



UNIVERSITY FACULTY



SENATE REPORT SUNY Morrisville February 5-7, 2009

SENATE PRESIDENT

The President of the University Faculty Senate is **Carl Wiezalis** (Professor of Respiratory Therapy Education, Upstate Medical, Syracuse).

- As a member of the BOT, Carl continues to work on the search for Chancellor. He has an important role on a candidate screening sub-committee. He cannot say much about progress of the search.
- John J. O'Connor replaced John Clark who resigned as Chancellor in December. John Clark continues to lead the 60th Anniversary program leading to a scholarly conference to be held April 3-5, 2009 here on the Albany campus.
- Carl continues to push sustainability working with Maureen Dolan (UFS) and Phil Wood (Vice Chancellor for Capital Facilities) Phil Wood has the formal responsibility for all thing sustainable within SUNY and has been receptive to help from Carl. They are in process of re-constituting the Chancellor's Task force on Sustainability, to be chaired by Presidents Ray Cross (Morrisville) and Neil Murphy (Environmental Science and Forestry). Carl Wiezalis and Maureen Dolan are also developing a UFS Sustainability Committee. They hope to have a "committee without boundaries" working largely over the internet. Carl meets regularly with Liz Clark and Beth Kempter of SUNY's Governmental Affairs Offices in Albany and in Washington D.C., looking for help on green projects.
- Budget will be discussed in detail by Jim VanVorst.
- Ram Chugh continues to develop the SUNY Retiree Service Corps and recently met with Phil Smith, President of UUP. President Smith invited Ram to speak at the Spring Delegate Assembly.

Written report available.

HAROLD SILVERMAN, SENIOR VICE PROVOST

- Transfer and articulation are still very important
- Transfer website up.
- Waiting for final report from Comptroller on audit of SUNY's assessments..
- By law, we need a master plan every four years. Will have something but it will be brief.
- Course Re-Design Initiative is now underway as pilots.
- Current re-negotiating Elsevier contract.

JOE HILDRETH, JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTICULATION AND TRANSFER

Committee continues to work with strong interest from the BOT. There are four elements to program:

- Transfer website
- Student Appeal process (Provost's Office)
- Transfer Review Committee (TRC) for appeals on courses
- Faculty development conferences.

Current emphasis is on getting TRC up and going and it is with William Lanford (Albany) and Johanna Halsey (Dutchess County) as Co-Chairs.

JANET NEPKIE, ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT

Janet briefly reviewed the situation. There are lots of policies to deal with issues related to student conduct, much less for faculty and administrators. At present, committee is collecting policies from all campuses. She pointed out that SUNY is way behind most large universities and proposes that we might develop an Ethics Institute for SUNY. More to come.

RAY KRISCIUNAS, SEAVICE LEARNING TOOLKIT

New booklet "Service-Learning, A Toolkit" is finished and is available.

JIM VAN VOORST, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

- Reviewed all three budget cuts this year (2008-09).
- Governor sticking to his plan to keep cutting base.
- Ten percent of tuition increase was supposed to go to campuses, but actually did not (because of the way it was estimated).
- Note that budget cuts are "permanent" but many of the techniques found to meet shortfall for the current year are one-time opportunities. Cuts for 2008-09 will have to be addressed again in 2009-10, in addition to new cuts.
- In summary, the State is on track to reduce general revenue funding for SUNY by about \$530M out of a \$1600M, i.e. a reduction of over 30%. Because of tuition increases, campus budgets have a smaller cut.

Question/comment: How are campuses with large graduate enrollment going to pay graduate student tuition for its TAs after the tuition increase? Response: the budget allocation for such tuition has not increased since circa 1998, i.e. is way underfunded now. The current tuition increase will make this more difficult.

Note: A letter from the Board of Trustees to the Legislature concerning the 2009-10 budget and a brief summary of the

Executive Budget Recommendation were given out and are available.

NORM GOODMAN FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met Feb. 5 The major points of discussion were:

- No Chancellor yet.
- History of SUNY Conference April 3-5 at Albany
- Kavita Pandit, Provost's Office reported on Transfer and Articulation progress, international education in SUNY, Economic Development, Audit by Comptroller about assessment in the major, new Mission Review
- Resolutions on assessment and on the budget were passed.

JAKE CRAWFORD, PRES. STUDENT ASSOCIATION

- Reported on how student feel about tuition "theft" and urged senators and their colleagues to sign petition at www.studentassembly.org

REPORT OF AWARDS COMMITTEE

- New award for Excellence in Classified Service announced.

REPORT OF OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

- .Supports a resolution changing Farmingdale from Specialized and Statutory Colleges to Colleges of Technology/Agriculture.

REPORT OF GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- Resources for Governance Leaders and Future Leaders will be available on UFS website. These include: "Orientation Guide for New University Faculty Senators", "Orientation Guide for New Campus Governance Leaders", a powerpoint presentation aimed at newly tenured faculty members.

REPORT OF GRADUATE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

- Research road show very popular
- Offered a resolution supporting more budget for SUNY research

REPORT OF STUDENT LIFE

- SUNY Campus Traditions Book available
- New book on Service Learning: A Tool Kit is now available.
- Continue to be concerned about Student Health Services.

REPORT OF UNDERGRADUATE COMMITTEE

- Will revise policy on contact/credit hours
- Will update Guide for the Evaluation of Undergraduate Programs
- Planning an annual undergraduate research symposium to be held at Capital with representative from all campuses.

SECTOR CONCERNS- University Centers

- Concern about the number of administrative appointments at University at Albany made without benefit of formal searches.
- Concern about the budget's impact on the number of new students joining graduate programs. For some programs the number of new students may be reduced to zero.
- Support for new contract with Elsevier
- Worry about effect of budget cuts on the number of minority students.
- Support a reduction in redundant campus assessments
- Concern and support for aspects of the UB 20/20 proposal.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution on Consultation and Collaboration- Passed

"...calls for transparency and appropriate consultation between local administrations and faculty governance prior to major decisions on ...resources..."

Resolution on Assessment Streamlining-Passed

"...reduce multiple layers that now exist..."

REMINDER OF THE FACULTY SENATE PAGE

Although material is slow to appear on the site, eventually the full text of motions passed should appear:

<http://www.suny.edu/facultySenate/>.

Respectfully submitted,

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