

## UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

On Feb 14th, Chair Reinhold received a request for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion plan for UAlbany, mandated by SUNY in 2015. The ODI office created a UAlbany plan in 2016 and it is now being addressed and updated by the current group on Diversity and Inclusion of the Strategic Plan.

On the Feb 21st UPPC meeting it was decided to create a Task force to study of the academic preparation of entering freshmen and transfer students and prepare a report by the end of term. The group members are Professors Jim Collins, Kajal Lahiri and Louis-Anne McNutt together with Jack Mahoney from Institutional Research. They are tasked with investigating whether students' academic preparation had declined over the last decade, and providing recommendations for implementing solutions that would help students succeed at UAlbany.

UPPC also discussed draft proposals about career paths for contingent and part-time faculty, and new teaching focused faculty positions. These proposals are ways to implement part of the recommendations made by the implementation team (9/15/2016) ([https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Contingent\\_progress\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Contingent_progress_report_final.pdf)). See also the recommendations from the report within the 2016 Provost's Panel on Contingent Concerns:

[https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Contingent\\_Faculty\\_Committee\\_Report\\_10-1-2015.pdf](https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Contingent_Faculty_Committee_Report_10-1-2015.pdf)

It was decided to bring these items to the next SEC meeting to discuss the proposals about job security and career paths for contingent and part-time faculty, which are part of the recommendations from the documents above. Additionally, we may also want to address the report on Graduate Students Stipends:

[https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Report\\_of\\_the\\_Graduate\\_Stipend\\_Committee\\_final\\_draft\\_070615.pdf](https://www.albany.edu/academics/files/Report_of_the_Graduate_Stipend_Committee_final_draft_070615.pdf)

Under instructions from President Rodriguez Estella Rivero and Dolores Cimini are to implement a task force for implementing a Tobacco –Free Policy at UAlbany, and invited the Senate to send a representative. As background on this measure, the Senate had passed a resolution in 2009 on Smoke free campus, an initial task force was created in 2014, chaired by Phil Nasca, which returned a report with a commitment to bring about a tobacco-free campus. The current task force is charged with the creation of a tobacco free policy for UAlbany with an action plan for its implementation.

Chair Reinhold received an announcement about a Proposal to link Digital Forensic Major and Legal Studies Minor, and a request to include Discontinuance of Deactivated Programs at the next SEC meeting.

The new shared governance webpage will be released at the end of February after deans and administrators' approval. All support persons of Senate Council have been given authority to change the website on order to be able to update the webpage of the councils they serve. Most council's pages are up-to-date. However, the listing of Senate legislations is incomplete as of Feb 22, including only bills but missing amendments to the Senate's Charter and Bylaws, and Senate Resolutions.

Openings in the Senate: At-Large open category 2, At-Large Professional 2, SUNY wide Senator 1, UAS Board 2. Also UPPC committees, Resource Analysis & Planning Committee and University Facilities Committee, for next year.

On Mar 5<sup>th</sup>, Asc VP and Sr Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Bill Hedberg reported to the SEC on the implementation of Blue Ribbon panels by, together with data on ratios of contingent hires in the past 5 years. Virginia Yonkers reported on the need to establish a council or committee, within the governance structure of the Senate, to address the on-going concerns of contingent faculty that now constitute 50% of the teaching faculty. SEC also reviewed proposed career paths for contingent faculty and a draft of teaching intensive positions.

### **Recommendations**

LISC was requested to submit recommendations on open access policy directly to the Chancellor.

A working group on Contingent Concerns be formed to study the feasibility of establishing a mechanism within the Senate to address on-going concerns of contingent faculty.

### **Actions Taken**

Bill 1718-05 PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH (3) BS/MS PROGRAMS: Proposals to combine BA in Human Development with MS programs in Counseling Psychology, Educational Psychology, was approved by SEC on Mar 5<sup>th</sup> to be sent to the Senate for approval.

SEC approved a report on the implementation of Blue Ribbon panels to be presented to the Senate on Mar 19<sup>th</sup> by Asc VP and Sr Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Bill Hedberg.

Requested a report of the Assessment of Administrative units Advisory Board to be presented by the Senate representatives during April's SEC meeting.

Requested a report on the work of the Task force on Graduate enrollment by Dean of Graduate Education Kevin Williams.

Scheduled a special meeting of the SEC on Mar 28<sup>th</sup> for a presentation of the Branding Project by Paul Miller, Interim Director, Marketing and Content Strategy.

**SAVE THE DATE:**

- Senate Forum on The State of Arts and Humanities: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 3:30-5:30pm, CC 375
- **Spring Faculty Address, April 3 at 1:00 pm in the CC Ballroom.**
- Senate Forum on The State of IT on Campus: April 10<sup>th</sup> .
- **April 13<sup>th</sup> : President's Inauguration**

Other Announcements:

- April 14<sup>th</sup>: 4th Annual Mindful Mile and Fight Hunger 5k, UAlbany Campus.
- April 20<sup>th</sup>: SUNY Undergraduate Research Symposium 2018, Oneonta, and Saturday,
- April 21<sup>th</sup> at Monroe County Community College.