

University Senate Executive Committee

Monday, April 1, 2019

2:45 PM – 4:45 PM

UNH 306

James Mower, Senate Chair

MINUTES

Attendees: Havidán Rodríguez; Elga Wulfert; Jim Mower; Karin Reinhold; Zina Lawrence; Malcolm Sherman; Latonya Spencer; Billie Franchini, Debra LaFond; Christian Poehlman; Diane Hamilton; Rob Rosenwig; Kathie Winchester; Ann Marie Murray; Lenore Horowitz

Meeting commenced at 2:50

A. Approval of SEC Minutes of March 11, 2019

It was requested that it be added that Kevin and JoAnne agreed to bring documents back to the April meeting for final review by the SEC.

Vote to approve as amended: 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions

B. Presidents's Report – Havidán Rodríguez

President Rodríguez shared that Carol Kim has been selected as UAlbany's next provost and discussed her qualifications and experience. He thanked Elga Wulfert for serving as interim provost and recognized the progress we have made under her leadership. He acknowledged the work of the search committee and indicated that it was a thorough and successful search with an outstanding and diverse pool of candidates. He also announced that Carol Kim will be visiting campus a number of times leading up to her August 1st start date.

He also provided an update on the State budget, indicating that there were no budget cuts impacting SUNY and UAlbany from last year's budget. The Office of Government Relations will send out a summary of the budget, highlighting funding that affects higher education generally, as well as funding that directly impacts UAlbany.

C. Provost's Report – Elga Wulfert

Provost Wulfert indicated that an updated document outlining the creation of the Graduate School has been finalized and will be shared for informational purposes with SEC and UPPC. It was clarified that personnel and mechanisms for graduate admissions currently residing in the individual schools and colleges will remain in place; the Graduate School will serve those

units and facilitate enhanced collaboration with them. Additionally, she shared that a survey will be coming out soliciting feedback on the naming of three academic buildings on the main campus. She indicated that this does not obviate opportunities for naming buildings in recognition of major gifts. It was shared that signage outside of the building identifying units housed inside is an ongoing conversation.

D. Senate Chair's Report – James Mower

Nothing to add.

E. Old Business

None.

F. New Business

a. Combined B.A./M.A. program in LACS (18-048)

This is a classic combined program that allows for 12 credits of overlap between the undergraduate and graduate degree. There are no resource implications because the courses are already being taught on both levels. It will encourage students to stay at UAlbany to get their graduate degree. Zina Lawrence reminded the group that although there are very little resources required, there is still an important marketing and advertising need that should be considered.

Vote: 10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

b. Minor in "Law and Philosophy" (18-053)

The study of philosophy is said to be very helpful for students who intend to take the LSATs, enhancing their reasoning and analytical skills. This will allow students to focus on courses in logic, critical thinking, ethics, philosophy of law, and courses from other departments as electives. These courses are all taught on a regular basis and will be resource neutral. It was shared that there was significant support from partners, including a strong letter from Albany Law School, and that the proposers did a thorough job of vetting the proposal.

Vote: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention

c. Graduate Certificate in Maternal and Child Health (19-003)

This program comes as a result of a grant that the School of Public Health received. Several other institutions have such programs, and this is seen as a gap in UAlbany's program. There are no other SUNY institutions or peer institutions outside of NYC that offer this program. Debra LaFond shared an upcoming event on this topic.

Vote: 10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

d. Minors in Musical Theater, Acting, and Theatrical Design and Technology (19-007)

The current program in Theater is generic, and it is beneficial students to focus in one area. These are three new minors; Acting and Theatrical Design are reactivations, and the minor for Musical Theater is brand new and in high demand. Professors of practice have been hired in the department which has helped to rebuild the program, growing the previously deactivated program from 0 majors to 70-80 majors in just a few years, indicating significant student interest. This program would be in the department of music and theater.

Vote: 10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

e. LISC Resolution on Open Educational Resources

Lenore Horowitz shared that she had been an OER Fellow and took on the position as the Provost's Liaison to OER. She indicated that her goals were to make OER more visible and understood, and to encourage the University to support it. She indicated that they are forming a working group, and sharing this resolution with the Senate which passed LISC unanimously. She answered numerous detailed questions about OER and the resolution. There was some discussion about whether the first whereas implies that this serves the wider community, and it was clarified that it is designed to serve UAlbany students and generally agreed that this was clear in the proposal.

Vote: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention

f. Multi-award Program Resolution

This resolution will simplify the process of approving combined programs bachelor's/master's programs. This was thoroughly investigated, including reviewing Senate bylaws and charter, as well as SUNY policies, to determine where flexibility in the approval process was possible. The difference between a new program and a combined program was clearly defined, and it was determined that combined programs can be approved as a revision, rather than as a new program and it does not need to go before UPPC or go to the Senate floor as a bill. It will be approved by GAC, UAC and SEC, and reported to the Senate. In the event that a combined program has significant resource implications SEC can ask that it be sent to UPPC before approving. One chair indicated concern that the full Senate would no longer be reviewing these programs. It was indicated that this resolution will be voted on by the Senate so the full Senate will make a determination about whether they are comfortable with this revision, and it is not unlike other academic approvals that take place in the councils and are not voted on by the full Senate. Additionally, it was clarified that this reflects and is in response to a change at the SUNY level.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention

g. Distinguished Professor

The nominating committee in charge of reviewing and recommending distinguished professors. In the past, we have waited until the end of someone's career to nominate them to distinguished ranks which meant that there were few distinguished professors active at the University. It was required that distinguished professors serve on the committee, which was difficult. This bill suggests that this be expanded to include professors who have received various excellence awards, and changes the rules of quorum making quorum 50 percent of the faculty.

Vote: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

h. Contingent Faculty Concerns Committee Proposal

This proposal is in response to findings from the Blue Ribbon Panel and creates a standing committee for Contingent Faculty Concerns which allows members to provide an opportunity for communication, to raise concerns, and also the review policies that impact contingent faculty. It also creates a formal mechanism for contingent faculty to have representation and a liaison to the Senate. This would be housed in GOV as a subcommittee. It was suggested that the sentence "due the end of fall" be clarified as an amendment. There was a question raised about the rationale for the makeup of the committee, and it was clarified that each member was chosen to represent the various groups of contingent faculty, and also maintaining representation from a tenured faculty member. It was suggested that a minimum number be added, and it was argued that since it is difficult to recruit contingent faculty to service because of their schedules it is better to not have a minimum number. It was suggested that representation is what is important and this is covered. Special recognition was given to Virginia Yonkers and GOV for their long standing work to bring this to fruition.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

i. Research indirect cost return flow

Rob Rosenwig shared information that was provided by Todd Foreman, and it was shared that Todd Foreman and Jim Dias were invited to present but did not attend. The chart he shared indicated that \$14,372,223 had been brought in as ICR to the University in '17/'18. He shared the breakdown and indicated that although the published cost share indicates that that 2% of the ICR is to be returned to the deans and 8% goes to the departments; he indicated that in practice 1% is returned to the deans and 6% is returned to the department. He shared that these percentages are decided at the campus level, and said that at Binghamton 10% goes to the deans, 10% goes to the department and 10% goes to the PI. He suggested that if the return is 1% and 6% it should be published as such, but that there should be discussions about increasing these numbers and providing more return to the PI. It was indicated that CoR Chair Rob Rosenwig, Jim Dias, and Todd Foreman will be invited to the next CGL meeting.

G. Other Reports

1. SUNY Senators' Report – Diane Hamilton, Latonia Spencer, Sam Axley
2. Graduate Student Organization Report – Kaylynn Enright, Lead Senator
3. Student Association Report – Langie Cadesca, President
4. Council/Committee Chair Reports:
 - i. CAA – Istvan Kecskes/Mary Ellen Mallia, Co- Chairs
 - ii. CAFFECOR – Malcolm Sherman, Chair
 - iii. CERS
 - iv. COR –Robert Rosenswig, Chair
 - v. CPCA – James Hargett, Chair
 - vi. GAC – Sean Rafferty, Chair
 - vii. GOV – Zina Lawrence, Chair
 - viii. LISC – Billie Franchini, Chair
 - ix. UAC – Christy Smith/Karen Kiorpes, Co-Chairs
 - x. ULC – Deborah LaFond, Chair
 1. Debra LaFond shared that she felt policies have been coming through the Senate but SEC has not had a chance to formally respond and discuss. Chair Mower indicated that Kevin Wilcox would be happy to present at any time. It was shared that the Policy Review Committee has faculty representation, and Senate representation, and that policies are shared with GOV and frequently dispatched to other councils and committees and comments are shared back with the Chair who provides them to Kevin Wilcox. These also are typically included in reports. It was suggested that Kevin Wilcox and David Wagner present to SEC about how best to provide feedback on draft policies, and share about how feedback is incorporated.
 - xi. UPPC – Karin Reinhold, Chair
 1. Debra LaFond requested that the Powerpoints from the Inequalities in Academia forum be shared with SEC.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06pm