

**Governance Council**  
**Monday, April 27, 2009**  
Michael Range, Chair

**Minutes**

**Present:** Erin Bell, Nan Carroll, Richard Collier, Ed Cupoli, Jane Domaracki, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, Candace Merbler, John Monfasani, Theresa Pardo, Michael Range, John Schmidt

The meeting convened at 11:32 am.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of March 30, 2009 were approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT BY MICHAEL RANGE**

Chair Range informed council members that the IRCUAP amendment was introduced at the last Senate meeting. One question came from the Senate floor asking what needed to be fixed that resulted in the amendment. The amendment will be voted on at the next Senate meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Range reported on the president's budget update given at the last Senate Executive Committee meeting. The president had informed everyone that the worst is yet to come. There will be a \$4 million cut in the new budget year and it is unclear where that money will come from. According to Candace Merbler, the cut is now \$4.9 million. She reported that at the last labor management meeting, the question was asked if the University is looking at retrenchments and William Hedberg had replied yes. SUNY New Paltz has also announced retrenchments. Notification has been received of non-renewal for 23 part-time lecturers from the School of Education. Ms. Merbler reported that the UUP President Phillip Smith believes that jobs can be saved with a \$75 million appropriation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Recommendations for Members of the Doctoral Review Panel:**

This item is the number one priority in the Provost's office. GOV has been concerned about the manner in which it has been approached but the Provost and the President are including governance in the process. The Provost wanted a list provided to her by last Friday, but had conceded to wait until GOV had a chance to discuss the matter. She has asked for a list of fifteen names. The Provost will choose from that list to assure that all areas are covered. Chair Range indicated that he would consult with the Provost before the selections are made.

There was a discussion of the number of doctoral awards from different schools and these statistics, provided by Senate Secretary Richard Collier, gave additional importance to the matter. Several

recommendations for names came from council members, exceeding the list of fifteen. Nan Carroll proposed sending all of the names to the Provost to show the seriousness of the issue by the number of people willing and qualified to participate. Her idea was well supported by council members, and a motion to send the entire list to the Provost was made, seconded and passed.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Senate Handbook:**

The handbook does not need to be formally approved by the Senate but Chair Range would like to move it forward. A recommendation was made to add Nan Carroll to the subgroup. That recommendation was seconded and passed. It was also recommended that her changes to the document be added before a final presentation of the handbook. There was a discussion about who the audience of the handbook would be, and the consensus was that it's for the entire University community to help people understand what the Senate does.

Council members discussed additional topics or expanded discussion of topics such as describing the role of the Executive Committee, and additional work on the section on parliamentary procedures relating to conflict of interest still needs some work. The handbook will be posted on the Senate's website. It will be a working document, subject to continuous revisions.

Chair Range would like the subcommittee to conclude their work and have it circulated to GOV members for review in May or June. Council members can vote by e-mail on the final document and have it ready for the Executive Committee by September. A target date of June 15 was agreed on for having the document ready to post on the Senate web site.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm