

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

Meeting of the University Senate, October 24, 2011
As submitted to Danielle Leonard, Senate Secretary, University Senate

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Susanna Fessler, Chair

Most councils have completed the process of committee formation, and those rosters--as available--are being posted to the Senate website. Student senators are also almost entirely in place. I'd like to thank the GSO and the SA for their hard work in making that all happen.

The Senate has recently received the Honors College annual report and it has been forwarded to the Senate for comments. Questions or concerns about the report can be sent to Prof. Jeff Haugaard.

The Senate has been asked to review the report of the Course Assessment Advisory Committee at <https://wiki.albany.edu/display/irpe/Course+Assessment+Advisory+Committee>, and to send questions or comments to the co-chairs, Heidi Andrade (hadrande@albany.edu) or Bruce Szelest (bszelest@albany.edu) by November 11. The Advisory Committee was constituted in consultation with the 2009-10 Senate Governance Council as its report, from the very beginning, was expected to contain a number of recommendations around issues that relate to the work of various Senate councils.

The annual Fall Faculty Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 26th at 2:30 p.m. in the Campus Center Ballroom. Please encourage your colleagues to attend. In the interest of cost-saving and conservation, hard copies of meeting materials will not be provided but rather posted ahead of time on the Senate website.

UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) –Daniel D. White, J. Philippe Abraham & Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, SUNY Senators

The following information is posted on the SUNY Faculty Senate website (<http://www.suny.edu/facultysenate/>) for your information.

- 1) "Shared Services Q & A with Provost David Lavallee

Colleagues,

A large number of our colleagues across the University have already been affected by the SUNY-wide initiative that is now called "shared services."

Two weeks ago Provost David Lavallee came to our UFS Fall Planning meeting, where he faced an hour of questions from a hundred of your colleagues about this and other issues facing the university.

After that meeting, we asked the Provost to come back to the table for a similar "q and a" from a much smaller group, where many of the questions would be repeated for a system-wide video audience. I was most pleased that Professors Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik (UAlbany) and Phillip Ortiz (Empire State College) along with Tremayne Price, a student representative from the Student Assembly, agreed to join me on the panel.

The session was taped last Thursday, and unfortunately, it has taken much longer to get it posted on the SUNY website than I originally imagined. It is now up, to use the jargon, and can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMZqW68ZJ24>

Just to be clear, we believe that this initiative has the potential to reshape important aspects of our traditional campus communities. For that reason, the UFS Executive Committee and I are committed to getting the very best information we have available about the initiative, what it is, what it may become and what it potentially could be, into your [sic].

At our upcoming plenary meeting at least two resolutions will be introduced on the subject, one from the Executive Committee, which was distributed last month when it was passed, and another by the Governance Committee. While we pledge to continue to monitor this and other financial initiatives at System, we believe that the most effective points from which to observe – and participate in – this process is through your campus governance organizations.

Ken O'Brien”

- 2) The SUNY Senate Undergraduate Research Symposium is scheduled for February 29, 2012 in the Legislative Office Building (LOB) Albany, NY.
- 3) Special Announcement from the SUNY Office of University Life and Enrollment Management :2012 Benjamin & David Scharps Legal Essay Competition. An essay competition for SUNY Juniors and Seniors First Prize - \$1,500 Second Prize - \$1,000 for the Best 2,000 Word Paper THIS YEAR'S TOPIC: Cyber Bullying

GSO (Graduate Student Organization) – Heidi Nicholls, GSO Representative

GSO held their first voting assembly meeting on October 7th, 2011. Official introductions of the executive board and assembly were made. The meeting centered on discrepancies of the GSO Bylaws and Constitution, namely the assembly speaker position which has traditionally been held by the GSO president. Despite efforts to clarify these conflicting documents last year, it has been brought by Student Involvement to GSO that we were no longer considered in compliance. A vote was held to table the topic until the members of assembly have been able to pull together their nominations for an Assembly Speaker. Votes will be held on November 4. Nikhil Jain was voted in as Assembly Liaison and currently Tracy Chen has been appointed to Programming Chair and Raysa Capallan to Senator, both awaiting confirmation at the November assembly meeting. Also addressed at our last meeting we focused on the budget. Due to a decrease of graduate student enrollment and increased spending over the summer on large expenditures such as the new printer, the GSO is working with a budget of \$25,000 less than last year. Despite a tighter budget, GSO is pushing forward with their events, such as the upcoming Casino Night on Pearl Street, Interdepartmental Kickball Tournament, and offering free tickets to The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Something different in GSO this year is offering increased funds for groups who collaborate such as the Turkish Student Organization and Educational Psychology RGSO hosting a joint Apple Picking venture, YesPlus and ISO for Diwali, etc. Partnerships are the theme this year for the GSO, both among student groups and the larger parent organizations such as with SA, Alumni Association, etc.

SA (Student Association) – Bryant Barksdale, Student Association President Designee

The Student Association participated in the community service month kickoff event on October 5th. The event involved some of our student groups working with K-12 students in mini-workshops and then having them show off what they had learned to all in attendance. Student Association members also participated in many other community service projects throughout the month which included:

- o Canned Food Drive along with the GSO
- o October 16th Breast Cancer Walk
- o October 17th -21st School Supply Drive with Student Groups Donations will go to the children of local refugees (USCRI)
- o October 29th University at Albany and Binghamton University Clean Up in Broome County

We are looking to keep our involvement with community service going well past October and will be launching a “Student to Student” initiative which will involve our student groups working with different K-12 students in peer mentoring and other projects throughout the year. The 5th Installment of the World Within Reach Speaker Series featuring Earvin “Magic” Johnson took place on October 15th in the SEFCU Arena. We

would like to thank everyone who came out to the event. The Student Association currently preparing for the FallFest concert on November 12th

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Adrian Masters, Chair

We have scheduled the meeting times for CAA for the rest of the fall 2011 semester.

Rich Matyi has agreed to chair the GEAC and Sean Rafferty will be chair of the PRC. The PRC is scheduled to meet for the first time on 21st October.

CAFFeCoR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Aran Mull, Chair

The committee held our first meeting on September 19th. The committee will be addressing development of committee policy and procedure for managing complaints received (none currently exists), re-introduction of a bill addressing the Principals of a Just Community language and continuing training with Residential Life staff on freedom of expression issues. A meeting schedule has been forwarded to Gail Cameron for publication to the Senate web site. On September 22nd CAFFE-CoR received a complaint. A committee is being formed to address the complaint.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Carolyn MacDonald, Chair

The policy approved by the senate 3/14 has not yet been signed. There are no ongoing cases. Planning is proceeding for training for CERS members.

COR (Council on Research) – James Castracane, Chair

The Council on Research had its first meeting on September 19th and considered several agenda items. VPR Dias delivered an update on the status of the recent HHS audit as well as a report on the 2010-2011 F & A Costs for the University.

In addition, COR began populating the various sub-committees with Chairs and Members. Sufficient volunteers were identified to fill all Chair positions and were charged with gathering enough members to fulfill their responsibilities.

The next meeting will be October 17th.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Christine Wagner, Chair

CPCA has completed the review of four cases to date. Review of two additional cases will occur at the meeting on October 17th.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Tim Groves, Chair

The GAC met on September 30, 2011. The constitution of the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction, the Committee on Admissions and Academic Standing, and the Committee on Educational Policy and Procedures was reviewed. The GAC and its three committees now have a quorum needed to conduct business. A few openings still exist. The GAC has no bills to introduce at this time.

GOV (Governance Council) – Andi Lyons, Chair

GOV had its first meeting on September 27. We populated standing committees, and discussed agenda items for future meetings of GOV. The Committee on Liaison and Elections has again been formed as a committee of the whole, based on the recommendation of returning Council members. Within the standing committee on Assessment of Governance & Consultation, a sub-committee of the whole was formed. Chaired by Joette Stefl-

Mabry, the subcommittee is charged with developing a model for Administrative Assessment, as required by Senate action during the 2010-11 academic year. GOV's next meeting is scheduled for October 25.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Nancy Newman, Chair

LISC had its first meeting on Sept. 26. We established a regular meeting time for the year and the membership of the Library and IT subcommittees. Charles Hartmann has agreed to chair Library and Larry Raffalovich will chair IT. CIO Chris Haile reported that she and Therese Pardo will co-chair the Strategic Plan Implementation Working Group, "Keeping Pace with Emerging Technologies." Bruce Dudek is LISC's liaison. Chris also discussed the new UAmail system, which is being implemented for students and webmail users this week. Dean of Libraries Mary Casserly informed us that plans for the Library's renovation are under negotiation, and the result of last spring's survey will be brought to the subcommittee. We meet next on Oct. 24.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – JoAnne Malatesta, Chair

UAC has reviewed the policy on Restricted Majors and specifically evaluated the requirement that UAC follow up with each restricted major. We discussed how to move forward with the review of restricted majors and will likely be sending something out to these programs in the very near future.

UAC has approved the following Bills (attached):

- Philosophy Revisions to the Bioethics Minor
- Revisions to the Degree Requirements for the Accounting Major
- Revisions to the Informatics Minor

Additionally, UAC approved a proposal for Changes to the Documentary Studies Major. However, given that this proposal has resource implications, UAC has submitted this proposal for review by UPPC before bring it to SEC.

ULC (University Life Council) – Yenisel Gulatee, Chair

ULC met on October 6th, 2011. We agreed on re-submitting the Family Leave Policy Senate Resolution (No. 0506-05) to President George M. Philip for further consideration and completion. We also discussed the establishment of a health insurance policy for students; Ms. Christine Bouchard is working on a bill that addresses this issue. In addition, we discussed the Smoking Policy on Campus and the concerns that had been raised about this. We decided to work on establishing a taskforce that can study its complexity.

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Eric Lifshin, Chair

UPPC met on Friday, October 14. A number of items were discussed including whether UPPC should primarily focus on the evaluation of bills provided from SEC originating in other Senate councils or should it play a more proactive role and create our own legislation based on the broad role expressed in the Bylaws and Charter. An example of the former was just how to approach specific program changes in a bill originating from UAC. UPPC felt could be more effective in its function of commenting as to whether or not a bill is ready for full Senate discussion, if something similar to a Campus Impact Statement were provided with each bill. UPPC would then decide if additional information is needed. In the case of a more proactive role as exemplified by a specific request to comment on a recent report on SIRF evaluations, it was proposed that the originators of the report appear before UPPC so we could hear a summary and also have a chance for some one on one discussion. A similar approach will be followed in responding to ongoing efforts to define future classroom needs. A discussion also took place on whether the two standing Committees of UPPC should be constituted since they have not been in recent years. It was felt that steps should be taken to have UPPC, itself, serve the function of these two committees unless the situation dictates otherwise.