - A. Last monthly meeting for spring 2023: 5/1
 - B. First meeting in the fall 2023: 9/11

New Business

- I. Student awards
 - A. May 11th.
 - B. Claudia asks if the SFC should promote the event.
 - C. Beth asks if there can be food.
 - I. Claudia explains there is an issue with the cost of food covered for state employees.
 - A. She said the issue was discussed with Jennifer and she will try to accommodate students & parents.