

2-6-2012 GAC Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting for February 6, 2012

Approved by the Council on March 6, 2012

In attendance: A. Assuwiyan, J. Baronner (staff), J. Bartow (staff), J. Bissonnette, F. Bolton (staff)
S. Commuri, B. Dieffenbach, C. Duncan, T. Groves (Chair), L. Halpern, A. Krause,
G. Robinson, M. VanUllen

Unable to attend: D. Dewar, D. Mancini, K. Williams

The meeting was called to order by Chair Groves at 12:05 PM.

1. Dean's report – K. Williams

Dean Williams was unable to attend today's meeting.

2. Chair's Report – T. Groves

Chair Groves welcomed everyone to a new semester of GAC meetings.

Highlights from the most recent Senate meeting on December 12, 2011 were provided by Chair Groves as follows:

The Provost provided an update on NYSUNY 2020. UAlbany needs to present its initiative to the Governor's Office. None of the university centers have had their proposals approved but it is expected that Buffalo and Stony Brook will have theirs approved in the next week.

The SUNY Board of Trustees approved a five year tuition plan including the tuition that was proposed in the SUNY 2020 legislation. The tuition for doctoral students will have only one increase for a total of 6%.

SUNY has initiated a deficit reduction leave program for Management Confidential employees requiring nine days of unpaid leave.

Carl Hayden has resigned his position as chairman of the SUNY Board of Trustees. Carl McCall has taken over as the chairman.

Governor Cuomo announced the awards through the Regional Economic Development Council initiative. The top four strategic plan winners were from Western New York, Central New York, North Country and Long Island Regions. The Capital Region received \$62 million for its initiatives.

The Senate meets later today, February 6 to vote on search committee members for the Presidential replacement.

4. Committee Reports

- No committee business was conducted.

5 Old Business

Review and Possible Update of Guidelines for Redressing Ethical Violations

Senate Chair Susanna Fessler requested that the guidelines for ethical violation be reviewed for possible updates and revisions. Chair Groves anticipates that, as a result of this inquiry, a joint bill from GAC and UAC will be generated for Senate action during this spring semester. With today's advanced technological climate, the guidelines are outdated. Examples given were clickers utilized to claim attendance by other students for absent students and utilizing such sites as Wikipedia without citing others' works. Chair Groves e-mailed to GAC members the graduate portion for ethical violation extracted from the Graduate Bulletin. Today's meeting will include discussions but suggestions/comments should be e-mailed to the Chair by Friday, February 17th. The Committee charged with updating the guidelines will include, GAC Chair Groves, UAC Chair JoAnne Malatesta, Senate President Susanna Fessler, Dean of Graduate Education Kevin Williams, and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Sue Faerman.

Council discussion followed. It was pointed out that a larger issue across campus exists where final measures are not consistent regarding penalties and procedures. We need a more structured procedure that is further unified and has a more fair approach toward students. Guidelines for ethical violation are printed in both the Graduate and Undergraduate Bulletins as well as being available via the Office of Conflict Resolution & Civic Responsibility. The policies and procedures governing penalties and reinstatement are outside the scope of this inquiry. (This was later confirmed by Senate Chair Fessler). The question was asked whether an ethical violation appears on a student's transcript after a student is given a lower grade. The proper path is (A) the first violation results in the professor filing a report and (B) the second violation results in a report to the Graduate or Undergraduate Dean. The Dean will then refer the violation for review. A question was asked whether a breach of academic integrity should be placed on students' transcripts and how long the record is retained. It was noted that the record is retained until the student graduates. A member mentioned that internet graphics are imported and students do not always show permission from the original source. Permission is also required for dissertation and thesis submission, however, the ease of access from the internet allows many situations to come through. Tutorials are available to bring new faculty and international students up to speed. The Library offers briefing sessions and training classes. An international GSO student noted that his experience shows roughly half of international students he is acquainted with are unaware of plagiarism rules. It was suggested that ethical violation training be provided in orientation. Another GSO student mentioned that the School of Social Welfare *requires* students receive ethical violation training. It was suggested that an in-house program be available where students would need a certificate or other type of proof to ascertain they have completed the in-house

Review and Possible Update of Guidelines for Redressing Ethical Violations (Continued)

program. A member commented that it is not always a lack of awareness being the cause. Some students wait until the last minute to submit papers and then take a chance with plagiarism. It was noted that some international students are not good at paraphrasing. A GSO student acknowledged that his high school strongly emphasized to not engage in plagiarism but stated perhaps international students were not trained in the same manner. The international GSO student commented that he was shocked when he reviewed the plagiarism rules. A member suggested that perhaps a one-page document with students' signatures stating they have read the rules may suffice. It was noted that our web pages are not necessarily user friendly at times. Chair Groves will follow up today's discussion with Senate President Fessler. He also mentioned that he will compile suggestions and e-mail the final results to GAC members. JoAnne Malatesta and Chair Groves will review their respective council comments. There is a possibility that UAC will be a little different from GAC suggestions. However, all will be resolved before a bill is presented to the Senate.

The Chair mentioned the attempt to schedule spring GAC meetings was to accommodate as many schedules as possible. He took a poll of which members would be unable to attend booked meetings. It was suggested that the May 2nd meeting be moved to further accommodate members' schedules. The Chair mentioned meetings will be booked to allow members 15 minutes travel time from their previous meeting and/or class.

Review Status of Outstanding Assessment Reviews

No reports are available for today's meeting. The Chair requested all reviews be completed for submission at the next GAC meeting scheduled for March 6. If members have a problem accessing the Wiki site, please contact Dr. Joel Bloom in the Institutional Research Office (jbloom@albany.edu). He is the gatekeeper for the wiki site.

6. New Business

No new business was conducted.

Future Meetings:

All meetings will be held in the MSC 102 Conference Room

- Tuesday, March 6, 3:00-4:30 PM

- Wednesday, April 4, 2:15-3:45 PM

- Friday, May 4, 2012, 2:45-4:15 PM (date moved from original May 2nd booking)

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Groves at 1:25 PM.

END OF GAC 2/6/2012 MINUTES
