

Michael J. Grant Campus

# Academic Assembly

**September 22, 2020 Zoom Meeting Minutes**

1. Alexander Kasiukov called the meeting to order at 3:34pm
2. Old Business (voting taking place via Blackboard)

Elections of governance officers (please click [here](http://kasiukov.com/assembly/vacancies/2020-04-27.html) for the current edition of the Elections Guide for descriptions of these positions)

* 1. Chair of the Assembly (one vacancy, electing for 2021-2023 two year term) to replace Alexander Kasiukov
  2. Secretary of the Assembly (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 year term) to replace Kerry Carlson
  3. At-large Member of the Executive Committee (three vacancies, two electing for 2020-2022 two year terms and one for 2020-2021 one year term) to replace Scott Votke, Daniel Wishnoff, and Elizabeth Spagnola
  4. Assembly Representative on the Academic Integrity Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace James Remsen
  5. Assembly Representative on the Banner Users Group (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Joseph Gatti
  6. Assembly Representative on the Bookstore Advisory Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Adrienne Chu
  7. Assembly Representative on the Class Size Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Hope Sasway
  8. Assembly Representative on the Distance Education Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Christopher Holfester
  9. Assembly Representative on the Food Service Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Joshua Wolfson
  10. Assembly Representative on the Institutional Review Board (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Jason Cascone
  11. Assembly Representative on the Strategic Planning Council (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) to replace Janet Haff
  12. Assembly Representative on the Health and Safety Committee (one vacancy, electing for 2020-2022 two year term) new position established

1. New Business
   1. Resolution 2020-09 [01] Expressing No Confidence in Politically Appointed Members of the SUNY Board of Trustees
   2. Discussion
      1. Alexander Kasiukov – The resolution expressing No Confidence in the process of selecting the SUNY Chancellor, not the chancellor.
      2. Marc Fellenz – the purpose of faculty governance is to get together to discuss these issues. This is not an attack on the chancellor, it’s a statement regarding the process. This is occurring on the systemic level, but it could happen at the local level.
      3. Alex Kasiukov – we need to support this. SCCC is taking a conciliatory approach to this appointment.
   3. New Topic: Presidential Search
      1. Tat Sang So – is there an update on our Presidential search?
      2. Alexander Kasiukov – it’s in the beginning stages – nothing to report.
      3. Virginia Horan – AS things devolved over the spring, I reached out to people on the search committee and nominated Jim Keane, so he should be contacted.
   4. New Topic: Suspending Emergency Procedures
      1. Tat Sang So – I would like to explore suspending the emergency functions and use Zoom polling for votes.
      2. Kerry Carlson – We need to insure the voting stays anonymous.
      3. Alexander Kasiukov – The EC will discuss, this is not a formal motion and must maintain the anonymity of voting.
   5. New Topic: Online Education
      1. Virginia Horan – we need to stand up as governance about online education and how our students need interaction and faculty have had no support. We need to preserve our profession.
      2. Alexander Kasiukov – we don’t need to become SNHU – 80K online, 5k in person – SUNY is investing in online education.
      3. Virginia Horan – The FA is aware of this. Full-time faculty are allowed to teach 8 credits online. There’s a corrupt system in place. Faculty can be off-campus by 9:30 and get the maximum pay.
      4. Alexander Kasiukov – The online education reduces access to quality education and increases access to lower quality education.
      5. Virginia Horan – is there any proof that eliminating developmental classes increases graduation?
      6. Janet Haff – I agree with Ginny. The majority of community college students are not here for online education. Hybrid classes teach them the technology but they still have an interaction with the professor. I feel like I’ve lost my ability to read my students which is my bread and butter in the classroom. I need to meet and get to know my students, that’s how I get to know them then I know when they are lost.
      7. Maria Alzugaray – we must present this to administration so they can’t turn away from the issue. My problem is with academic integrity. We need to put numbers together to show that there is no academic integrity. I’ve polled my students and face-to-face instruction wins. Maybe we need a student poll about what they want for their education.
      8. Alyssa Kaufman – I agree with Maria’s points. The students believed that taking online classes was easier. But this summer there was a tremendous amount of students dropped, withdrew or failed. The students were overwhelmed. We need to get those numbers.
      9. Marc Fellenz – I would caution on polling students. I polled my students after the spring semester. It was fully asynchronous and not good. In the poll, the students blamed themselves for it not working well. But, I had one student in a wheelchair and not coming to campus helped him.
      10. Alexander Kasiukov – as fellow a faculty member, my experience was similar to Marc’s I thought that not lecturing and providing office hours would give my students more time to meet with me, but it didn’t work. Now I teach real-time online and it works better. What can I do as chair?
      11. Tat Sang So – as chair you can make sure that we are part of the conversation. The decisions were made without us and we need to be consulted. There was only 1 faculty member on the reopening committee.
      12. Richa Prakash – The remote classes work well for me, but not for exams. Being able to hold exam on campus would help.
      13. Maria Alzugaray – There is also an issue when you are teaching back-to-back classes and you have a student that gets extra time.
      14. Alexander Kasiukov – I have brought up that Disability Services should be helping with this.
   6. New Topic: Taping of Classes
      1. Janet Simpson – what concerns me is taping of our lectures. It poses a risk for other students. It’s a point that needs to be raised.
      2. Alexander Kasiukov – Recording is allowed under accommodation with restrictions. Taping should only be allowed in accordance with an accommodation. This issue needs to be discussed.
   7. Motion from the Floor – Motion to honor Paul Minott with a proclamation recognizing his contribution to keep the plants alive in the Sagtikos Building during the campus shutdown.
2. Adjunct Faculty Task Force Resolutions
   1. Resolution 2020-09 [02] Approving the Amendment of the Assembly Constitution and By-laws Making Grant Campus Adjunct, Non-tenure Faculty Non-Voting Members of the Assembly
   2. Resolution 2020-09 [03] Approving the Amendment of the Assembly Constitution and By-laws Making Grant Campus Adjunct, Non-tenure Faculty Voting Members of Assembly Committee
   3. Discussion
      1. Marc Fellenz – Issues with the resolutions. Res. 2020-09 [03] how are adjuncts selected for elected committees? What’s the process for their inclusion? The resolution does not specify the procedure. As to the non-voting membership, what does that mean? Our Assembly is open, they can attend now. Res. 2020-09 [02] I more disrespectful than before because it provides nothing. Marc supports the resolutions but not in their current forms.
      2. Alexander Kasiukov – there is a way to them as non-voting members because they can take the floor and make motions.
      3. Joshua Wolfson – the committee took a scaffolded approach because the voting discussion may be more contentious. They were trying for a step-by-step process for now.
      4. Lou Roccanova – Can the adjunct vote be ½ or a 1/3 vote since an adjunct teach ½ or 1/3 of the credits?
      5. Tat Sang So – Give full tights to the adjuncts – I don’t see that there will be a storm of adjuncts in the Assembly.
      6. Alexander Kasiukov – Should we accept that this accepts adjuncts as member and them next time we deal with the voting issue?
      7. Tat Sang So – if this gives adjuncts floor rights now.
      8. Marc Fellenz – Motion from the floor to table both motions.
      9. Tat Sang So – Second.
      10. Marc Fellenz – Joe (Gatti) mentioned the Union. Given the College situation, we should fully involve them. Adjuncts are professionals and should be treated as such.
      11. Danielle DiMauro-Brook – adjuncts just want inclusion.
      12. Kathleen Ayers-Lanzillotta – some of the small programs are comprised of all adjuncts and they would like to be included.
      13. Marc Fellenz – what outreach did the Adjunct Faculty Taskforce do?
      14. Joshua Wolfson – Danielle reached out and got interest from the adjuncts – this was adjunct-driven.
      15. Gina Ocello – the committee talked about how to be included and they decided to take smaller steps.
      16. Danielle DiMauro-Brooks – we want to be included and to have a voice. This is the first step to feeling included – it’s a big deal to the adjuncts: to sit on committees and participate in them. Inclusion is the goal for now.
      17. Jill Malic – Marc (Fellenz) asked how other adjuncts were contacted.
      18. Danielle DiMauro-Brooks – the committee was kept small.
      19. Marc Fellenz – you see the value of non-voting member status but I am skeptical that this is a good proposal. If it is the want of the adjuncts, then I defer to it.
      20. Alexander Kasiukov – we don’t have a good mechanism to see what the adjuncts want.
      21. Janet Haff – I support full voting rights, but I have a question about committees. Wouldn’t the process for adjuncts being elected to committees be the same as it is for full-time faculty?
      22. Marc Fellenz – my concern is that it’s not spelled out. Usually it’s by department, not by employment status.
      23. Joshua Wolfson – we weren’t looking to change the current process, we looked at a number of things. Assembly committee are by nomination. The issue of adjuncts and department for committee purposes is a good one.
      24. Tat Sang So – even if we agree on the voting issue we still need to table the issue. We need to make sure we are not in conflict with the FA contract.
      25. Alexander Kasiukov – I’m not sure the Assembly Constitution should reference the FA contract.
      26. Tat Sang So – as a full-time faculty member you should feel an obligation to participate, an adjunct should not.
      27. Joshua Wolfson – please be open and honest in the Blackboard discussion.
      28. Alexander Kasiukov – would it make sense to present it as questions with difference perspectives.
      29. Joshua Wolfson – adjuncts want membership so it would be a separate resolution for voting.
      30. Alexander Kasiukov – I would like to vote on the resolutions but we have the motion tabling the resolutions first.
3. Campus Update
4. For the Good of the Assembly
   1. Michaelann Tostantoski – We are putting together an online gallery of faculty work. The link will be shared.
5. Motion to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:04pm