

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

Meeting of the University Senate, May 13, 2013
As submitted to Yenisel Gulatee, Senate Secretary, University Senate

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Andi Lyons, Chair

- The proposed amendment to the Senate Bylaws opened to the voting faculty via electronic ballot on May 1, with voting available through May 10. In order to change the bylaws we must receive ballots from at least 30% of those eligible to vote. Please cast your vote, and PLEASE encourage your constituents to vote as well. Information on the amendment and the rationale for it is provided. The Chair of GOV will report the result at the full Senate meeting on May 13.
- President Jones signed the legislation to change the name of the Women's Studies Department to the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.
- Miriam Trementozzi sent the SEC a letter of thanks from President Jones for supporting the Community Engagement Forward events. She also expressed her own appreciation, stating they had excellent attendance and discussions, and that the Councils' roles as co-hosts very much contributed to that. Thank you to all the Senators who are helping to move this important initiative forward.
- The UUP Albany Chapter Acting President, James Collins, has contacted the University Senate leadership regarding a perceived contract violation, in reference to CPCA membership as it is currently constituted under our Senate Charter. Senate and UUP leaders will be meeting in the near future to determine the exact nature and extent of any conflict, and how best to remedy any inconsistency.
- As the 2012-2013 regular session of the University Senate draws to a close, the Chair would like to thank each member of the SEC, every senator, and all council and committee members for their important contributions to the shared governance of this university. 2012-13 has brought new presidential leadership and renewed energy to us. I am grateful to this Senate for opening its arms to President Jones, and I applaud our collective willingness to put the past behind us and work toward a brighter future for UAlbany. Thank you.

UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) –Danielle Leonard, J. Philippe Abraham & Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, SUNY Senators

Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik attended the UFS Spring Plenary meeting in Syracuse in May 2-4. A full report will be submitted.

GSO (Graduate Student Organization) – Thomas Devlin, GSO President

Nothing to report

SA (Student Association) – Marc Cohen, Student Association Representative

The Student Association Senate had confirmation proceedings during their last meeting; all but one nominee were confirmed. We are having a Dippikill retreat May 3-4.

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Adrian Masters, Chair

Nothing to report

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility)

– Leslie Saint-Vil, Chair

Nothing to report

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Carolyn MacDonald, Chair

CERS will meet to have a training session.

COR (Council on Research) – John Monfasani, Chair

COR held its last meeting for the academic year on April 25th. It engaged in a discussion with a guest participant, Johanna Hakala, a Fulbright scholar from Finland here in the States to study the organization of research in American universities. It also began work on several items to be taken up at the start of next year, namely, the decision making process for FRAP A awards and an effective annual reporting system of research centers at UAlbany.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Sanjay Putrevu, Chair

The CPCA will meet weekly until Friday, May 24 to complete reviewing all pending cases. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Tim Groves, Chair

The GAC met on 4-12-2013. A draft of an updated policy for academic integrity was approved. This will be reconciled with a similar draft from UAC, with the goal of implementing a common policy, to be placed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Bulletins. The Chairs of UAC and GAC will then draft a bill to be brought before the Senate before the end of Spring 2013 semester.

GOV (Governance Council) – Christine Wagner, Chair

GOV met on 4/22/13. GOV discussed the report from CAFFECOR recommending the dissolution of CAFFECOR as a standing committee of the Senate Executive Committee. Senator Susanna Fessler attended GOV as a guest as a representative from CAFFECOR. Senator Fessler explained that all as a body, CAFFECOR has no authority and is not recognized by General Counsel. In addition, all faculty, staff and student grievances can now be addressed and resolved elsewhere. GOV passed a motion that a GOV ad hoc subcommittee be formed to draft a Senate Charter Amendment proposing the dissolution of CAFFECOR and that Section VII.7.3 be removed from the Charter. GOV, upon the request of the Senate Officers, reviewed the Bylaws Article II. Section 6 – Senate Councils and Committees and interpreted term limits on Councils to be 3 consecutive terms on a single Council. Following the third term on a Council, membership on another Council in the next year is permitted. A vote on the Faculty Bylaws Amendment 1213-01BA will take place on MyUAlbany from May 1-10. The Committee on Council Nominations will meet on 4/24/13. The Call for Nominations for Vice Chair of the Senate was distributed by email to all Voting Faculty on 4/4/13 with a deadline for nominations of 4/22/13. GOV will meet again on 5/6/13 for its final meeting of the academic year.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Elizabeth Gaffney, Chair

Last scheduled meeting of the year for LISC is scheduled for Monday, May 6th.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Richard Fogarty, Chair

The council submits three bills (one of which is cosponsored with GAC) for consideration by the Senate at this, its final meeting. The final meeting of UAC on 8 May is devoted to reviewing and giving final approval to learning objectives for the major competencies generated by the General Education Advisory Board, as mandated in last year's revision of the General Education Program.

ULC (University Life Council) – Vincent LaBella, Chair

Nothing to report

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Susanna Fessler, Chair

UPPC's final meeting of the academic year is scheduled for May 10. We will be voting on the academic planning calendar for 2014-15, and possibly also begin looking at the planning calendar for 2015-16.