

## SENATE COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

Christian Poehlmann, Senate Secretary, University Senate

**Submitted for September 26, 2016 Senate Meeting:**

### UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – James Collins

#### I. Informational

of Staff Wirkkula and Vice Provost Bruce Szelest to discuss the administrative review process.

- b. Throughout the summer months (Incoming) Chair Collins met with the (Incoming) Vice Chair Reinhold and Senators Kressner, Janiszewski and Moslehi from the Senate's Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation to write the *Report on the 2016 Survey of Shared Governance*. A brief presentation of the report will be made to the Senate on October 26, and a Senate Forum on the report will be held later the same week.
- c. On June 6, the Interim Dean of CEAS distributed a memo announcing the reorganization of the information science disciplines within the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Chair Fox referred the matter to the Governance Council to determine whether formal consultation as required by University Senate Bylaws Article 1 Section 2.2.2 had taken place. The Governance Council met on June 15 and determined that the reorganization needed to be considered by UPPC, UAC, and GAC, before being referred to the Senate.
- d. On June 9, Senate leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry) had its first monthly leadership meeting with Provost Stellar and Chief of Staff Wirkkula since February. The topics discussed included formal consultation that needs to take place this summer, and especially the question of when UPPC will be brought into the Compact Planning process; compensation for contingent faculty representatives and for Senate Campus Governance Leadership; jawboning the Deans in support of the Senate; and administrative review of the statement that GOV prepared for the Senate website.
- e. On June 21, Senate leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry, Gulatee) met with incoming officers (Reinhold, Poehlmann) to prepare for leadership transition.
- f. On July 15, Senate leadership (Fox Collins, Stefl-Mabry) attended a meeting with Provost Stellar, Vice Provosts Hedberg and Szelest for formal consultation on a transition to permanence for the Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.
- g. On July 15, Senate leadership was informed that the Senate Vice Chair and the Immediate Past Chair will each receive one course release for the 2016-17 academic year.
- h. On July 19, President Jones called a meeting of Senate leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry) and the Council of Deans at which he announced his resignation from the University at Albany effective at the end of September.

- i. On July 18, Senate Leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry) received a request for nominations to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Drawing from Senate Leadership and Governance, a list of nominees were submitted on July 28.
- j. On July 21, (Incoming) Chair Collins and (Immediate Past) Chair Fox and several members of UPPC met in July with James Van Voorst, VP for Finances and Administration, to discuss the most recent (2015-2016) Compact Planning Process. We were informed that award decisions have been made, but not announced, and so we do not know how the CP funds were distributed. All parties agreed to improve the consultation process by involving the Senate and, in particular, UPPC, earlier in the process. This will likely entail at least one UPPC meeting over the summer.
- k. On July 27, Senate Leadership received a request for nominees to the Campus Recreation Advisory Board.
- l. On August 4, Senate leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry) and the Council of Deans participated in a meeting with SUNY Provost Andrew Cartwright. We were invited to forward recommendations for an internal candidate to be selected and named Interim President by the trustees at their meeting in mid-September. The individual selected will not be considered for the permanent position. Provost Cartwright also outlined the presidential search process which will be led by the University Council President Michael Castellana and completed so that a new president is in place in time for the next academic year.
- m. On August 9, Senate leadership (Fox, Collins, Stefl-Mabry) received a request from Provost Stellar for formal consultation on a transition to permanence for the Library Dean.
- n. On August 17, Incoming Senate Chair Collins wrote University Council Chair Michael Castellana to initiate communication regarding the upcoming search for a new President for the University.
- o. On August 22, Incoming Senate Chair Collins wrote University Council Chair Michael Castellana to request that the Presidential Search Committee be expanded to include an additional (7<sup>th</sup>) faculty member, a graduate student, and an additional (2<sup>nd</sup>) representative from the campus foundation board. The request is provided for in the current SUNY Guidelines.
- p. On August 29, Ronald Vero agreed to serve as the Senate Parliamentarian for 2016-2017.
- q. On September 2, Senate Chair Collins participated in a conference call with University Council Chair Michael Castellana and University Chief of Staff Leanne Wirkkula to discuss how to populate a Presidential Search Committee, pursuant to SUNY guidelines on the Presidential Search Process (as amended in June 22, 2016 Amendments to the Guidelines for Conducting Presidential Searches for State Operated Campuses). A primary topic was the nomination and selection of faculty representatives to the Presidential Search Committee. A division of labor in three parts was agreed to: University Council Chair Castellana will prepare a working guideline and timeline for the Presidential Search

process; Chief of Staff Wirkkula will include a call for faculty nominations in a general request for nominations to the Presidential Search Committee; and the Senate Governance Council will organize a list of submitted nominees, assist the Senate Secretary in conducting a secret ballot, and select the six faculty representatives to the search committee, based on vote tallies and Council-determined criteria to insure an inclusive search process.

- r. On September 7, Dean Shawky of the School of Business submitted a proposal to separate the Department of Information Technology Management into two separate departments for Senate consultation. Dean Boyer of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences submitted a proposal to merge the Departments of Informatics and Information Studies into one Department for Senate consultation.
- s. Campus Leadership meetings between the Provost's and President's Offices and the Senate Leadership Group (Collins, Fox, and Reinhold) are being scheduled.

## **II. Actions taken**

- a. CEAS proposal to merge Informatics and Information Studies into a Department of Information Science referred to UPPC, UAC, and GAC.
- b. School of Business proposal to divide Information Technology Management into Departments of Information Systems and Business Analytics and Information Security and Digital Forensics referred to UPPC, UAC, and GAC.

## **III. Recommendations for actions**

N/A

### **SUNY Senators' Report – (Diane Hamilton, Walter Little, Latonia Spencer)**

On September 15 and 16, the SUNY Faculty Executive Committee and the various SUNY faculty committees met at the Desmond Hotel, Albany to plan their business goals for the coming year. SUNY Faculty Senate business can be found on the its website: <http://system.suny.edu/facultysenate/>. Any campus concerns, questions, or items related to state senate business should be communicated to one of the SUNY Faculty Senators at UAlbany. There are a number of standing SUNY Faculty Senate committees (<http://system.suny.edu/facultysenate/committees/>). University faculty and staff members can volunteer to participate on these committees and direct participation helps ensure the campus has a place on shaping state policies related to our campuses.

Campuses are encouraged to nominate themselves for the Shared Governance Award (<http://system.suny.edu/academic-affairs/faculty-staff-awards/shared-governance-award/>). The deadline for receipt of nominations is Tuesday, November 15, 2016. Last year, only two campuses nominated themselves.

The SUNY Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, Senators, and Campus Governance Leaders will meet for 174th Fall Plenary Meeting on October 20-22, 2016 and hosted by SUNY Cortland.

**Graduate Student Organization Report – Jefferson Garcia, President –  
Nothingsubmitted**

**Student Association Report – Felix Abreu, President – Nothing submitted**

**CAA Report – James Mower, Chair**

CAA met on May 3, 2016 to review and vote for approval of 2 reports, as follows:

- 1) Assessment Report of the Department of Philosophy (approved)
- 2) Assessment Report of the Department of Psychology (approved)

## CAFFECOR – Carol Jewell, Chair

### 1. Informational

CAFFECOR held its first meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year on September 10, 2016. We discussed issues that CAFFECOR dealt with last year, namely, the academic freedom policy as it relates particularly to faculty and staff. We also discussed possible projects for this year, including (but not limited to) the academic freedom policy as it relates to students, and supplying new text for the undergraduate bulletin, stating the measures a student should take should they feel that their academic freedom has been hindered. We also discussed the two resolutions that we sent to the SEC.

### 2. Reports of Actions

N/A

### 3. Recommendations for Actions

Ng will share (with other members of CAFFECOR) the requirement for certain specific content areas that teaching faculty must include on their syllabi.

Jewell encouraged members to read the Committee minutes she sent out during the summer, and to bring forward any comments or questions to her.

The date for the next meeting has not yet been determined.

CERS – Nothing to Report – Michael Jerison, Chair

## CoR Faculty Senate Report – Daniele Fabris, Chair

CoR met on Mon, Sept 12. The main topic on the agenda was to constitute the various subcommittees that are part of CoR:

- Benevolent Awards Review
- Conference/Journal Support Awards Review
- FRAP-A Award Review
- Committee on Centers, Institutes and Specialized Research Laboratories
- Excellence in Research & Creative Activities Review

We are still short on required numbers. These subcommittees can include individuals that are not necessarily CoR members. Therefore, we are looking for volunteers outside CoR.

This year, in addition to supporting the work of the subcommittees and deliberate on their recommendations, CoR will continue the review of the documentation associated with these awards. In particular, we would like to help possible applicants by further clarifying the goals of the awards, the application requirements, and the criteria used to review the proposals. Suggestions are typically advanced by the subcommittees, therefore participating in their work offers an excellent opportunity to shape the process.

This year, CoR will also continue the survey of centers/institutes initiated last semester by the Committee on Centers, Institutes etc. We found that many centers/institutes are listed on the VPR website, but are not active or exist anymore. For those that have not responded to direct inquiries, we will contact the proper College or unit that may have jurisdiction on them. The initial goal is to clean up the image of the research landscape, which we project on the outside, from outdated or incorrect information. Another goal is to look at the scope of these centers/institute and see if CoR could suggest any possible move to help.

CPCA – nothing to report – Louise-Anne McNutt, Chair

GAC – nothing to report – James Fossett, Chair

## Governance Council Report September, 2016 – Karin Reinhard, Chair

The Governance Council had its first meeting Sept 7th. This was an organizational meeting and a review of the council's charge for incoming members. The Council was informed of the state of the Presidential Search and the council's role in this case. We discussed the procedure to select senate representatives to the different committees and groups outside governance. A member proposed the discussion of how representatives for contingent faculty are selected. This is an item that the Council will examine this year. A member suggested that to increase the student participation in the Senate, we should invite the student paper to report on the Senate Meetings.

The University Council met on Sept 15<sup>th</sup>. These were the highlights: A) President Jones gave his last report emphasizing the accomplishments over his presidency: the creation of CEAS, the affiliation with Albany law School, expansion of Harriman Campus, improved student experience, increased public engagement. Interim President Stellar was introduced. B) A. Cartwright, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, explained the Presidential Search and Chancellor Search processes. The Presidential Search committee will be constituted as follows: four council members (including the chair), six members of the full-time teaching faculty, one student, one alumni representative, one campus-related foundation representative, one academic dean, and one professional or support staff member. Campuses with more than 10,000 students are allowed a larger representation and therefore our Senate is in conversation with the SUNY's administration to expand the representation of the faculty and students in order to have a more diversified representation in the search committee. More information about the search process for both positions, president and chancellor, can be obtained at SUNY.edu website. There you can also find the composition of the Chancellor Search Committee. C) F. Sanay, Vice President for University Development and Executive Director of UAlbany Foundation reported that University Development had raised 21 million last year, with a total of 55m million up to day, since the campaign started. The current campaign will end on Jan. 2019 with a target of 150 million.

The process for election of faculty and professional or staff representatives for the Presidential Search Committee will start shortly with contributions of the full faculty and professional and staff bodies. Thus we urge you to start thinking about persons to nominate for the Presidential Search Committee.

LISC – David Mamorella, Chair  
Will have their first meeting on September 19.

FROM: Karen Kiorpes and Christy Smith, Co-Chairs, UAC  
RE: Report of UAC Activity for the SEC, April 29 to September 16, 2016  
DATE: September 16, 2016

Beyond their last meeting April 28, UAC and Curriculum and Honors continued to review curricular changes via email discussions and voting, as follows

- A new minor in Creative Writing was approved in consultation with Senate chair in July
- Changes were made to Requirements for Geography B.A., to implement competencies plans for General Education
- Changes were made to Requirements for Economics B.A., to implement competencies plans for General Education
- Changes were made to Requirements for Art History Honors B.A.
- Changes were made to Requirements for Atmospheric Science Honors B.S.
- Changes were made to Requirements for Interdisciplinary Studies with a faculty-initiated concentration in Environmental Science Honors B.S.

In late June, UAC received official notification of the approval of the following programs:

- The new B.S. in Computer Engineering offered through the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences was registered by State Ed
- The new B.S. and B.A. in Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity offered through the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity was registered by State Ed

The UAC will have its first meeting of the year on September 22. Co-chairs Smith and Kiorpes are working now to finalize committee membership. Fall meetings are also scheduled for October 18, November 10 and December 6. We will schedule additional meetings as required.

ULC – Nothing submitted – Ekow King, Chair

## UPPC Report for Senate meeting of September 26 – Cynthia Fox, Chair

### I. Informational

1. UPPC met on July 19 to receive an update on the Compact Planning Process from Vice President Van Voorst and Associate Vice President Bessette.
2. UPPC met on August 31. The major item of business was the consideration of a Letter of Intent and Campus Impact Form for a Master of Science Degree in Environmental and Computer Engineering (CEAS).
3. UPPC will meet on September 21 at which time we will hear reports from the Facilities Committee and the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee and consider:
  - a. a request to convert existing faculty-initiated degree to formally registered BS in Environmental Science (CAS);
  - b. a request to establish a BS in Electrical and Sustainable Engineering;
  - c. a proposal to merge the Departments of Informatics and Information Studies (CEAS);
  - d. and a proposal to restructure the ITM department into two separate departments within the School of Business.

### II. Actions Taken

1. UPPC voted to approve the LOI for an MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering pending minor changes.
2. Chair Fox received the amended documents from CEAS on September 1. They have been signed and forwarded to Provost Stellar.

### III. Recommendations

- a. That UPPC's participation in the Compact Planning process occur sooner so that meaningful consultation can occur, and that the timeline be announced sufficiently ahead of time so that members can plan to attend a summer meeting.
- b. That UPPC receive bi-annual reports providing information on how progress has been made on previously approved compact planning proposals. Such reports should include the impact of the proposed item (operational/fiscal), updates on the time period of the initiative to be realized, and a summarization of the outcomes measured as well as a description of the tracking and measurement methodology used.