

**UNIVERSITY POLICY AND PLANNING COUNCIL
2010-11 CHAIR: R. MICHAEL RANGE**

**DECEMBER 17, 2010
MEETING MINUTES**

PRESENT: R. Bangert-Drowns, T. Bessette, N. Fahrenkopf, P. Ferlo, J. Fossett, R. Johnson, C. Lenart, E. Lifshin, T. Price, R. Michael Range, B. Shaw, D. Wagner, J. Welch, G. Williams

GUESTS: Elga Wulfert, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

MINUTES: Minutes of December 3, 2010 approved as written

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

No report was given

CHAIR'S REPORT

No report was given

NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSAL TO SUSPEND JUDAIC STUDIES MAJOR AND HONORS PROGRAM

Chair Range welcomed Dean Elga Wulfert to discuss the proposal. Dean Wulfert explained that CAS has been following the Jewish Studies major over time. Enrollment numbers have consistently failed to meet the minimum program enrollment requirements. Departmental faculty numbers have atrophied over the years, with a current complement of one. Department founder Mark Raider, who was the driving force behind recruitment for the department, left the university in 2001. The single remaining faculty member will be integrated into the History department. Discussions regarding dissolution of the department have been ongoing for some time. Dean Wulfert would like to create an interdisciplinary program within the next three years. There is an independent Jewish Studies center, which will remain, as will the minor option. For the time being, a moratorium on enrollment in the major is the logical course of action. Dr. Wagner moved to accept the proposal; unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

HISTORICAL ALL-FUNDS BUDGET DATA

Chair Range initiated discussion regarding the presentation at the December 3rd meeting. Dr. Wagner brought up two things – the degree to which we are hamstrung by external (budget) factors over which we have no control and that partly as a result of the external constraints, we have to adapt to external accounting sources. Dr. Fossett asked the council for advice on the bottom line – what information does the council need in order to do its due diligence in this regard, and what we need to know as a committee. We are not in a position to do a fishing expedition; we need a clear idea of what questions we need answered. Dr. Fossett sees

UPPC's role as being an authenticator to the larger university community – here's where it comes from and here's where it goes; as we move forward in the debate about where our spending goes in the broad categories, we need to identify what is movable and what is not. Dr. Fossett took a moment to express appreciation to Dr. Range for his efforts as chair to move this forward. Dr. Wagner posed a question as to the relationship with CNSE and the degree to which we are getting resources relative to what we are providing to them, and also asked about the transferability of funds from one area to another and degree to which we are using every resource in our power to transfer funds to the academic side of the house. Dr. Lifshin asked if there was a (theoretical) pot of money somewhere that could be used to support the academic mission, what role would UPPC have in suggesting an allocation for those funds. Dr. Fossett noted that there is a difference between being powerless and heavily constrained. We have had lot of funding pulled out; assigning blame is a troubling proposition. Dr. Welch stated he would like to understand how we arrived at this critical point in order to understand how we can get out of it. Dr. Fossett added that a great deal of this has to do with how these constraints have interacted with our particular situation. Mr. Fahrenkopf brought up that one of our differences is that other SUNY's have started as private institutions with significantly larger endowments. Mr. Williams agreed that endowments other campuses have is a factor in their ability to weather the storm.

Historically, the BAP (Budget Allocation Process) has guided campus allocations in the past, but there is a large political factor involved. We need a measure of not only income and expense, but where surpluses are located. Campus and department IFR's provide discretionary monies that can be rolled over, but much of it is 'promised', and is not fungible. Dr. Range noted that regular budget data has not been provided since the early 2000's (UPPC has recently received historical state information from the Office of Financial Management and Budget). Dr. Range hopes that the council will continue to seek current and historical budget data in order to get a better handle on the financial condition of the campus, and would like to assist the President in identifying resources that could be reallocated to help Academic Affairs.

Dr. Range posed further questions regarding IFR accounts. Grant money includes salary and fringe; faculty get release time for research, but stay on state payroll. Sponsor money goes into IFR account and fringe is charged. He would like to see how much fringe money goes into departmental IFR's, and how much we pay back out in fringe for TA's or adjuncts. ¹ Dr. Johnson queried whether we might be going down a path where we might be discouraging buyout activity if we sweep the IFR's, if that is possible. Dr. Lifshin added that role that the council seems to be taking on is to evaluate policies of others, and to what extent does the administration view that as their purview – are we trying to second guess the administration? It is not the job of UPPC to do their job. Dr. Fossett asserted that our job is to lay out the situation to our colleagues and to give people a decent view of how much control we have. Dr. Lifshin asked about the role of faculty governance in taking responsibility for the academic program, and how far are we going into the non-academic realm. Dr. Range cited the UPPC bylaw, which is to look at academic, research and service components. Dr. Fossett added that big chunks of the budget (DIFR) are earmarked for non-academic enterprises. They are a claim on resources that we are obligated to observe, and we are dependent upon others to maintain the infrastructure of the university, and it is important that this enterprise is done well. Mr. Williams noted that the broader role of University Senate has been in place since 1969. Dean Bangert-Drowns – looking at the

University charter, UPPC should be informed of, discuss and review academic programs, continuance, etc., whereas RAPC (Resource Analysis and Planning Committee) is the subcommittee that should review the budget data that this council as the whole has been looking at.ⁱⁱ Mr. Williams responded that the charter calls for UPPC to review strategic and budget goals. Dr. Welch asked if the decision to build new dormitories would therefore be under UPPC's purview,

Meeting adjourned at 4:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Stern

ⁱ IFR accounts are assessed in three categories: Fringe Benefits, Administrative Overhead and Maintenance & Operations (M&O) Overhead. These assessments are reflected monthly as a reduction to revenue in the Accounting Reports.

Assessment for fringe benefits is charged on expenditures for all full and part time staff *and* teaching assistants charged to IFR accounts. The fringe benefit assessment is not charged on expenses for graduate assistants, student assistants or honorarium.

Excerpted from the Office of Financial Management and Budget web page, http://www.albany.edu/finmgmt/policies_procedures.html#6J

ⁱⁱ Excerpted from Charter of the University Senate, rev. 3/26/2010

X.2. UNIVERSITY PLANNING AND POLICY COUNCIL

X.2.1. Composition:

X.2.1.1. The President of the University, *ex officio*.

X.2.1.2. The Provost, *ex officio*.

X.2.1.3. The Vice President for Finance and Business, *ex officio*.

X.2.1.4 The elected representative of the Council of Deans, *ex officio*. [added by amendment 10/25/04]

X.2.1.5. The Chair of the Senate

X.2.1.6. The Past Chair of the Senate

X.2.1.7. At least eight and not more than ten Teaching Faculty, at least four of whom must be Senators.

X.2.1.8. At least two, but not more than three Professional Faculty, including at least one Senator.

X.2.1.9. One graduate student and one undergraduate student, both of whom must be Senators.

X.2.1.10. No more than 2 voting members selected from Faculty or Staff who are not students or Voting Faculty.

X.2.1.11. Staff support for the Council shall be designated by the Vice President of Finance and Business. [added by amendment 5/2/05]

X.2.2. The chair of the Council shall be the Past Chair of the Senate, or if unavailable, shall be elected from among the Senators.

X.2.3. The Council shall have the responsibility for the oversight and development of the educational, research and service programs of the University. The Council shall coordinate with other Senate councils and with academic,

governance, and administrative units, as appropriate, in carrying out this responsibility. The Council shall make policy recommendations to the Senate.

X.2.4. The Council as a whole shall be informed of and given opportunity to discuss, at the earliest possible stages in their formulation, and shall review, with respect to strategic and budgetary goals, prior to their adoption, proposals for new academic programs and actions affecting continuance of existing programs. The Council shall make recommendations regarding such proposals to the Senate for its approval.

X.2.4.1. The Council shall recommend dates for implementing new programs or discontinuing existing programs.

X.2.4.2. The Senate Executive Committee shall coordinate program review procedures involving the Undergraduate Academic Council, the Graduate Academic Council, and the Assessment Council, as appropriate.

X.2.5. The Council as a whole shall be informed of and given opportunity to discuss, at the earliest possible stages in their formulation, and shall review, with respect to strategic and budgetary goals, proposals for new research programs, centers and facilities and actions affecting continuance of existing programs. The Council shall make recommendations regarding such proposals to the Senate, which shall review them prior to their adoption. The Senate Executive Committee shall coordinate program review procedures with the Research Council, as appropriate.

X.2.6. The Council shall be consulted both on the size and general composition of the student body and shall make recommendations to the Senate for review.

X.2.7. The Council shall, in consultation with the Registrar and other appropriate parties, make recommendations to the Senate for changes in the academic calendar policy.

X.2.8. The Council shall seek formal representation on budget advisory bodies established by the President and Provost, and its representatives shall report to the Council in order to facilitate the Council's review and advice.

X.2.9. Resource Analysis and Planning Committee

X.2.9.1. The Resource Analysis and Planning Committee shall review important recent trends and developments in the University budget, including changes in funding sources and expenditures. It also shall review the development and implementation of the University's Strategic Plan. As appropriate, it shall make recommendations to the University Planning and Policy Council.

X.2.9.2. The Committee shall include the Vice President of Finance and Business, *ex officio*, or designee.

X.2.9.3. The Committee shall include at least 6 and no more than 8 teaching faculty appointed by the Governance Council, including at least 3 Council members, 2 of whom are Senators, and no more than 2 voting members selected from Faculty or Staff who are not students or Voting Faculty.

X.2.9.4. The Committee shall include 1 Professional Faculty member, appointed by the Governance Council.

X.2.9.5. The Committee shall include 1 undergraduate student selected by the Student Association and 1 graduate student selected by the Graduate Student Organization.

X.2.9.6. The Committee shall submit recommendations to the Council for approval for submission to the Senate.

X.2.9.7. The chair shall be elected from among the Council members.

X.2.10. University Facilities Committee

X.2.10.1. The University Facilities Committee shall review master planning, including planning for major new buildings and facilities; the operation of facilities; renovation; and management, including traffic, transportation, and parking. As appropriate, it shall make recommendations to the University Planning and Policy Council.

X.2.10.2. The Committee shall include the Vice President of Finance and Business or designee, *ex officio*.

X.2.10.3. The Committee shall include at least 4 and not more than 6 teaching faculty, at least 2 of whom are Council members with at least 1 Senator, at least 1 and not more than 2 Professional Faculty, to be appointed by the chair of the Council in consultation with the governance Council, and no more than 2 voting members selected from Faculty or Staff who are not students or Voting Faculty.

X.2.10.4. The Committee shall include 1 undergraduate student and 1 graduate student.

X.2.10.5. The chair shall be elected from among the Council members.