



# FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

## Faculty Senate

Joseph M. McShane, S.J., Hon. President	Dana Alonzo	Stephen Grimm	Jacqueline Reich
Eve Keller, President	Fran Blumberg	David Hamlin	Diane Rodriguez
Berish Rubin, Vice President	Melkana Brakalova-Trevithick	Ralf Hepp	Barry Rosenfeld
Patrick Hornbeck, Secretary	James Cohen	Winnie Kung	Berish Rubin
	Jeffrey Colon	Mark Mattson	John Seitz
	Marcia Flicker	Patricio Meneses	Falguni Sen
	Christopher GoGwilt	Haim Mozes	Grace M. Vernon
		Francesca Parmeggiani	Sarah Zimmerman

## Official Minutes September 7, 2018

**Present:** Senate President Keller; Senators Blumberg, Brakalova-Trevithick, Cohen, Colon, Flicker, GoGwilt, Grimm, Hamlin, Hepp, Hornbeck, Kung, Mattson, Mozes, Parmeggiani, Reich, Rodriguez, Rosenfeld, Rubin, Seitz, Sen, Vernon, and Zimmerman; Honorary President Joseph M. McShane, S.J.

**Excused:** Senators Alonzo and Meneses

**Invited Guests:** Jonathan Crystal, Interim Provost; Jean Dowdall, Senior Partner Of Counsel, Witt-Kieffer

### *Call to Order*

Senate President Eve Keller called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m.

Due to traffic that kept the President of the University and others from reaching the meeting on time, Senate President Keller proposed, and the Senate concurred, that the agenda for the meeting should be taken somewhat out of order.

### *Presentation from the Interim Provost*

Dr. Jonathan Crystal, Interim Provost, addressed the Senate. He acknowledged Dr. Freedman's passing, observed that he is eager to continue Dr. Freedman's work in the role he has assumed as interim provost, and commented on matters pertaining to transitions in academic leadership, updates on issues from the previous academic year, and his office's goals for the current year. These matters included (1) the searches for a new Dean of Fordham College at Lincoln Center and a new Dean of Arts and Sciences Faculty/Associate Vice President for Arts and Sciences Education; (2) progress that has been made with regard to online learning; (3) the University's agreement with the Service Employees International Union; and (4) goals in the areas of teaching, academic programs, and research.

### *Invocation*

Joseph M. McShane, S.J., President of the University, delivered the invocation.

### *Presentation from the President*

Joseph M. McShane, S.J., then addressed the Senate. Thanking all who attended the previous day's memorial service for the late Provost, Stephen Freedman, and offering prayers for those who will soon be celebrating the High Holy Days, Fr. McShane focused his remarks primarily on undergraduate enrollment. Over 46,000 applications were received for the incoming undergraduate class; the final size

of the class is 2,260, above projections. International student numbers are slightly down this year, due largely to uncertainty in international affairs. 38% of the entering class come from traditionally underrepresented groups in U.S. society. This figure includes a 46% increase in the number of African-American students.

### ***Discussion with Witt-Kieffer (Executive Search Firm)***

Dr. Jean Dowdall, representing the firm that the University has hired to manage the search for Fordham's next Provost, joined the meeting. Dr. Dowdall described her firm's extensive experience in managing searches for higher education leadership positions, including previous searches at Fordham. She outlined the stages of the search for a new Provost.

Senators asked questions about the need to ensure a diverse pool of candidates, about the nature of the interviews, and about the role of the Provost. At 12:41 p.m., the Senate agreed by acclamation to go into executive session to continue the conversation with Dr. Dowdall. The Senate emerged from executive session at 1:16 p.m.

### ***Introductions***

Senators introduced themselves to one another, and Senate President Keller led a discussion about the role of the Senate in Fordham's governance structure.

### ***Approval of Minutes***

The Senate approved the minutes of previous meetings. Senator Blumberg moved, and Senator Flicker seconded, the approval of the minutes of the meeting of April 27 and the first meeting of May 7 (10-0-11). Senator Mattson moved, and Senator Rodriguez seconded, the approval of the minutes of the second meeting of May 7 (15-0-5).

### ***Approval of Committee Membership***

By motion of Senator Vernon, seconded by Senator Sen, the Senate approved a slate of nominees for Board of Trustees, University, and Senate Committees recommended by the Senate President and Executive Committee (22-0-0).

### ***Announcements and Updates***

Senate President Keller led a wide-ranging discussion on a variety of matters, including:

- *Student Journalists:* The Senate agreed to a slight change in the agreement student journalists who attend Senate meetings are asked to sign. However, Senators asked that the attendance of student journalists be considered as a possible topic of discussion at a future meeting.
- *Fordham Prep Benefits:* Senate President Keller announced that Elaine Crosson, Fordham's general counsel, had confirmed in writing that the partial tuition benefits faculty enjoy at Fordham Preparatory School will be maintained.
- *Statutory Changes:* Senate President Keller indicated that in collaboration with the President and other University officers, the Statutes have been updated to reflect recent changes to the Faculty Fellowship and Phased Retirement policies. Other changes approved by the Senate, with regard to the Student Life and Online Learning Committees, are in process.
- *Human Resources:* Senate President Keller announced that Kay Turner, the Vice President for Human Resources, has agreed to appoint a member of her office as liaison to the Senate and its committees. Human Resources and Senate leaders have discussed and come to agreement about

the \$250,000 medical assistance fund that will support faculty whose healthcare costs have increased above a certain threshold as a result of the changes to faculty health insurance that followed the May 2017 salary and benefits agreement. Human Resources will hold information sessions September 18 and 25.

- *2U Agreement:* Thanks to the exceptional work of Senator Haim Mozes, who has been chairing the Salary and Benefits subcommittee on online learning, and his collaboration with the Interim Provost, Senate President Keller announced that an agreement has been reached with the Provost's Office with regard to an addendum regarding intellectual property rights to the contracts that faculty teaching in 2U programs have signed. The Senate applauded Senator Mozes's efforts. Senate President Keller praised this work as a paradigm for collaboration between faculty and administrators.
- *Communications Strategy:* To help the Senate in its task of representing the faculty as best it can, Senate President Keller proposed, and the Senate concurred, that the Senate's "action minutes" and "official minutes" be streamlined, with a short summary of each meeting replacing the action minutes, and with the official minutes hewing more closely to *Robert's Rules of Order*.
- *Topics for Future Meetings:* Senate President Keller announced that the Senate Executive Committee has suggested devoting approximately an hour at each Senate meeting this year to a substantive issue. The topic for the October meeting will be research; she hopes that the topic for November will be diversity.
- *Search for Dean of Arts and Sciences Faculty:* Several Senators expressed concern about the decision to conduct an internal search for the position of Dean of Arts and Sciences Faculty, arguing that an external search gives greater legitimacy to the role and could result in the hiring of a person who, by virtue of coming from outside Fordham, would have power to make demands of the University that an internal candidate might not. Others, affirming that position in general, understood the rationale for an internal search at this time, given the number of academic leadership positions in transition.
- *Exactis Breach:* Senator Sen reported that a number of faculty members who had received an email from Fordham IT regarding a data breach at the marketing firm Exactis and its possible effect on the security of personal information had expressed concern. Fordham IT has clarified that "Fordham University has no relationship at all with Exactis, and Fordham folks are amongst 340 million or so other people caught up in their breach. No data was sold to Exactis and no Fordham-specific data was leaked."

By motion of Senator GoGwilt, seconded by Senator Mattson, the Senate adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by J. Patrick Hornbeck II, Secretary