

## 2010-2011 University Senate

**Monday, February 14, 2011  
3:30 pm, Campus Center Assembly Hall**

Eric Lifshin, Chair

### Minutes

**Present:** J. Philippe Abraham, Sandra Austin, Hassaram Bakhru, Robert Bangert-Drowns, Bryant Barksdale, Brea Barthel, Tom Bessette, Scott Birge, Brian Butcher, Lana Cable, JoAnne Carson, James Castracane, Vishnu Chaturvedi, James Dias, Sue Faerman, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, Susanna Fessler, James Fossett, Cynthia Fox, Elizabeth Gaffney, Timothy Groves, Kristen Hessler, Michael Jaromin, Richard Johnson, Janine Jurkowski, Donald Keenan, Ryan King, Laurence Kranich, Vincent LaBella, Kajal Lahiri, William Lanford, Fernando Leiva, Danielle Leonard, Eric Lifshin, Andi Lyons, JoAnne Malatesta, Richard Matyi, Candace Merbler, John Monfasani, Janell Hobson, John Murphy, Nancy Newman, Heidi Nicholls, Julie Novkov, Dana Peterson, John Pipkin, Tremayne Price, Katie Reed, Joan Savitt, John Schmidt, Charles P. Scholes, Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Hany Shawky, Leonard Slade, Lorre Smith, Fotini Spero, Kabel Nathan Stanwicks, Christine Wagner, Justin Wax Jacobs, Daniel White, Kevin Williams

**Guests:** Ray Bromley, Sanjay Goel, William Hedberg, Reed Hoyt, Robert Keesee, Wayne Locust, Tamra Minor, Samantha Ramcharitar, Helene Scheck, Daniel Smith, Matt Spangler, Bruce Szelest, Sarah Taylor, Edelgard Wulfert

The meeting convened at 3:30 pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 13, 2010 were approved.

### **PROVOST'S REPORT -- SUSAN PHILLIPS**

Provost Phillips reported on behalf of President Philip who was unable to attend, welcoming everyone back.

### **Budget:**

The Provost began the report by addressing the budget. She thanked the Senate and everyone who has provided constructive suggestions that will inform the decision making process. The State Executive Budget was released on February 1 for the year beginning July 1, with substantial reductions to SUNY. SUNY wide, the reduction is \$131 million with an estimated reduction to UAlbany of \$4.5 million, assuming the same formula is used as last year. Governor Cuomo is not calling for a tuition increase. Chancellor Zimpher has asked for restoration of the massive reductions in state aid, a comprehensive five year tuition plan and flexibility in procurement of goods.

President Philip launched BAG 4 which is in compliance with the University Senate Bylaws. While a strong case has been made for restoration of state funds and flexibility with the state, the University is planning for the worst. BAG4 will address two tasks--the budget in the near term for 2011-12, and the second task will go beyond 2011-12 to consider what UAlbany might look like at the end of the process. Such considerations will include the condition of capital facilities and how to sustain our strengths. The President has requested recommendations from BAG 4 by the beginning of April. Regular reports will be made to the Senate by UPPC Chair James Fossett. While the

budget year is likely to be difficult, the Provost said she believes the campus community will move forward with a good plan using fewer resources.

The campus strategic plan was launched in January with six key goals:

- Enhance the quality of undergraduate education at UAlbany and attract and serve a highly qualified and diverse group of students;
- Create an excellent student experience that integrates academic and co-curricular experiences, engages the surrounding community and the world, and fosters lifelong pride in the University;
- Advance excellence in graduate education in support of the University's reputation, role, and stature and the preparation and competitiveness of graduates;
- Increase UAlbany's visibility in, and resources for, advancing and disseminating knowledge, discovery and scholarship;
- Add to, and reconfigure, our teaching, research, student life and support spaces in a manner compatible with our contemporary mission;
- Engage diverse communities in strategic partnerships to increase public, scholarly and economic benefits

An implementation plan will be set up in the coming weeks.

### **Enrollment Management:**

- Freshman applications for fall 2011 total 19, 096 compared to 19, 850 this time last year, which is a decrease of 4%. The decline reflects a projected 5% decline in NYS high school senior, although less than projected.
- The number of admitted freshman for fall 2011 is 6, 118. This figure represents a 9% increase from last year.
- The applicant pool is somewhat stronger academically. We have admitted 11.3% more Group One students which includes a 15% increase in Admitted Presidential Scholars.
- Admissions activities will continue over the next several weeks, including the traditional spring yield activities in March and April. Faculty support of these activities is very much appreciated.

### **University-wide News:**

- Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine has ranked UAlbany as one of the 100 'Best Value' Schools with a ranking of 43<sup>rd</sup> best public education value for out-of-state students and 73<sup>rd</sup> best value for in-state students for 2011.
- UAlbany's celebration of Black History Month included a lecture by Dr. Julianne Malveaux at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King event. Dr. Malveaux is the president of Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, NC.
- The University Libraries' Department of Special Collections and Archives has been awarded an \$18,000 grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The award will allow the department to inventory, preserve and make accessible the WAMC/Northeast Public Radio Archive.
- Professor of Chemistry Igor Lednev has been appointed as an advisory member to the White House Subcommittee on Forensic Science's Inter-agency Working Group on Research Development.
- Economics Professors Kajil Lahiri and Pinka Chatterji were part of a study fund by a \$1.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. The award was made to the University's Center for the Elimination of Minority Health Disparities for research aimed at eliminating health inequalities.
- In the Music Department, Albin Zak's book "I Don't Sound Like Nobody: Remaking Music in 1950's American" was reviewed by *The Wall Street Journal*.
- Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences Department recently launched a weather blog.

- The AACSB Accreditation teams has recommended extending the of School of Business accreditation. The University is one of only three public universities in New York State with dual AACSB accreditation in business administration and accounting.
- Susan Hildreth, MLS '73, has been nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the US Senate as the Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services.
- Bruce Saddler and Kristie Saddler from educational and Counseling Psychology received a one-year \$50,000 grant from WestEd (US Department of Education) for a project that will incorporate “Doing What Works” info and tool into courses for master’s degree special education.
- President Philip recently announced the selection of Microsoft Live@edu as the provider of new e-mail, calendaring and collaboration service for the entire campus community. Implementation is expected to begin immediately.
- The University Counseling Center received a Service to Science Initiative Grant of \$30,000 to focus on evaluating the judicial referral portion of the national award winning STEPS alcohol prevention program.
- Research Scientist James A. Dias has been named Vice President for Research at UAlbany. Dr. Dias was appointed interim Vice President in fall 2009 succeeding Lynn Videka.
- The College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering announced that it has received approximately \$5 million in federal funding awards supporting innovative research.

Provost Phillip concluded the report. She said many challenges lie ahead and thanked everyone for their strong support of the University.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 13 were approved.

### **SENATE CHAIR’S REPORT – ERIC LIFSHIN**

Chair Lifshin announce the dates of the Spring Faculty Meeting (April 6) and the Excellence Awards (May 3). Both events are scheduled to begin at 2:30 pm on the respective dates. The Chair reported that the ad hoc revenue committee convened its first meeting last week and is expected to meet again in about a week. Anyone who might be interested in serving on the committee should contact Chair Lifshin.

### **OTHER REPORTS**

#### **SUNY-WIDE SENATE REPORT – J. PHILIPPE ABRAHAM, SHADI SHAHEDIPOUR-SANDVIK AND DANIEL WHITE**

*Copies of the SUNY report were available at the sign in table.*

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION REPORT – HEIDI NICHOLLS**

Over the break the GSO added an additional computer, updated the programming systems and revamped the overall space for ease of use and to encourage both a study and community environment. A persistent problem is the carrying capacity of our printer since our volume has increased 150% since last year. We have already held two kick off events, one a meditation and art of living seminar and the other a dinner in the Patroon Room. We have also had to say goodbye to one of our Senators, Paulina Barrios, as she moves onto new exciting endeavors. We hope to fill her position as senator and seat on CPCA by the end of next week. Our first Assembly Meeting of the semester will be held on February 4 where we will be voting on the amendments proposed by the Executive Board regarding date and wording concerns in our Constitution and By-Laws. As for the rest of the semester there are exciting events such as Family Fun Day at Six Flags, GSO Mixer downtown, 2nd Kickball Tournament, a Graduate Student Forum, Salsa Lessons, and the continuance of the Graduate Student Brown Bag Series.

Ms. Nicholls noted changes in GSO student representatives. Paulina Berrios is no longer a senator but has replaced by Fotini Spero.

## **STUDENT ASSOCIATION REPORT -- JUSTIN WAX JACOBS**

Student Association Senate Chair, Tremayne Price delivered the report. In response to the upcoming budget process, student groups are turning in their budget packets. The budget process was changed recently and now includes an appeals process. SA is working with Student Involvement on the logistics of the new campus recreation department. Students will vote this spring on the student activity fee which is required every two years. Students will decide if the fee should be mandatory or voluntary and will vote on raising the fee. Students will vote on a referendum to redo the SA constitution which is out of date and does not reflect the current operations of the SA. Chair Price announced that former President Bill Clinton will be featured in the next installment of the SA speaker series. The event is sold out to students as well as to faculty and staff. SA would like to continue the series but at this point it is not sustainable. SA is looking for alternative sources of funding as well as contemplating having one speaker per year instead of two.

Chair Lifshin addressed a comment made by SA President Justin Wax Jacobs at the most recent meeting of BAG 4 in which Mr. Wax Jacobs had reported that professors were venting their dissatisfaction over the current financial situation. Mr. Wax Jacobs spoke to Senate members and said students have been voicing concerns about these conversations taking place in class. He mentioned one report that a professor said the administration is destroying the school, and other negative comments are being reported. Mr. Wax Jacobs wanted to communicate to the faculty that the classroom was not the appropriate place for this type of discussion and should be kept between the faculty and administration without drawing students in the fray. He also said it was inappropriate for professors to say they would not hold class on a day when a walk out is scheduled.

## **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) - Richard Matyi, Chair**

1. The CAA Academic Program Review Committee has completed its draft report on the 2010 self study and external review for the Africana Studies Department's undergraduate and graduate degree programs. A final version of the report is in preparation.
2. The CAA PRC has received the response from the Music Department regarding its external review of its self-study. Final review of Music by the PRC is in progress.
3. The CAA participated in the review of the Gen Ed Task Force held by the UAC Gen Ed Committee.
4. The CAA is currently working with Joel Bloom of IRPE on the distribution of the new Math Gen Ed form being distributed to the Math Department.

CAA is reviewing the final report on Africana Studies and has a written draft on the psychology program. CAA is seeking a replacement for one of its members.

### **CAFFECor (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) - Pradeep Haldar, Chair**

Next meeting is scheduled for last week in February.

### **CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) - John Monfasani, Chair**

After conferencing with University Counsel in December and January, CERS has completed the revised CERS policy text and will present it to the University Senate for a vote.

### **COR (Council on Research) - James Castracane, Chair**

Our January meeting of COR was canceled due to the snowstorm. We will meet again in February 16<sup>th</sup>.

The FRAP A subcommittee met and reviewed/ranked the submitted proposals. A final email vote will happen early next week and recommendations to the VPR will be made.

COR received 24 applications for the FRAP A awards which were forwarded to the Vice President for Research for recommendation; 13 grants were awarded.

## **CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) - Vincent LaBella, Chair**

Several members have left CPCA due to retirements, sabbaticals, or for other reasons. This includes David Wills, Branca Arsic, Gary Yukl, and graduate student Paulina Berrios. We have added two new members including Glyne Griffith and Lee Bickmore. In addition Sandra Vergari comes back to the council this spring after being on sabbatical this past fall. We are in the process of evaluating the council membership and deciding if more members need to be added. Our first meeting of the New Year will be on Feb 10th.

## **GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Laurence Kranich, Chair**

GAC met on January 24 to continue its consideration of CAA program assessments. In addition, the Council was informed by the Dean of Graduate Studies that the graduate student support allocations for 2011-12 have been made. All programs have been adversely affected. The average budget cut across departments was 15%. The Chair of GAC's Committee on Educational Policy and Procedure will serve on an ad hoc joint committee of UAC, GAC, CAFFECOR and Graduate Studies to review the violation of academic integrity policies. Finally, the Council resumed its discussion of CAA assessments at its meeting on February 11.

## **GOV (Governance Council) - Susanna Fessler, Chair**

Gov met for the first time this semester on January 27th. Our main order of business was reviewing the President's proposed slate of members of Budget Advisory Group 4. GOV approved 34 out of 43 members, and made suggestions for those member positions which it did not approve.

GOV also continues its work to follow up on Senate Resolution 0910-02. We are currently seeking one unit on campus which is willing to be a "pilot" group for the assessment process.

GOV met on Thursday, February 10, 2011. Agenda items were:

1. We reviewed data on the demographics of faculty in the University in our annual assessment of Senate seat distribution. Based on data from Fall 2010, in the next academic year one Senate seat will be lost by CAS, and one seat will be gained by Rockefeller. This change will take place in Sept. 2011.
2. Over the past month GOV met to review the proposed membership of the BAGIV. A majority of BAGIV members, as proposed by the President, were approved by GOV.
3. The assessment of administrators and administrative offices, as mandated by the Senate in Spring 2010, has been moving very slowly. GOV has come to a point where it will convene an ad hoc committee to run a pilot assessment. Further decisions about that ad hoc group are on the agenda for our next meeting.
4. Senate elections, leading up to Council Formation is underway. Secretary Bessette is chairing GOV (which is serving as a committee of the whole in the capacity of the Committee on Liaisons and Elections). GOV is focused on trying to follow the Charter, which requires Councils to be formed by the penultimate Senate meeting of this academic year.
5. The Charter Amendment on the Chairs of Senate Councils was discussed at length. In sum, GOV recognizes that disproportional representation among Council Chairs is problematic, but after much debate no legislative solution could be reached. GOV has decided to withdraw the Charter Amendment, but keep the issue "on the back burner" for re-evaluation in the next round of Senate elections.

## **LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) - Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Chair**

LISC met on Monday Dec. 13th. Amongst topics discussed were the new wiki space for "ITS campus community access" which includes matters of general interest along with strategic plan, resources in IT planning, teaching with technology and related external resources/articles. Blackboard survey data is available on the extent of use and the result of student attitudes and features they value the most. This survey will be posted on the wiki. It is also noteworthy that UAlbany's student newspaper, the ASP, is featured in the December 10, 2010 issue of the Scout Report <http://library.albany.edu/speccoll/findaids/studentnewspapers.htm>

The next meeting of LISC is scheduled for Feb. 14th. One of the topics to be discussed is "cloud computing".

## **UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) - JoAnne Malatesta, Chair**

UAC will convene on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Over the break, UAC voted to approve a bill regarding changes to the Journalism major which has been forwarded to UPPC. The General Education Committee has met and is beginning to evaluate the General Education Task Force recommendation. While we are working to convert the recommendation into proposed legislation, we are awaiting additional feedback from the Senate, Schools, and Colleges. Two new members have joined UAC – Lana Cable and Ineke Murakami. They will be replacing Steve North and Laura Wilder respectively.

UAC convened on February 4th and 9th. We have approved proposals regarding the following: updates to the Music minor, changes in the Financial Analyst Honors program, and the creation of an Entrepreneurship Concentration in the Business major. These bills will be forwarded to UPPC or SEC as appropriate. Additionally UAC continues to draft a bill based on the recommendations of the Senate appointed General Education Task Force. UAC reviewed and discussed at length the current general education proposal which calls for the adoption of the minimum "7 of 10" now authorized by the Board of Trustees. At the meeting on February 9th the UAC voted unanimously to reject the proposal. UAC members are currently drafting a more formal response to the bill which will likely be presented

to the Senate on Monday, February 14th.

*Chair Malatesta reported that Lana Cable has replaced Stephen North on the council.*

## **ULC (University Life Council) - Danielle Leonard, Chair**

ULC is now organizing its Spring 2011 schedule. Our first meeting will be the week of 2/7.

## **UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) - Jim Fossett, Chair**

Attention to two non-routine items

1. Budget consultation process—Conferring with GOV over membership of new BAG; BAG charter from President and nature of consultation process. UPPC membership will be included more or less in entirety on BAG; unclear at this point what precise request from President will look like and how entire process will work. Earlier BAGs have offered macro advice centering around need to avoid further across the board cuts and focus on strategic cuts which protect strong departments. BAG III didn't address department finances or how to define strong departments or identify those which are mission critical. Unclear how much more detail will be requested from BAG 4—criteria for further retrenchments in more detail or actually identifying departments which should be at risk or how far process will extend—offering advice to President on how should do it and/or reacting to Presidential decisions when those are actually made.

There is also some concern about how to lay out parameters of 11-12 budget choices for Senate and larger university community. There is a lot of misinformation and confusion about such issues as the status of CNSE, the fungibility of non-state funds in the university's all-funds budget; potential savings from athletics, and a variety of other issues, and someone needs to take responsibility for providing accurate information about how much free money there really is. The question is whether that someone is us or the administration.

2. Facilities management plan—An upcoming issue along these same lines is the university's facilities management plan, which goes into public comment phase on February 9. There doesn't seem to be any clear precedent for governance to weigh-in on this sort of process, which happened last in 1997. There is also the potential for complaints from the faculty and the media that the university can't be very poor if they can contemplate spending lots of money on capital while laying off faculty members. We have asked for an informational briefing from John Giarrusso, who's the UAlbany point person on this process, on the entire process and particularly the financing of new/renovated buildings. My understanding is that most of the capital financing comes from the SUNY system, and we save no money by not doing it, although we do assume financial responsibility for maintenance and the like once the buildings are in place.

*Chair Fossett informed the Senate that he will be reporting to the SEC and the Senate on a regular basis regarding BAG 4 deliberations. A written report will be generated soon from the most recent meeting.*

## **Comments re: BAG 4**

Chair Lifshin began the conversation and said he hoped to discuss what the relationship should be between governance and the Senate, and BAG 4. He said he saw options in the situation in which the senate could walk away from the decision making process on how to use the University's money, or decide what should stay or go based on the information that is obtained. The Senate is represented on BAG 4 by the full membership of UPPC which was approved by the Governance Council. The Chair wanted to make sure that the Senate membership is clear in its role. Senator Cynthia Fox from Languages, Literatures and Cultures addressed the Senate on the issue.

Senator Fox opened her remarks by revisiting Senate Resolution 1011-01 which stated that the Senate opposed deactivation of the Classics, French, Italian, and Russian, and Theatre programs; called upon President Philip to pursue a consultation process to address the budget shortfall that complies with the spirit and the letter of the Faculty Bylaws; and called up on the President to institute alternative cost saving measures that respect the absolute priority of academic programs. She stated that we have not seen a response to the resolution but hope that these views will be represented in any future budget deliberations. Senator Fox said the resolution referenced Article I, Section 2.2.2 of the Bylaws which states that "The Faculty shall be informed and given opportunity to discuss at the earliest possible states in their formulation, and shall review and provide formal consultation on, prior to adoption all proposals regarding creation, renaming, major re-organization, or dissolution of academic units and programs." She said it appeared quite clear that the Senate needs to have some kind of consultative role other than UPPC in order to encourage collegiality that the faculty be included as much as possible.

Senator Candace Merbler said that as a member of the Governance Council and a senator at-large, she elected not to participate in the nomination and voting for members of BAG 4. GOV has done its work but she said that BAG 4 needs to be as transparent as possible to every faculty and staff member on campus.

GAC Chair Kranich inquired as to what would be the means of communicating the deliberations of BAG 4 and whether or not they would be soliciting input from the rest of the university community. Provost Phillips said that members of BAG 4 would welcome input on how to navigate the questions of transparency. In the course of developing BAG 4, a number of issues were raised with GOV such as representation, and how to be both open and reasonably confidential. There is concern about discussing potential actions publicly which may not be necessary in the long run. She discussed the need to be able to have conversations about what is on the table without making people feeling targeted.

SUNY Senator Shahedipour-Sandvik's asked if the objective of BAG 4 was to advise the administration or represent the faculty. UPPC Chair Fossett responded that UPPC is a subset of the BAG 4 body that will advise on financial matters but does not represent any subset of interests. BAG 4 is not a constituency driven body but an attempt to represent a broad range of campus opinions. He said he believed that a broad range of views is present. Faculty members have further expressed their views through BAG 3, the Middle States Review and the Strategic Plan. Senator Lahiri said as a member of BAG 4, he believes that UPPC represents the Senate. His role is to advise and be fair to colleagues, but the President has to take final responsibility. Senator Cable said she believed the problem could be characterized by being sensitive to what is at stake and to ensure that adequate information is being provided to the members of BAG 4. Part of the problem with the last advisory group was a lack of understanding of the connectivity of the deactivated programs with the rest of the campus. Senator Cable said there needs to be an open and consultative process to ensure that all relevant information is available. Senator Leiva called for a process of consultation beyond BAG 3 and to consult with those who will be affected. He said transparency is required and we should involve as many as possible in the process. Chair Lifshin said he wanted to make sure that the points made today are communicated in writing and urged senators to communicate such to BAG 4. Provost Phillips supported Chair Lifshin's effort to obtain information from the Senate and said it would be helpful to the process

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Changes in Council Membership (Secretary Tom Bessette):**

Secretary Bessette announced the following changes in Senate membership:

#### **School of Business**

Professor Gary Yukl has left the school which now is minus one senator.

#### **School of Public Health**

Professors Dale Morse and Benjamin Shaw have left the school. Janine Jurkowski is the new senator to replace Professor Shaw.

#### **Graduate Students**

Senator Paulina Berrios has been replaced by Fotini Spero.

#### **English Department**

Lana Cable is the new senator for the spring semester.

Carla Meskill is a new senator for the spring semester from the School of Education. Secretary Bessette said that if councils have openings for a senator, they should consider Professor Meskill.

Secretary Bessette announced the following changes in the membership of the councils:

**COR:**

Vishnu Chaturvedi has been added to replace Dale Morse.

**CPCA:**

David Wills, Branca Arsic, Gary Yukl and Paulina Berrios are no longer on the council. Three new members have been added: Glyne Griffith, Lee Bickmore, and Fotini Spero. Sandra Vergari has returned after being on sabbatical for the fall semester.

**GOV:**

Jane Domaracki is no longer on the council. Holly Barker-Flynn has been added.

**UAC:**

Lana Cable has been added to replace Stephen North.

Gwen Moor has retired and is no longer on LISC. Secretary Bessette asked for a vote to approve the changes in Senate and council memberships. A motion was made, seconded and approved by a vote.

**Interim General Education Program (SUNY Senator Daniel White):**

SUNY Senator White said he was proposing the bill, in part, because as a SUNY Senator he could attest to the difficulties in student mobility. Transfer students, which make up 40% or more of our graduates, have difficulty graduating due to the general education requirements they did not fulfill. He made it clear that this would be an interim policy and he was in favor of having the faculty create its own policy. Senator White said this is an opportunity for greater flexibility and to break from the restraints of the policy that was mandated by the SUNY Board of Trustees in 1998. The general education task force that was approved by the Senate did their job and creation of a better system is in process. The process is not without difficulties and will require some vetting, but we need to be friendly to students and acknowledge that there is a financial crisis. He asked the Senate to consider this from a common sense point of view and create a general education policy in as short a time as possible. Chair Lifshin opened the floor for discussion of the bill.

Senator Leiva said he wished to discuss concerns from Latin America and Caribbean Studies. He urged the Senate to vote against the bill which he said represents a weakening to diversity and multiculturalism. He said it uses the current budget crisis over pedagogical concerns. Senator Leiva cautioned against expediency until there is time to assess the measure. He believes the proposal would have a detrimental effect on academics at the university.

Senator Lanford said the University has a history of excellent undergraduates which were the best but now we are below our peers. He said the current general education program contributes to discouraging the best from coming to UAlbany. He urged acceptance of the proposal from the perspective of parents, and students who may want to come here. He said a complex system could do damage by driving students away.

UAC Chair Malatesta said UAC has consulted this year and discussed what general education will mean going forward. The current program is not working as well as we would like. UAC was charged with reviewing possible changes to the Gen Eds in view of the Trustees' action permitting changes to the minimum requirements, upon which the Senate appointed a General Education Task Force. The resulting report was embraced by UAC and the Executive Committee. The report was referred to UAC to develop legislation and believed the principles of the task force should be given consideration. UAC is concerned about the quality of education for undergraduates and they understand the fiscal issues. She urged the Senate to let the task force and UAC finish their work.

A motion to table the bill was made and seconded. A vote was taken with 24 approving and 25 opposing tabling the bill. The motion failed and discussion continued.



Student Association President Wax-Jacobs said general education is a failed system and he has received letters and talked to students, the majority of who want change in the system.

Senator Cable spoke against the interim program which she said would mean significant loss to a university education. Students are being asked to choose a specialization before they have the intellectual maturity to do so. The interim program would undermine the PhD program in the English Department. Without general education courses, graduates would lose the benefit of training by specialist and students would be less marketable. She believed that the English department would find it difficult to maintain its research. The interim program would force students to jump through hoops and diminish the richness of the undergraduate experience. She strongly urged the Senate to vote no on the proposal.

A motion was made and seconded to close the debate and put the proposal to a vote. The vote for closing the debate resulted in 43 in favor and 6 opposed. The bill was then voted on without further discussion with 13 in favor and 35 opposed.

A vote was take and approved extending the meeting for 15 minutes.

### **Suspend Admissions to Major and Honors Program in Judaic Studies (UAC):**

UAC Chair Malatesta said the request to suspend the major and honors program in Judaic Studies came from both CAS and Judaic Studies as a result of only one remaining faculty member in the department. The faculty member will be absorbed into the History Department and has the approval of the chair of the History Department. There was no further discussion and a motion to approve the bill was made and seconded. The bill passed in the resulting vote.

### **Graduate Certificate in Information Security (GAC/UPPC):**

GAC Chair Kranich introduced the bill which comes from the School of Business. The proposal is to establish a 15 credit program targeting three distinct audiences: students from our partner university at Moscow State University, state employees and 15-20 students who would enroll partly in residence and partly on line. The program is expected to be self funding using existing faculty. The proposal has the support of both GAC and UPPC. A motion was made to approve the bill. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote.

### **Policy and Procedure on Misconduct in Research & Scholarship (CERS):**

CERS Chair Monfasani asked to table the vote since University Council John Reilly has presented some refinements and clarifications. The improved text does not change the content of the policy and he said it will be presented at the next meeting in March.

### **Revision to Major in Journalism (UAC):**

UAC Chair Malatesta introduced the bill. She said currently there are over 200 majors in the program and we are no longer able to sustain the requirements of the existing four tracks. The proposal would reduce the existing four concentrations and combine them into a single track major, and eliminate non-essential courses but there would not be any loss of existing faculty. There are five core courses which allow the program to conform to those that are nationally recognized. Senator John Pipkin said the proposal has strong support from the CAS Faculty Council. Senator Merbler asked Chair Malatesta if the program would result in any loss of faculty positions, to which Chair Malatesta responded there would not. A motion to approve the bill was made and seconded, and the bill was approved by a vote.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

## **Charter Amendment re: Chair of CPCA (GOV):**

The amendment was introduced at the December meeting and GOV Chair Fessler said she would answer questions anyone had.

Professor Ray Bromley spoke in support of the amendment on behalf of the CLUE group. The group is advisory to the Provost and looks at practices for approving promotions. The committee coordinates with CPCA and supported the rationale presented in the amendment.

CPCA Chair LaBella urged Senate members to vote against the amendment and provided an overview of what the chair does. Upon reviewing a file for promotion or continuing appointment, a vote is conducted by secret ballot and recommendations are made to the provost. If the vote results in a tie, the chair does not have the ability to break the tie and does not have the final say in a case. The chair does not control the timing of a case which is done by the candidate. During the Senate meeting in December, it was discussed that restricting the chair to full professor could be the first step of this process and there is potential for restricting the entire membership of CPCA to full professors. The campus has a large number of associate professors and they need to show leadership before they can advance to full professors. Restricting the chair to full professor could have an effect on demographics such as gender lines as well as small departments that have a fewer numbers of full professors.

Senator Novkov did not support the bill. She said the most criteria for the CPCA chair is good judgment and experience. She continued, saying that CPCA does vital work and it's important that members of CPCA value each other's judgment. The chair keeps meetings on task, and the presentation of cases is done efficiently and effectively. She said this should take preference over academic rank. She expressed concern about being able to get full professors to serve.

GOV Chair Fessler provided data from Institutional Research on faculty representation: 35% are full professor, 39% are associate professors and 26% are assistant professors; of the full professors, 167 are male and 38 are female. She responded to a question about why the issue of the CPCA chair was being raised this year. She said the issue had been raised last spring during the meeting on council formation. CERS Chair Monfasani had voiced concern about CPCA at that time and she made a note to address the issue. She clarified that it had been raised before the current chair was elected. She informed the Senate that the CAS faculty council requires five of its nine members for the tenure and promotion committee be full professors and they are able to meet that number each year.

Senator Bakhru spoke against the amendment. As a member of CERS, he said it is difficult getting a quorum of full professors on the committee and did not see the amendment as being practical. With 30-40 faculty members applying for tenure and promotion each year, CPCA is kept very busy and needs to be fully staffed and sees obtaining full professors as problematic.

A reference was made from the minutes of December which indicated that a full librarian could also chair the council. A motion was made and seconded to add to the amendment to include full librarian and was approved by a vote.

With no further discussion the amendment was put to a vote that the chair of CPCA be a full professor and tenured, or a full librarian. The measure was defeated with 20 in favor and 21 opposed to the amendment.

Daniel Smith from CNSE was recognized and he asked to make a clarification concerning the general education task force. He said the Senate Executive Committee did not endorse the task force reports nor did it take any formal vote on the task force report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
Gail Cameron, Recorder