

2017-2018 University Senate

**Monday, February 5, 2018
2:45 pm, Board Room**

Karin Reinhold, Chair

MINUTES

Present: Adams, Marcus; Asaro-Saddler, Kristie A; Beceanu, Marius; Bernard, Sheila Curran; Boyle, Jodi B; Chen, Gang; Chen, Mei-Hwa F; Collins, James P; Cruz, Jose E; Edwards, Amani; Eldridge, Morgan; Ernst, Jesse; Faught, Sydney A; Fontaine, Jerlisa S; Franchini, Billie B; Frelin, Adam; Galusha, Jaime; Hamilton, Diane M; Horowitz, Lenore; Keenan, Donald H; Kessler, Jane; King, Chad L; Kiorpes, Karen E; Kressner, Ilka; Kuznetsov, Igor; Lawrence, Zina M; Lizotte, Alan J; Mallia, Mary Ellen C; Manjak, Martin; Martinez, Maritza; McNutt, Louise-Anne; Moore, Chris S; Mower, James; Narendran, Paliath; Pastore, Christopher L; Poehlmann, Christian H; Prelow, Hazel M; Rafferty, Sean; Reinhold, Karin B; Rethemeyer, Karl; Rodríguez, Havidán; Rosenswig, Robert M; Shi, Hua; Slade, Len; Sorensen, Lucy C; Spencer, Latonia T; Stellar, James; Warner, Lynn; Wharram, Dawn M; Yang, Tse-Chuan; Yonkers, Virginia F; Zhou, Liming

Guests: Hyde, James; Murray, Ann Marie; Szelest, Bruce; LaValley, Celine; Winchester, Kathie; Yumeng, Luo; Zheng, Xiaoyi; Winchope, Josh; Clark, James; Balsas, Carlos; Jewell, Carol H; Wulfert, Edelgard

The meeting convened at 2:48 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 11, 2017 were approved, once quorum was reached, with the following voting results: Approved 38, Opposed 0, Abstained 4

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Havidán Rodríguez

President Rodríguez thanked Chair Reinhold and the Senate for the opportunity to address the group, and for the Senate's service and active participation in the UAlbany community. He then provided a briefing on some important initiatives and projects.

The president stated that he was excited to have on board incoming School of Public Health Dean David Holtgrave from Johns Hopkins, who would be starting on March 1st. He extended thanks to the search committee and to Interim Dean Laura Schweitzer, who would be returning to her role as Vice President for Health Sciences. He reported that the CFO / VP for Finance search led by Jim Van Voorst was in its final stages, thanks to the rigorous efforts of the committee. Dean of the School of Social Welfare and Vice Provost for Public Engagement Darrell Wheeler, he announced, has accepted the position of Provost at Iona College effective July 1st. Provost Stellar, he explained, would be working on the next steps to fill that position. The President expressed his appreciation for Dr. Wheeler's service and for his leadership as Interim Provost during the presidential search.

The president reminded that he had sent a memo regarding the reorganization of his executive leadership team: Marketing and Public Relations was integrated into Development, led by VP Fardin Sanai, eliminating the need for a VP for Marketing position; a small group would be working on compliance functions, eliminating the need for a VP for Compliance.

There has been a major redesign of UAlbany's website, he underlined, as part of our marketing efforts to provide a common structure and view of our different units as part of one unified university. IT and the VPs are also focusing on IT safety and security, and the president promised to bring more information to the Senate as they move forward.

President Rodríguez stated that he had met with all the schools and colleges and many other areas over the past five months on his Listening and Learning Tour, which he expected to finish within the next couple of months. The president was gratified that the opportunity to ask questions and exchange information has resulted in productive and engaging conversations.

The [Strategic Plan](#) draft is available for viewing and comment through the website, the president underlined. He outlined the committee structure, priorities, and timeline. Our institutional plan will drive how we move forward for the next several years, the president emphasized. Strategic Plan Committee co-chairs Jim Stellar and Mike Christakis are working incredibly hard visiting units, he stressed, and the draft will be significantly modified based on feedback. They will be presenting to the SEC on 2/14 and to the Senate on 2/26, the president announced. One initiative about which we have been having conversations is the creation of a Graduate School, he added. The president stated that his executive team had been looking at ways to increase graduate student enrollment, which has been a concern for a number of years. More information and discussion on the subject, he assured, would be forthcoming with the Provost, Dean of the Graduate Studies, President's Council, Deans, and the University Senate.

President Rodríguez stressed that we are not unique across the country in having to carefully review our budgets to see how we can create efficiencies and meet strategic priorities. Associate VP for Government and Community Relations Sheila Seery highlighted our legislative priorities in a recent memo, the president reminded. We are actively engaged and talking with government officials, he explained.

The president stated that he had tasked working groups to take a proactive look at issues including tobacco free campus with full implementation to begin in the fall, free speech and campus safety, and compliance. Lastly, President Rodríguez reported on the efforts of the SUNY System Task Force on the Impacts of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, and on his recent trip there as the Task Force Co-Chair with SUNY Maritime President Michael Afultis. He explained that, as part of the initiative, he and Provost Stellar would be reaching out to units to discuss potential joint research proposals and student exchanges.

President Rodriguez then addressed questions and comments on topics including the proposed graduate school, student engagement with government officials on campus, efforts to welcome and support international students, strategic planning, and the budget.

PROVOST'S REPORT – James Stellar

In the interest of time, Provost Stellar proposed a question and answer period in lieu of his report. The provost responded to interest in topics including membership on the taskforce for and

consultation structure regarding a proposed graduate school, efforts to meet graduate enrollment targets, updates on contingent and graduate student Blue Ribbon panel recommendations implementation, and strategic planning.

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

I. Informational

Senate leadership refers to Chair Karin Reinhold, Immediate past Chair Jim Collins and Vice Chair Jim Mower.

On Dec 4th, Reinhold participated on the Immigration forum organized by M. Martinez.

On Dec 7th, Reinhold met with J. Mower, B. Franchini, C. Poehlmann, B. Szelest, A. D'Atri, JD Hyde, E. Lopez about the new Shared Governance website. We discussed content, support persons for each council will be responsible for updating the respective council webpages and councils need to consider information to share with the Senate constituencies. All councils should post their calendar, membership, agenda, minutes, and news and/or current issues as appropriate. The archives of the website are searchable.

On Dec 11th, Reinhold, E. Lopez, B. Szelest, and D'Atri met with Gregory Wiedeman, University Archivist, who demonstrated how to use the search function on the online archives.

On Dec 12th, Reinhold participated on "Food for Finals" which was well attended.

On Dec 12th, Reinhold received a letter from Professor P. Eppard, Chair of Information Science, who, on behalf of the faculty, communicated that they are pleased with the department's move from College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity; he also expressed gratitude to Provost Stellar for the assistance provided during this transition.

On Dec 13th, Chair of UPPC, J Collins announced that UPPC will be looking onto the concern about student preparation, trends over the past 10 years.

Chair Reinhold received a request that council chairs use a microphone when addressing the Senate because it is otherwise hard to hear.

As of Jan 8th, the council and committee web pages now have a section for meeting dates, agendas and minutes, news and initiatives, and membership. Council staff members have access to make updates to these pages.

The new website for shared governance is live: www.albany.edu/sharedgovernance. Visit the Senate webpage within to see the new look of the Senate.

II. Actions taken

Communicated to all Council's support person instruction for updating the new website for their council.

Drafted a letter of affirmation that formal consultation has been fulfilled on the matter of the move of the Department of Information Science to CEHC.

Requested a Budget presentation for SEC from J. Van Voorst, VP for Finance and Admin.

Chair Reinhold participated in the Winter SUNY Plenary. The Chancellor's addressed similar topics as her **2018 State of the University System Address**: <http://www.suny.edu/about/leadership/chancellor/speeches/sotus-2018/> She addressed four themes for SUNY: a) SUNY leading the state in innovation & entrepreneurship, b) individualized education, enabled partially by "advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning," c) sustainability, or "our shared responsibility to preserve civilization", and d) partnerships with industry, government agencies, non-profit foundations, and international organizations.

Additionally, the following are the resolutions that were passed that may interest our community, with links to their description:

Support services for undocumented students - <https://goo.gl/QK4sz2>

Graduate/Research: Diversity Post-docs - <https://goo.gl/PScU8D>
Operations: International students advising - <https://goo.gl/ikheTj>
Undergraduate: Definition of liberal arts - <https://goo.gl/2WqvP2>

III. Recommendations for actions

General deadline for submitting proposals to be considered by the appropriate councils or sub-committee, as the case may require, is recommended to be 10 days before the meeting of the corresponding body.

IV. Announcements

- Provost Stellar requested comments on the Strategic Plan be sent to him by e-mail.
- A budget presentation can be found on MyUAlbany, under the Financial tab, Presentations sub-folder.
- 2018 President's Awards for Exemplary Public Engagement
- Nomination deadline: Saturday, February 10, 2018 - Mary Hunt
- All news and stories should be directed to Jordan Carleo-Evangelist, Director Communications & State Relations.
- SUNY wide Advising Conference at UAlbany - Feb 23 <https://advisingsuny.wordpress.com/>
- **SAVE THE DATE:**
 - Senate Forum of Gender Equity and Inclusion, February 13th.
 - Senate Forum of The State of Arts and Humanity, March 21th.
 - **Spring Faculty Address**, April 3rd at 1:00 pm in the Campus Center Ballroom.
 - Senate Forum on The State of IT on Campus, April 10th.
- March 2nd: SUNY Voices Conference: Middle States & Shared Governance, 10:00-4:30, SUNY Administration, Albany, NY
- April 1st: Date planned for Strategic Plans to be submitted.
- **President's Inauguration; April 13th.**
- SUNY Undergraduate Research Symposium 2018: Friday, April 20th at Oneonta, and Saturday, April 21th at Monroe County Community College.

Chair Reinhold added the following "Three Things for All Senators":

- *Volunteer for Service in the Senate. If your term is ending during Spring 2018 and you intend to continue serving in the Senate, please add your name to the volunteer list. Please share with Council/Committees members.*
- *Invite others to serve on the Senate. Early next semester we will need nominations for Senators at Large. And we'll recruit volunteers for service in councils & committees.*
- *Get involved in SUNY Days*

The chair reviewed her written report, highlighting deadlines and "save the date" items. She added to this list ODI's 'Conversations for Change' on February 22, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. In order to provide feedback on the Strategic Plan presentation, she asked that the audience bring Smartphones to the next Senate meeting. Lastly, Chair Reinhold announced that UUP and Senate Officers had sent an open letter to the Provost addressing concern regarding the allocation of the budget and strategic planning.

OTHER REPORTS

UFS (University Faculty Senate) – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little & Latonia Spencer, SUNY Senators

- Several resolutions were discussed at length and passed. A couple of the resolutions had to do with internal functioning of the University Faculty Senate (Bylaws and such) and are not included below.

Only one resolution was returned to committee for further review; that was the last resolution on use of military rank at graduation ceremonies; some wording confirmations were needed.

Summary of Resolutions (as communication with, and recommendations for, the Chancellor and SUNY System Administration)

- Support Services and Best Practices with Regard to Undocumented Students (passed)
 - that System designate an Undocumented/DACA Advisor
 - that the System wide Diversity Advisory Council create a subgroup to look into matters pertaining to undocumented students
 - **that each campus identify a point person for resources for undocumented students**
 - that System convene a meeting of campus contacts to discuss best practices and provide training
 - that System support a SUNY Dreamers Student Association where supports and resources can be shared
 - **that campuses take undocumented student concerns into account when planning emergency procedures**
 - **that campuses develop alternative scholarship opportunities for undocumented students**
 - that System provide an FAQ on undocumented student concerns

- Verification of Campus Governance Consultation on Academic Program Actions (passed)
 - **that campuses establish faculty consultation procedures with regard to academic actions**
 - that the Chancellor ensure Academic Officers work closely with faculty on academic program decisions
 - **that all academic program actions require the signature of the campus governance leader to attest that consultation processes have taken place**
 - that all involved work together to ensure no delay in the process

- SUNY Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (passed)
 - that System develop and fund a Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship program
 - that System provide incentives for the hiring of such Fellows within SUNY

- Recommendations for Academic Advisors regarding International Students (passed)
 - **that campus governance bodies ensure that academic advisors are informed of concerns related to international students, that they refer students to the international education office, and that they are aware of how registrations can impact visa status**
 - **that campus governance bodies ensure there is a process through which advisors can know which students are officially international students**

- Re-examining the Definition of Liberal Arts Courses (passed)
 - that the Chancellor request re-examination and updating of the definitions for liberal arts courses

- Option to Include Military Rank at Graduation Ceremonies (returned to committee to confirm accuracy of terms used in the resolution)
 - **that students who wish to include their military rank when announced at graduation may be permitted to do so**

The above is based on the original versions of the resolutions. Final versions of the resolutions including any amendments discussed and approved during the Plenary will be available on the UFS website soon.

GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Dawn Wharram, Lead Senator

- Nothing to report

Senator Wharram reviewed additions to her report, submitted as follows:

Provost Stellar and VP for Student Affairs Christakis visited the GSA Assembly meeting on Friday, February 2 to give an update on the Strategic Plan and request feedback. On Thursday, February 8, President Rodriguez will host a Presidential Town Hall for both undergraduates and graduate students at 7:30pm in the Campus Center West Wing Multi-Purpose Room. Additionally, SUNY Student Assembly has organized a Higher Ed Advocacy Day on February 28 for students, staff, and faculty from around New York State to advocate on policies concerning greater state investment in state operated-campuses, increased funding for community colleges, support for mental health tele-counseling, and support for the three SUNY operated hospitals.

SA (Student Association) – Jerlisa Fontaine, President

- Nothing reported

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Istvan Kecskes, Chair, Mary Ellen Mallia Co-Chair

- Nothing reported

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Carol Jewell, Chair

1. Informational: CAFFECOR have been discussing, via email, the AAUP's listserv discussion on academic freedom and targeted harassment. A suggestion was made that perhaps we need to have a forum on this topic.
2. Reports of Actions: None taken at this time.
3. Recommendations for Actions: CAFFECOR will continue this discussion.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – David G. Wagner, Chair

- Nothing to report

COR (Council on Research) – Robert Rosenswig, Chair

- Nothing reported

COR Chair Rosenswig added that the council had sent recommendations on FRAPPE and other awards to the VPR.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Jim Hargett, Chair

- Nothing to report

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Sean Rafferty, Chair

- Nothing to report

GOV (Governance Council) – Jim Mower, Chair

- I attended the State of SUNY address on 1/22/2017 given by SUNY Chancellor Christine Johnson. The Chancellor outlined 4 themes for her administration:
 1. Innovation and Entrepreneurship
 - a. Emphasized importance of research in artificial intelligence and machine learning
 - b. Wants to increase cross-disciplinary research between engineering and liberal arts programs
 - c. Believes that it would be good to hire new early career faculty (noted that 40% of SUNY faculty are nearing retirement)
 2. Individualized Education
 - a. Would like to increase opportunities for lifelong learning (which she referred to as ‘just in time’ learning, given her statement that technical education has about a 5-year shelf life)
 - b. Committed herself to installation of food pantries on all 64 campuses
 3. Sustainability
 - a. Given that SUNY operates about 40% of all state buildings, wants to see campuses go green ahead of the Governor’s 2030 deadline. SUNY will work with NYSERDA to accomplish this.
 - b. Supports Excelsior program and student retention efforts
 4. Partnerships
 - a. Wants to establish partnerships down to the elementary school level
 - b. Would like to see increases in study abroad programs
 - c. Wants to establish a SUNY system-wide endowment similar to those in California and Texas

A transcript of her address is at <http://www.suny.edu/about/leadership/chancellor/speeches/sotus-2018/>

GOV Chair Mowers added that elections for at-large positions would take place this spring. He encouraged individuals to please let him know if they were interested in running and noted that he would be sending out information.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, & Computing) – Billie Franchini, Chair

- Nothing reported

Chair Franchini noted that LISC would be meeting the following morning for the first time this semester.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Karen Kiorpes, Chair & Christy Smith, Co-Chair

- UAC met on December 7. It was reported that:
 - Informatics will be moving to the College of Emergency Preparedness
 - The Global Distinction milestone was approved by the senate.
 - Currently, there are four majors and one minor in the pre-UAC proposal phase.
 - American Sign Language was approved for General Education requirements.
 - Policies on exceptions for course withdrawal deadlines and S/U exceptions have been reviewed. The same deadlines were approved for both and are to be implemented in Fall 2018.

Chair Karen Kiorpes reviewed additions to her report, submitted as follows:

UAC met for the first time this semester on 1 /25.

- The GenEd committee approved a GenEd course proposal and has an ongoing review of two Competencies Plans
- Academic Standing held two full days of meetings in early January to consider appeals from undergraduates who were academically dismissed. At the end of the appeal period, 167 students were dismissed.
- Interdisciplinary Studies approved 14 University Wide Internships and two Student Initiated Interdisciplinary Majors.
- Curriculum and Honors expects to be reviewing revisions to at least three existing majors still at the college/school level. At least three new majors are in development at the college/school level.
- Proposed changes to the Digital Forensics program in the School of Business were explained by Prof. Sanjay Goel. They were in response to NSA for accreditation and to developments in the field. Goel was asked to meet with Dean Griffith regarding course overlap with the Informatics major.
- Three proposals for combined BS/MS programs in the School of Education were approved for the undergraduate major in Human Development.

ULC (University Life Council) – Ekow King, Chair

- Nothing to report

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – James Collins, Chair

- Nothing to report

Chair Collins reported that UPPC had met on January 31, and he reviewed the following additions to his report:

SUNY-wide resolution on Indigenous People's Day referred to ULC.

Academic preparation of students - Had long discussion on Institutional Research data and generated questions on how students are changing. Asked for additional data on students in the Living and Learning Communities and the Honor's College, as well as on the Academic Dismissals (from UAC)

Resource Analysis and Planning Committee – December 13 approved recommendations:

- o That the Office of Graduate Studies survey graduate departments to determine which are interested in having assistance in increasing international graduate enrollment and to create a designated graduate international recruitment position which would interface with the existing international recruitment infrastructure at CIEGS to recruit for departments which choose to participate.
- o That the relevant office within Campus Planning Committee offer timely forums to affected faculty and staff when facilities changes are planned, scheduling such forums well in advance of actual changes, and remind supervisors and academic department chairs of the importance of timely discussion opportunities for the faculty and staff they supervise.

Reminder regarding the Senate Forum on Gender Equity and Inclusion at the University on February 13th 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. in the Campus Center West Multi-Use Room

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of changes in Council memberships and election of senators

LISC

Len Slade

Lenore Horowitz

UPPC

Ray Bromley

GSA Senator

Amani Edwards

A motion was made to approve the above council membership changes and election of senators, with the following voting results: Approved 37, Opposed 0, Abstained 1

ADJOURNMENT

The Senate adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder