

## **Council and Committee Reports for Senate Meeting Oct 16, 2017**

**Christian Poehlmann, Senate Secretary**

### **UNIVERSITY SENATE 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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), Gina Volynsky. 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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. Some senators are departmental representatives; some are senators at-large, SUNY wide senators or senate 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. The SEC approved it on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On Sept 21<sup>st</sup> Chair Reinhold received a report on SUNY-wide task force on Micro Credentials for review. The deadline for campus response is Oct 11<sup>th</sup>. Provost Stellar, who is a member of the SUNY task force on Micro Credentials, explained the Micro Credential proposal to SEC on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that the office of Applied Learning is working on the UAlbany's response. There were several concerns about the oversight of digital badges and micro credentials. Some badges such as being in the Dean's list or the new Global Distinction are easy to implement. The bylaws assigns faculty charge over curriculum therefore badges that pertain to curriculum should have Senate oversight. Provost Stellar explained that badges are tools for enrolment and helping students searching for job after graduation.

On Sept 28<sup>th</sup>, Chair Reinhold received documents for the MS & PhD in Electrical and Computer Science Engineering for final Senate Review. The bill for approval of these programs will most likely come to the Senate floor on the November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

On Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, Chair Reinhold attended the Campus Governance Leaders Leadership Institute at the Desmond in Albany.

## **II. Actions taken**

- MS & PhD in Electrical and Computer Science Engineering was sent to UAC & UPPC for Approval.

## **III. Recommendations for actions**

- Bylaws amendments 1718BA01 & 1718BA02 vote starting date is planned around Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Videotaping of President and/or Provost report on Senate meetings and upload them to the Senate webpage.

## **IV. Announcements**

- Vote for amendment to bylaws 1718BA01 & 1718BA02 planned for on Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Vacancies in Councils and subcommittees:
  - COR is looking for faculty for its subcommittees:
    - Committee on Center, Institutes and Specialized Research
    - Laboratories
    - Researchers' Liaison Committee
    - Ad Hoc Committees
  - UPPC has vacancies in
    - Resource Analysis and Planning Committee
    - University Facilities Committee
- Information about relief efforts for hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey and Mexico Earthquakes <http://www.albany.edu/relief/>

- Congratulations to Joachim Frank, one of three scientists who were awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize in chemistry for developing cryo-electron microscopy, which simplifies and improves the imaging of biomolecules, allowing the image generation of everything from proteins that cause antibiotic resistance, to the surface of the Zika virus. “This method has moved biochemistry into a new era,” the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
- [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.

**SUNY Senators’ Report** – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little, Latonia Spencer

- The SUNY University Faculty Senate will convene it's 177th Fall Plenary Meeting at SUNY Delhi from October 19-21, 2017.

**Graduate Student Organization Report** – Dawn Wharram, Lead Senator

- Nothing to report.

**Student Association Report** –Jerlisa Fontaine, President

- *Nothing reported*

**Council/Committee Chair Reports:**

**CAA – Istvan Kecskes, Chair, Mary Ellen Mallia Co-Chair**

- *Nothing reported*

**CAFFECOR – Carol Jewell, Chair**

- Nothing to report

**CERS – Michael Jerison, past Chair**

- *Nothing reported*

**COR –Robert Rosenswig, Chair**

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 – Louise-Anne McNutt, past Chair**

- Nothing to report

**GAC – Sean Rafferty, Chair**

- *Nothing reported*

**GOV – Jim Mower, Chair**

GOV voted to:

- Appoint Julie Cuccio Slichko to the Campus Recreation Advisory Board and
- Appoint Karen Chico-Hurst to fill the UAS board member term vacated by Gary Kleppel on his retirement.

Unfortunately, replacement procedures for vacancies on the UAS board are not described in the Faculty Bylaws. Senate Chair Karin Reinhold and I have since talked about a way to make filling UAS vacancies more regular without amending the Bylaws, specifically by applying its rules for replacing vacated Senate positions (II.8.3.a,b) to the UAS board position. In subsequent elections that we conduct for the voting faculty, we would be sure to keep a permanent record of votes for all candidates. By doing so, we could fill vacancies by asking each of the runner ups, in order of vote count for the elected position, if they would be willing to serve out the term in question. If not, we would use past practice and conduct

a GOV vote of nominees presented by the UAS board President, just as we did for the Kleppel vacancy.

Anticipating GOV's approval of the 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, Senate Chair Reinhold, Past Chair Collins, and I have discussed various methods for achieving quorum (following positive reviews of the amendments by the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and the University Senate) when the voting faculty participates in the online election. We agreed to contact deans and department chairs to encourage them to spread the word on the vote. We are also trying to make voting easier; ballotbin, an online voting technology recently used by the College of Arts and Sciences, is one such possibility. Jim Mower and Ilka Kressner spoke with CAS Associate Dean Susanna Fessler about her experience with the tool for administering the recent CAS at-large election. On hearing good news about ballotbin, GOV will further explore its use in future Senate voting tasks.

GOV will eventually take on new legislation to, in the words of Senate Resolution 1718-01R, "explore amending the Faculty Bylaws to grant voting faculty status to part-time faculty and staff. " A positive vote will have implications for achieving quorum in future votes; GOV will likely take a role in defining how part-time faculty will be counted in quorum decisions.

GOV passed 1617BA01 and 1617BA02 (voting rights for part time faculty to elect their own representative and clarification of voting senators) with edits and forwarded both to SEC for consideration. SEC approved both amendments and has forwarded them to the Senate.

#### **LISC – Sheila Bernard, Billie Franchini, Co-Chairs**

- The Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing (LISC) will meet on October 12, 2017, and tour the new Educational Technology Center.

#### **UAC – Karen Kiorpes, Christy Smith, Co-Chairs**

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

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 14<sup>th</sup> and is currently meeting biweekly.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

#### **ULC – Ekow King, Chair**

- *Nothing reported*

#### **UPPC – Jim 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.

UPPC next meets on October 18

**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.