

University Senate Executive Committee

Monday, October 2, 2017
2:45 p.m.
UNH 306

Karin Reinhold, Senate Chair

Minutes

Present: Collins, James; Franchini, Billie; Hamilton, Diane; Jewell, Carol; Kiorpes, Karen; King, Ekow; Little, Walter; McNutt, Louise-Anne; Mower, James; Poehlmann, Christian; Rafferty, Sean; Reinhold, Karin; Rodríguez, Havidán; Rosenswig, Robert; Spencer, Latonia; Stellar, James; Wharram, Dawn

Absent: Fontaine, Jerlisa; Jerison, Michael; Kecskes, Istvan; Mallia, Mary Ellen

Guests: Winchester, Kathie; Kay, Gwen

The meeting convened at 2:45 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of September 11, 2017 were unanimously approved, with minor changes.

PROVOST'S REPORT – James R. Stellar

Provost Stellar reported that the president was currently on his listening tour. He reiterated the president's recent statement in the *Times Union* that we now have stability in leadership to carry on all the good work we have been doing. The provost invited members to forward topics in advance of the meeting for him to elaborate on in his report.

The provost then addressed a series of questions related to faculty oversight of micro-credentials. He agreed that proposals need to go through governance to ensure there is a vetting process behind "digital badges" that have the University at Albany's stamp on them. Debra Gelinas, Assistant Vice Provost for Applied Learning, was to be involved in providing feedback by October 11th to a recent report from the [SUNY Micro Credentialing Task Force](#). Guest SUNY-wide Faculty Senate President Gwen Kay added that the intent was for universities to look at the report and ensure that the appropriate person on each campus was aware of issues.

Provost Stellar also responded to concerns related to the [University at Albany's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report](#) and an article in the *Times Union* involving the Athletic Department and gender equity issues. The provost explained that the athletic department was working with the NCAA to bring the University at Albany into compliance with Title IX requirements. He and members of the SEC underlined that an increase in reporting paralleled the implementation of recent [Title IX](#) efforts to encourage people to come forward, and that there had been no major changes in behavior. The Provost noted that all athletes had participated in Empowered Bystander Training led by Chantelle Cleary, J.D., Assistant Vice President for Equity and Compliance and Title IX Coordinator. He supported the department's goal to empower 25 percent of students with that same training.

SEC CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

I. Informational

On Sept 19, Chair Reinhold met with Immediate Past Chair Collins & Vice Chair Mower to plan upcoming amendments and fora. We agreed to reach out to all chairs of departments, all deans, Senate departmental representatives and UUP departmental representatives to solicit from them their support contacting all faculty and staff in their units. Date for vote on the amendments was set for 2 weeks after the October Senate meeting. Details on this year's fora will come later.

On Sept 19th Chair Reinhold received a request for a visit to the Senate of the Director of the State University of New York's Center for International Development (CID). The CID is a university-wide institution that designs and implements international technical assistance and training projects, conducts policy-oriented research, and contributes to both the theory and the practice of international development. The purpose of the visit is to raise awareness among the faculty about the work the CID does and the opportunities that exist for collaboration between CID and the faculty.

On Sept 20th Chair Reinhold received a request of clarification of the role of co-chairs of councils. Last year the Senate started a model of shared chair responsibilities in order to support the people that stepped up to serve as chairs. When this was decided, it was agreed that only one person would officiate as chair of the council during SEC and Senate meetings and one person would be listed as the official chair on the council roster. When attending SEC and Senate meetings, both co-chairs could attend but only one would be vested with the vote corresponding to the chair of the council. The co-chairs need to schedule who will attend the SEC and who the Senate meetings officiating as Chair of the council. In either case, the other person is always welcome to attend as guest.

On Sept 20th Chair Reinhold received a request of clarification on voting rights of council members. The basic principle is that members of a council have the right to vote in that council. It can be confusing that we have a University Senate with councils composed of tenured/tenured track faculty, contingent faculty, professionals, graduate and undergraduate students, and emerita. Senators that are departmental representatives and others that are senators at-large plus SUNY wide senators and officials (immediate past chair, chair, vice chair, secretary).

The composition of councils is dictated by the Bylaws & Charter, which also describe the process of approval of membership. The council's roster is first approved by the council on nominations, then by the SEC and then voted by the Senate. Whichever category a member may belong to, the member has the right to vote in that council.

Chair Reinhold inquired about video or audiotaping the President's report at Senate meetings. Approval by the SEC was requested.

On Sept 21st Chair Reinhold received a report on SUNY-wide task force on Micro Credentials for review. The deadline for campus response is Oct 11th.

II. Actions taken

III. Recommendations for actions

Re-approval of bylaws amendments 1718BA01 & 1718BA02 and vote starting date Oct 30th.

Coordination of response to the report of the SUNY-wide task force on Micro Credentials.

Councils/standing committees review council/standing committee description on new senate website (www.albany.edu/universitysenate) and submit initiatives, reports or news for their council/standing committee website page.

IV. Announcements

- SUNY Senate President Gwen Kay will visit SEC on Oct 2nd and the Senate on Oct 16th.
- Gina Volynsky Director of the State University of New York's Center for International Development (CID) will visit the Senate on Oct 16th.
- Vote for amendment to bylaws planned for on Oct 30th.
- [2017 SUNY Diversity Conference: Engaging Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity in the Classroom, Campus and Community](#), 29 Nov - 1 Dec.
- SUNY Undergraduate Research Symposium 2018: Friday, April 20 at Oneonta, and Saturday, April 21 at Monroe County Community College. UFS supports this opportunity for students across the SUNY system to come together and display, talk about, demonstrate and/or perform their research and scholarly activity.

Chair Reinhold highlighted items from her written report and noted that a pending proposal to establish M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Electrical and Computer Engineering was being reviewed by UPPC. She reported that the roles of chairs and co-chairs on committees had been clarified. The Chair added that all council members, aside from ex officio administrators, have voting rights within their councils and subcommittees.

OTHER REPORTS

SUNY UFS President's Report – Gwen Kay, Guest

New SUNY UFS President Kay indicated that the University at Albany was the fourth campus she had visited as part of a plan to visit every campus in the SUNY system. She indicated that there were common themes across campuses, including consultation issues with starting and de-registering programs.

The President reported that SUNY was starting to re-think general education requirements currently driven by a 25-year-old template. SUNY, she explained, would be joining with Community Colleges and convening a committee to write a white paper. She reviewed long-term plans, which included the goal of aligning SUNY assessment procedures with changes in Middle States competency areas.

President Kay invited recommendations and applications for the SUNY-wide Provost position search at <http://www.suny.edu/provost-search>.

In response to concern regarding the need for education about shared governance in lieu of high turnover, the President stated that SUNY offers a workshop for new Senate leaders, presidents and provosts that could include other key administrators.

She requested input (gwen.kay@suny.edu) on Open Access discussions resulting from Senate resolutions put forward.

Senate Chair Reinhold invite members to notify her if interested in attending a lunch and UAlbany campus tour with President Kay on Oct 16th.

SUNY Senators' Report – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little, Latonia Spencer

- Nothing reported

Senator Little reminded that the next Plenary would take place at SUNY Delhi on October 19-21. President Kay noted that some pending resolutions may include 1) broad-based fees, and 2) an endorsement supporting community colleges in their discouragement of administrative retaliation against faculty members.

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

- The Graduate Student Association co-sponsored a town hall with the Student Association on maintenance of effort on Tuesday, September 19. Another town hall is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17 with the topic TBD.

Senator Wharram added that GSA had held the town meeting with SA as reported, and that they anticipated holding another on October 17 regarding DACA.

SA (Student Association) –Jerlisa Fontaine, President

- Nothing reported

Senate Chair Reinhold reported that she had received a roster of SA Senators and had been communicating with the SA representative. SA elections, it was noted, take place in the early fall, after which SA Senators can be allocated to councils.

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

- CAFFECoR will have its first meeting of the semester on 9/27/2017.

Chair Jewell added that members had been talking via e-mail about the webinar in which they had participated in lieu of their last meeting, and that a recorded version of the webinar may soon become available.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Michael Jerison, Chair

- Nothing reported.

Senate Chair Reinhold indicated it was anticipated that CERS would be electing a new Chair at its next meeting.

COR (Council on Research) –Robert Rosenswig, Chair

- COR held its first meeting September 18.

Chair Rosenswig reviewed additions to his report, submitted as follows:

At CoR's first meeting of the academic year held on Monday, September 18, 2017, we:

-Populated all of the subcommittees. However, we noted that each CoR member sits on two separate subcommittee and each subcommittee has a significant work load. Therefore, we plan to request that the number of CoR members be increase in the future and in particular that more teaching/research faculty be assigned to us. A formal request and proposal for an amendment to the Charter will follow.

-Reviewed the updated proposal submitted by Dr. Theresa Pardo, the Director of the Center for Technology in Government (CTG) and approved the proposal which requests the formation of a new research institute which will not only consist of the Center for Technology and Government, but will also have the ability to add additional centers.

-Received a request from the Center for Global Health (CGH) Status for full center status. They have been operating since 2009 with provisional approval but final authorization was never granted. At the Sept 18 meeting, John Justino, Center Director, presented an outline of the activities of the Center and requested that the Center be granted official status as an administrative unit designation within the Dean's office on the organizational chart. The Center for Global Health is looking for official status for financial sustainability reasons and the Dean of the School of Public Health supports the approval of CGH's status as a center. CoR has requested more information and expects to vote at our next meeting on Oct. 23, 2017.

-Following a request from the College of Arts and Science (CAS) for the VPR's office to share the criteria and method of reviewing FRAP-A applications, CoR members discussed the need for us to make the formal, numeric method of evaluation available to FRAP A applicants. CoR also intends to formalize the use of Dean's evaluations and rankings in the decision process. Our plan is to make all of these formal evaluation and ranking procedures available to applicants for the 2017-2018 competition. They will also be posted on the Senate website.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Louise-Anne McNutt, Chair

- CPCA will have its first meeting Monday, September 25th.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) –Sean Rafferty, Chair

- GAC will have its first meeting of the semester on 9/26/2017.

Chair Rafferty reported that GAC had met that past Tuesday, and all subcommittees were now staffed and chaired. He added that GAC had approved and forwarded to the Senate Chair a proposal for Electrical & Computer Engineering master's and Ph.D. degree programs.

GOV (Governance Council) – James Mower, Chair

- GOV's next meeting will occur on September 27. Noteworthy agenda items include:
 - vote to approve Faculty Bylaws Amendments BA 1617:01 and BA 1617:02: voting rights for part time faculty to elect their own representative and clarification of voting senators
 - Content review of GOV and other Senate webpages on new site
 - Discussion of alternate Senate online voting tools

Chair Mower reviewed additions to his report, submitted as follows:

GOV passed 1617BA01 and 1617BA02 (voting rights for part time faculty to elect their own representative and clarification of voting senators) with edits and has forwarded both to SEC for consideration. *GOV had passed these amendments last year, but had re-evaluated and passed them for this year as 1718BA01 and 1718BA02.*

GOV is currently investigating the use of Ballotbin, an election administration web-based voting tool, for conducting online Senate votes for Bylaws amendments and at-large elections. Jim Mower and Ilka Kressner will talk with CAS Associate Dean Susanna Fessler on Tuesday about her experience with the tool for administering the recent CAS at-large election. We will report back to GOV on the feasibility of its use for Senate voting.

Chair Mower noted that lowering the quorum to pass Bylaw amendments was also being discussed.

The Chair addressed questions about the process by which GOV had selected three of the recommended nominees put forward to serve on the UAS Board. He welcomed council input on issues as well as suggestions on alternate methods for the upcoming spring elections.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) –Billie Franchini, Chairs

- LISC will hold its next meeting on October 12.

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

- The UAC held its first meeting of the year on Tuesday September 19th, 2017.

UAC Chairs have been working to assemble subcommittees. There are still two more members to the council that need to be appointed

Kathie Winchester, staff support for the Council, provided an overview of the responsibilities of UAC and its subcommittees.

Associate Dean for General Education Richard Fogarty reported on the current status of General Education Competency Plans. To date there are 42 approved programs; 11 more are undergoing revision, and 6 more are not yet submitted. The General Education Committee of UAC will review plans as they become ready and will send them back to the Department as necessary or bring them to UAC for a final vote.

The General Education Advisory Board was provided for in the General Education Program legislation effective Fall 2013. The Board will become more active as work progresses on assessment of the General Education Program in anticipation of the Middle States Accreditation Process. Institutional Research and the Counsel on Academic Assessment will spearhead assessment of General Education.

Celine LaValley (Undergraduate Education) summarized the procedures for new program proposals that go outside of SUNY Albany for review, and those that may come to UAC for review in 2017/2018.

The *Committee on Academic Standing* met September 14th and is currently meeting biweekly.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

ULC (University Life Council) – Ekow King, Chair

- Nothing reported

Chair King indicated that the ULC meeting had been rescheduled to September 27th due to the Rash Hashanah holiday and that ULC's subcommittees had not yet been fully populated. The Chair circulated and reviewed an amendment to the Charter, section X.9. UNIVERSITY LIFE COUNCIL, further discussed under "New Business".

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

- Information:

The Council met on September 20.

It heard a report from Provost James Stellar that the new academic units CEAS and CEHC were both doing well in terms of enrollments and the University undergraduate enrollments were higher than expected, as were international student enrollments, while graduate student enrollments were below the targets for this year. Council members asked about resources for the Health Sciences Campus, in particular space allocations of research, bus scheduling, and access to library resources for graduate students working or taking courses on the Health Sciences Campus. The Provost discussed the issue of space, given the mix of UA and private business claims on space. Chair Collins and a Council member asked about the status of the Information Studies Department (IS) given the proposal by the Dean of CEAS to remove Information Studies from the College. The Provost acknowledged that it was still undetermined where the department would be administratively located, a decision depending on input from President Rodriguez, but said that a decision should be made "within weeks."

The Council heard a report from VP for Finance and Administration James Van Voorst, about a robust capital projects budget, an adequate operational budget, and evolving issues like the Excelsior Program. He mentioned ongoing legislative effort, supported by an upcoming Student Assembly rally, to expand the Maintenance of Effort Agreement with New York State. The expansion would increase state support for labor costs, utilities, and other recurrent, increasing expenses. A council member asked about the likelihood of it becoming law, and VP Van Voorst replied that the legislation for the expanded MOE had passed the NYS Assembly and Senate annually since 2015, but the Governor had refused to sign it to date.

The council heard a presentation from Dean Harvey Charles and Dr. Annette Richie of the Center for International Education and Global Strategy of a proposal for an undergraduate Global Distinction Milestone. It was the second presentation on the proposal, which would draw on courses from a wide range of academic programs at the University. Council members asked about different components of the program, including language requirements, study abroad, and accessibility of the Milestone to students of limited financial means). A frank and open discussion addressed one of the chief criteria of UPPC's assessment of the 'Campus Impact' of new proposals: Whether adequate consultation had taken place with affected academic units. A compromise was devised, given the wide interdisciplinarity of the Milestone proposal. The council voted to support the Milestone proposal, with the proviso that the sponsors obtain a letter confirming consultation from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The council heard a presentation from Registrar Karen Chico-Hurst about the proposed Academic Calendar for 2018-19. Questions and discussion followed, focusing on the value of having a 3- or 5-year cycle of calendar planning. Council members argued that a longer view would help those trying to host large academic events, such as professional research conferences, at the University. The Registrar agreed.

Actions:

1. The Council voted to approve the Center for International Education and Global Strategy proposal for a Global Distinction Milestone, with stipulations pending.
2. The Council voted to approve the proposed University Calendars for 2018-19.

Recommendations:

None at this time.

The Council next meets on October 18.

Chair Collins reviewed functions of and background on UPPC's two subcommittees: 1) Resource Analysis & Planning, and 2) University Facilities. He explained that, prior to the previous year, both committees had been allowed to lapse for some years. He added that UPPC was working to more clearly define appropriate questions and issues for consideration by each subcommittee. Chair Collins also spoke to questions regarding his report on a proposal for an undergraduate Global Distinction Milestone. Members discussed that procedural issues with consultation were being addressed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Website & identification of support person for councils

Chair Reinhold charged members to send her the name and e-mail address of the support person for each respective council or committee who would be assisting with postings once the new website was launched.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Reinhold reviewed the following proposed Bylaws amendments reintroduced this year by GOV:

- **1718-01BA: BYLAWS AMENDMENT for PART TIME REPRESENTATION**

A motion was made and unanimously approved in support of the above amendment.

- **1718-02BA: BYLAWS AMENDMENT DEFINING QUORUM FOR SENATE MEETINGS**

A motion was made and unanimously approved in support of the above amendment.

The chair noted that procedures for the voting faculty to vote on these amendments would be forthcoming.

1718-01A: Charter Amendment: Composition of ULC (Section X.9. UNIVERSITY LIFE COUNCIL)

ULC Chair King outlined proposed grammatical changes, updates to positions and titles, and changes in composition.

Senate Secretary Poehlmann and Staff Support López noted that the introductory section on page one of the Charter appeared to allow for the following regular updates without the need for amendments:

...WHERE THE CHARTER REFERS TO ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND POSITIONS WHOSE TITLES HAVE CHANGED, THESE HAVE BEEN UPDATED.]...

Senate Chair Reinhold requested that the following sections be compared with other council compositions for consistency to clarify if "Support Staff" referred to one individual and if that person was a member of or strictly an administrative support to the council:

X.9.1.6. One Support Staff Member

X.9.1.10 Staff support for the Council shall be designated by the Vice President for Student Success. [section added by amendment 5/2/05]

The ULC Chair underlined that the council supported that classified staff have representation on ULC, and perhaps on other Senate councils and committees where appropriate. Chair Reinhold noted that a rationale would need to be included to support the proposed change. Members agreed to revisit discussion of the proposal at the next meeting.

Audio or videotaping the president's report during Senate meetings.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to support audio or videotaping of the president's report during Senate meetings.

Chair Reinhold indicated that President Rodríguez had given his consent at the last SEC meeting. Members discussed working with University Archivist Greg Wiedeman to archive the recordings.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder