

2013-2014 University Senate

**Monday, April 28, 2014
2:45 pm, Assembly Hall**

Christine Wagner, Chair

MINUTES

Present: Philippe Abraham, Bryant Barksdale, Steve Beditz, Deborah Bernnard, Sridar Chittur, Leona Christie, Mark Cohen, Aiguo Dai, Anthony DeBlasi, Evgeny Dikarev, Edward Fitzgerald, Michael Ford, Cynthia Fox, Elizabeth Gaffney, Jennifer Goodall, Glyne Griffith, Yenisel Gulatee, Janell Hobson, Caitlin Janiszewski, Jane Kadish, Ann Kearney, Danielle Leonard, Andi Lyons, David Mamorella, Daniel Markisello, Janet Marler, David McCaffrey, David McDowall, Anton Milas, John Monfasani, John Murphy, Saggi Nevo, Gregory Nowell, James Pasquill, Greta Petry, Nancy Poehlmann, Nathan Powers, Rich Eliot, Helene Scheck, Lawrence Schell, John Schmidt, Emma Schwab, Kendra Smith-Howard, Kabel Nathan Stanwicks, Joette Stefl-Mabry, Caro-Beth Stewart, Christine Wagner, Kevin Williams, Mark Wolfe, Elga Wulfert, Zheng Yan, Alan Zemel, James Zetka

Guests: Jon Bartow, JaeYong Choi, Christopher Daly, Susanna Fessler, Celine Forsyth, Elise Gervais, Mary Gallant, Bill Hedberg, Leon Nguyen, Karin Reinhold, Lina Rincon, Laura Wilder, Kathie Winchester, Bob Yagelski

The meeting convened at 2:43 pm.

Chair Wagner and the Senate thanked John Murphy and the President's Office for the refreshments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of April 7, 2014. The minutes were then approved as written with the following voting results: Approved 34, Opposed 1, Abstained 4

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – CHRISTINE WAGNER, CHAIR

The Call for Nominations for Senate Vice-Chair and Senate Secretary went out to voting faculty on 3/27/14.

A proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate Program in International Health and Human Rights has been approved by GAC and UPPC. The Bill was approved in the Senate on 4/7/14 and a request for Presidential approval has been submitted.

The Senate Chair has received a proposal for a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Major in Bio-Instrumentation. The proposal has now been approved by UPPC and UAC. The Bill will come up for a vote in the Senate on 4/28/14.

A Charter Amendment (1314-02A) regarding the composition of CPCA, introduced by GOV approved in the Senate on 4/7/14.

The Faculty Athletics Representative, Teresa Harrison, requested to make a report to the University Senate about the intercollegiate athletics program at UAlbany. She will report to the Senate on 4/28/14.

Bill 1314-03 Proposal to Establish a Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) Degree Program was approved in the Senate on 3/10/14 and approved by the President 3/24/14.

The Senate Chair has received a proposal from the Department of English to create a Certificate in Teaching English Composition. The proposal has been approved by UPPC and GAC and will come up for a vote in the Senate on 4/28.

The Senate Chair has received a letter of intent from the Department of Geography and Planning to establish a Master of Science Program in Environmental Geographic Information Science (MSEGIS). The letter of intent has been approved by GAC and UPPC.

A Charter Amendment (1314-03A) regarding the charge of CAFFECOR, introduced by GOV, was distributed to the Senate on 3/31/14. The Amendment will come up for a vote at the 4/28/14 Senate meeting in accordance with Faculty Bylaws Article IV.3.

A Charter Amendment (1314-04A) regarding Election Functions, introduced by GOV, is distributed to the Senate on 4/21/14. The Amendment will come up for a vote in the Senate at the 5/12/14 meeting in accordance with Faculty Bylaws Article IV.3.

Chair Wagner pointed out that Bill 1313-04 had been approved by the President and that CPCA Charter Amendment 1314-02A was passed in the Senate on April 7th. The Faculty Athletics report to be given by representative Terri Harrison has been rescheduled for May 12th. Charter Amendment 1314-04A regarding Election Functions had been distributed to allow 3 weeks before the vote on a May 12th.

OTHER REPORTS

UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) –Danielle Leonard, J. Philippe Abraham & John Schmidt, SUNY Senators

The UFS Senators are looking forward to the Spring Plenary May 1st-3rd hosted by Empire State College.

Upcoming public events of note include:

- April 23-24 SUNY's First Annual Conference on Shared Governance
 - Holiday Inn Wolf Road, Albany, NY *Nothing to add.*

GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Caitlin Janiszewski, GSA President

The GSA has held their elections and is in the process of appointing a grants chair, programming chair, and Senators for next year. We are still working on our bylaws in hopes of passing them this year. We are also working through more issues with University Auxiliary Services. We have confirmed that the financial process they have had us follow for the past ten years is not compliant with NYS tax law. This was discovered by our bylaws committee and the E-Board followed up by inquiring with the UAS accountant. We are hoping to meet with the Executive Director to go over this problem discuss the dynamics of our contract with UAS. We have had significant trouble with UAS this year and in past years. While we are a small part of their operations we still feel that we are experiencing an unacceptably low level of attention. We will be having a similar conversation with ITS people over the summer to figure out our relationship with them. Overall, we have had a very steady year. We have planted many seeds to improve the functioning of our organization. We hope to follow through with many of these initiatives next year to ensure sustainable change.

Chair Janiszewski added that the President's Forum had been held the past Wednesday, and there had been an open dialogue. GSA elections were complete. She was re-elected, as were many others, so more continuity was anticipated.

SA (Student Association) – Marc Cohen, Student Association Representative

- There will be a run off for the Presidential/Vice Presidential Election.
- The Presidential Forum has a set date and is being advertised.
- Parkfest was on April 5th.
- The APD/S.A. Board has coordinated ride alongs.
- The Scholarship committee is being assembled.

Marc Cohen invited everyone to attend the SA Purple and Gold Awards that evening. He and the Senate congratulated Christine Wagner on receiving the Outstanding Faculty Award, 1 of 2 faculty Awards from SA.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Deborah Bernnard, Chair

Nothing to report.

CAA met on April 25th at which time they discussed the impact that the new competencies for new majors would have

on the functioning of CAA. The Council will work on that all next year.

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Susanna Fessler, Chair

Nothing to report. *Nothing to add.*

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Susanna Fessler, Chair

Nothing to report. *Nothing to add.*

COR (Council on Research) – John Monfasani, Chair

Nothing to report.

COR voted to allow support for 1 category of conferences done in the capital district from SUNY Cobleskill to NYC; so an extension of all the SUNYs, in this case the principles, are SUNY Albany faculty. COR is discussing still issues connected with FRAPPE.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Sanjay Putrevu, Chair

The next CPCA meeting is on April 23. *Nothing to add.*

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Ronald Toseland, Chair

GAC met on April 8th. We approved the establishment of a Graduate Certificate Program in Teaching Composition and a change in the title of programs offered by the Department of Women's studies to the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. *Nothing to add.*

GOV (Governance Council) – Joette Stefl-Mabry, Chair

GOV met on April 14, 2014

Committee on Liaison and Elections

On April 8th, 2014 Senate Chair Wagner sent an email requesting that the Governance Council discuss whether an email vote would "count" in the recently conducted Senator-at-large elections. As MyUAlbany is the voting mechanism for current election and votes must be cast there and only there (as stipulated in the email sent out by the Secretary of the Senate announcing the elections), it was suggested that the Governance Council should update the language in the Charter to reflect current voting reality and consider suitable alternatives as technology continues to evolve. After discussion, the Governance Council decided it would be prudent to remove all descriptors related to technologies that are in use or that might be used in the future.

Current Charter:

X.1.4.3. Election function.

X.1.4.3.1.4. nominate a slate for the election of Senators-at-large according to *Bylaws* Article II, Sections 2.2 and 5.3 and conduct the election, to be decided by plurality vote, by mail or email ballot.

Proposed Revision:

The following change is proposed by the Governance Council:

X.1.4.3.1.4. nominate a slate for the election of Senators-at-large according to *Bylaws* Article II, Sections 2.2 and 5.3 and conduct the election, to be decided by plurality vote. ~~by mail or email ballot.~~

This amendment to the Charter will be brought forward to the SEC on April 16th.

Committee on Council Nominations

The Governance Council elected Cynthia Fox to serve on the Committee on Council Nominations.

Assessment of Governance and Consultation Ad Hoc Committee

Joel Bloom, Director of Academic Assessment & Survey Research, has been working with GOV on the implementation of the shared governance and consultation surveys. The student version of the *Survey of Evaluation of Shared Governance and Consultation at the University at Albany* will be sent out this week (April 15th) to all students, matriculated or non-matriculated, and the faculty survey should be going out within the next two weeks.

GOV had met that day. The student Survey of Evaluation of Shared Governance and Consultation had been sent out, and the faculty and professional staff Survey was anticipated to be sent out by early the following week. Chair Stefl-Mabry urged all to encourage participation in the Surveys.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Elizabeth Gaffney, Chair

Next LISC meeting is on Monday, April 21. Dean Casserly will be providing an update on the progress of developing an Institutional Repository. *Nothing to add.*

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Anthony DeBlasi, Chair

UAC reviewed and approved a proposal from the School of Public Health to create a Faculty-initiated Interdisciplinary Major in Bio-Instrumentation. Beyond that, it also continues to review General Education competency plans from the undergraduate majors. Responses have begun to go out to the various programs. UAC also voted to require new program proposals to utilize the form required by SUNY System as a way of providing both uniformity to proposals coming before it and simplifying the process of preparing proposal to proceed to SUNY System for ultimate approval. *Nothing to add.*

ULC (University Life Council) –Michael Jaromin, Chair

Nothing to report. *Nothing to add.*

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) –Andi Lyons, Chair

UPPC met on April 9 to review the Department of Geography and Planning's Letter of Intent to establish a Master of Science program in Environmental Geographic Information Science (MSEGIS). UPPC voted to approve this to be sent to SUNY for its LOI approval, prior to the development of the full proposal. We also considered the Certificate in Teaching Composition for students enrolled in the English PhD program. This proposal was approved by UPPC, and will be considered by the Senate at its next full meeting. Finally, we reviewed information from the Registrar about the challenges in the academic planning calendar, and ultimately approved the academic calendar for 2015-16. UPPC's next meeting is scheduled for May 7. *Nothing to add.*

Approval of Proposed Council and Standing Committee Memberships for 2014-2015

Chair Wagner briefly reviewed the process of how the proposed list of Council and Standing Committee members is generated. She explained that the Committee on Council Nominations, that is responsible for coming up with the roster, met on April 16th and created the proposed slate of council and standing committee rosters being shared with the Senate on screen. The procedure generally used is that continuing Senators are left on Councils if possible. New Senators are placed on councils, as all Senators must serve on a council. Non-Senators are also placed on councils. Every effort is made to place those who expressed an interest, following the call for Senate service that went out, on one of their top choices.

Chair Wagner then went through each council and committee on the roster, asking that it be kept in mind the roster may be subject to change with approval from the Senate. In response to the question, Chair Wagner stated that the roster had not been distributed to the Senate prior to the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve this council roster as it stands. The roster was approved with the following voting results: Approved 44, Opposed 3, Abstained 2.

Those who are Senators, Chair Wagner announced, would be receiving notice of placement on a council and of a meeting to elect Chairs, and were asked to consider serving as Chairs. Chair Wagner stated she would be happy to explain the council and committee Chair duties and requirements.

ELECTIONS:

Election of Senate officers always takes place during the penultimate Senate meeting, which was that day Chair Wagner explained. The 2 officers to elect were the Senate Secretary and Vice-Chair. A call for nominations for both these offices went out on 3/27, and reminders went out on 4/9 and 4/18. Nominations were due on 4/18.

Election of Senate Secretary for 2014-2016

Chair Wagner announced that 1 nomination for Secretary had been received: Yenisel Gulatee, who then responded she was willing to serve. Chair Wagner asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were none. As there were no objections from the floor, Chair Wagner declared Senator Gulatee elected by acclamation and thanked her for her continued service.

Election of Senate Vice-Chair for 2014-2015

The Senate Vice-Chair, Chair Wagner explained, is a 3-year appointment, serving a year as Vice-Chair, then a year as Chair, and finally a year as Immediate Past Chair. Cynthia Fox was the 1 nomination received, and Senator Fox responded she was willing to serve. Chair Wagner then asked if there were any nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded to nominate David Wagner from Sociology, who responded that he was willing to serve.

According to the Senate Charter, each candidate was allowed to speak for 2 minutes to address the Senate. Paper ballots were then distributed and Senators were then asked to vote for one of the two candidates. The ballots were collected and counted by Parliamentarian Andrew Howard and Secretary Gulatee.

Chair Wagner and the Senate congratulated Cynthia Fox on being elected to serve as the new Vice-Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Senate Bill 1314-05: Proposal to Establish a Graduate Certificate Program in Teaching Composition; introduced by GAC and UPPC**

Chair Wagner asked that Helene Scheck and Lorraine Wilder answer any questions regarding the program. When asked, it was explained the program was intended only for doctoral students.

A motion was made to approve Bill 1314-05, and it was approved with the following voting results: Approved 42, Opposed 4, Abstained 2

- **Senate Bill 1314-06: Proposal to Establish a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Major in Bio-Instrumentation; introduced by UAC and UPPC**

Senator DeBlasi provided a few words of introduction on the nature of the proposal. He explained that the program has four dimensions: introduction to the core components of Public Health; in-depth understanding of theory and application of instrumentation to molecular biology and related fields; practical experience in the actual use of the instrumentation; experience in using the instrumentation to address research questions via internships. Senator DeBlasi also provided an overview of the review process.

A motion was made to approve Bill 1314-06, and it was approved with the following voting results: Approved 43, Opposed 6, Abstained 2

- **Charter Amendment 1314-03A: Charge of CAFFECOR; introduced by GOV**

Chair Stefl-Mabry reviewed the proposed Amendment that had been circulated to the Senate as follows:

Current Charter:

X.1.4.3. Election function.

X.1.4.3.1.4. nominate a slate for the election of Senators-at-large according to Bylaws Article II, Sections 2.2 and 5.3 and conduct the election, to be decided by plurality vote, by mail or email ballot.

Proposed Revision:

The following change is proposed:

X.1.4.3.1.4. nominate a slate for the election of Senators-at-large according to Bylaws Article II, Sections 2.2 and 5.3 and conduct the election, to be decided by plurality vote. by mail or email ballot.

A motion was made to approve Charter Amendment 1314-03A, and it was approved with the following voting results: Approved 41, Opposed 5, Abstained 5

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder