

**2007-2008 University Senate Executive Committee  
November 12, 2007  
Reed Hoyt, Chair**

**MINUTES**

- Present:** Richard Collier, John Delano, Sanjay Goel, Reed Hoyt,  
William Lanford, Zai Liang, Eric Lifshin, Lawrence Raffalovich,  
Michael Range, Karin Reinhold-Larsson, Junru Ruan, Lawrence Schell
- Guests:** Bruce Szelest, Assistant VP for Strategic Planning & Assessment  
Daniel Truchan, III, UG Student Senator
- Minutes:** The Minutes of September 10, 2007 were approved with amendments.

**Chair Hoyt's Report:**

- **The memo regarding the Interim Provost Search:** it has not yet been responded to.
- **UAlbany Diversity Plan:** Tamra Minor, Assistant Vice President and Director of Diversity and Affirmative Action reported to Chair Hoyt, that the current UAlbany Diversity Plan will be revised, and there is an upcoming external review of the program scheduled for sometime in the next academic year.
- **Presidential Search:** Off-site interviews will begin next week; once the top candidates are chosen, meet and greet sessions will be scheduled.
- **Faculty Forum:** Requests for topics include Internationalization, and the Writing proposal.
- **Update on Bill Number 0708-05:** Proposed Guidelines for the UAlbany Selection Committee for Distinguished Teaching Professors and Distinguished Service. The Bill was approved at Senate and has been submitted to the Officer in Charge for approval.

**SUNY Senate Report, by Senator Range:**

Senator Range reported that among items discussed at the recent Plenary meeting in Cortland, was the VSA (Voluntary System of Accountability) program. He noted that UAlbany is participating in that program. Sector concerns included the discussion on transfer credits. And, he announced that SUNY System has created an Office for Diversity and Educational Equity, and appointed Dr. Pedro Cabán as Vice Provost to that office. Dr. Cabán was introduced at the Cortland Plenary meeting. He was offered a tenured position in the UAlbany LACS department.

**Presentation by Bruce Szelest:** Assistant VP Szelest spoke about the Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) project. He explained that it is a joint project and it is being launched this week. He distributed a template, and there was lengthy discussion. More information can be found at [www.albany.edu/ir](http://www.albany.edu/ir) on the Assessment page.

There was discussion of the 2010 Middle States report, and the possibility of convening a planning group was mentioned.

### **Council and Committee Reports:**

**CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) -- William Lanford, Chair.** The Council has formally staffed its committees.

**COR (Council on Research) – Lawrence Schell, Chair.** There is nothing new to report.

**CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Eric Lifshin, Chair.** CPCA disposed of three cases and will return to the issue of non-tenured faculty voting on tenure cases.

**GAC (Graduate Academic Council) -- Sally Friedman, Chair.** GAC has several bills up for SEC discussion: the suspension of awarding degrees in the Geology program, a proposed Ph.D. program in Communications, and proposed courses from Education on a variety of certificates.

**GOV (Governance Council) – John Delano, Chair.** The Governance Council met on October 29 to discuss its recommendations for membership on the 2007-2008 Selection Committee for Distinguished Teaching Professors (DTP) and Distinguished Service Professors (DSP), as required by the Senate Charter. The names of three DTPs and three DSPs were unanimously agreed upon by Governance Council members. Subsequent to the October 29 meeting, the GOV Chair solicited Deans of the School of Education, School of Business, and the School of Nanoscience and Engineering for the names of highly respected full professors who could be candidates for the two additional members (as per Senate Bill 0708-05 that was passed by the Senate on October 22; and forwarded to the Officer-in-Charge George Phillip on November 7 for his consideration). Members of the Governance Council were sent the list of those full professors by the Chair for their consideration. The GOV Chair has acted on those recommendations and forwarded the names to Bill Hedberg, the Provost's staff member assigned to the Selection Committee. The next agenda item to be considered by the Governance Council at its next meeting on November 19 will be items referred to it during the Senate meeting of September 24.

**LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Larry Raffalovich, Chair.** There is nothing new to report.

**UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Karin Reinhold-Larsson, Chair.** UAC is presenting the Honors College Changes proposal today.

**ULC (University Life Council) – Joan Savitt, Chair.** ULC met on Oct. 29. Current concerns are support staff for intramurals, the effects of having students in triple rooms, and the ratio of students to mental health professionals on campus. The Council also has the carried-over issue of student housing needs in the period just before the start of classes. UAC next meets on November 19 at 3:30 in the Terrace Lounge.

**UPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Diane Dewar, Chair.** There is nothing new to report.

**CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Sanjay Goel, Chair.** There is nothing new to report.

**CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Zai Liang, Chair.** CERS met on November 6. The Committee discussed some newly proposed changes to the current research misconduct policy and procedures. The Committee has not reached consensus about proposed changes. The Committee decided to consult with relevant parties and to continue the discussion in the next meeting, along with discussing the Honor Code.

**New Business:**

**Bill No. 0708-06: (GAC) Proposal to Amend the M.S. General Educational Studies Program & Establish new Graduate Certificate Programs.** The Bill was introduced by GAC Chair, Sally Friedman. There was lengthy discussion on elective credits, i.e., how many one-credit courses vs. a three or four credit course; and it was decided that Chair Friedman would go back to the proposers of the bill and explain the concerns of the SEC members to them. The bill was passed by the SEC and will be presented at Senate with an amendment on the Senate floor requesting more detail on how the six elective credits will be applied.

**Bill No. 0708-07: (UAC) Expansion of the Minor in Informatics.** The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to move it to Senate.

**Bill No. 0708-08: (GAC) Proposal to establish a Ph.D. Program in Communication.** The Bill was introduced by GAC Chair Sally Friedman. After discussion, it was decided to send the bill to UPC for review before going to Senate.

**Bill No. 0708-09: (GAC) Proposal to Suspend Graduate Admissions in Geological Sciences.** The Bill was introduced by GAC Chair Sally Friedman. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to move it to Senate.

**Bill No. 0708-10: (UAC) Proposed revision of requirements to Graduate from the Honors College.** The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. After discussion, it was decided that the proposal should be brought back to UAC to consult with the Honors College Governance Board members on the proposed changes. All were in favor; the bill will go back to UAC.

**Plenary Meeting Discussion:**

Senator Range spoke about the Plenary meeting planning for UAlbany. There was a lot of discussion and the suggestions will be presented to the SUNY representative, Carol Donato.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45

Respectfully submitted,  
Jayne VanDenburgh, Recorder