

# **Report by the 2008-2009 Chair of the University Senate**

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Members of the Councils and Committees of the 2008-2009 University Senate worked with skill and dedication to write and pass the following Legislation, Amendments to the Senate Charter, and Senate Resolutions. It was a privilege to serve on the University Senate with representatives from all constituencies in an attempt to make our institution stronger, despite the strong budgetary head-winds and other formidable challenges. On several occasions during the academic year, members of the Senate were reminded of an axiom from Sir Winston Churchill: *“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity, whereas the optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”* The Senate Chair’s errors also caused him to sometimes appeal to an axiom known as Hanlon’s razor: *“Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity.”*

In addition to extending my thanks to all members of the University Senate, I want to also thank the following two individuals: (i) Robert Gibson, University Registrar and Senate Parliamentarian, for his expertise in ensuring that Senate meetings were conducted in an orderly manner consistent with Robert’s Rules of Order; and Gail Cameron, who served her first year as Senate Support, performed her duties with skill, good humor, and efficiency.

To learn more about the specific items listed below, please visit the following URL:

**<http://www.albany.edu/senate/legislation>**

## **2008-2009 Senate Legislation**

Revision of syllabus requirements (0809-01)  
Retroactive Inclusion on the Dean’s List and Dean’s Commendation for Part-Time Students (0809-02)  
Grade Changes after Graduation Affecting Honors (0809-03)  
Revision of the S/U Selection Deadline (0809-04)  
Change in Name of a Department to Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences (0809-05)  
Health Disparities Graduate Certificate Program (0809-06)  
Comprehensive Forensic Chemistry Emphasis within Chemistry B.S degree (0809-07)  
Second Bachelor’s Degree (0809-10)  
University Policy on Combined Baccalaureate-Master’s Degree Programs (0809-11)  
Discontinue Graduate Certificate Program in Urban Education (0809-12)  
Criminal Justice Program for Honors in the Major (0809-14)  
Creation of Task Force for a Smoke-free Campus (0809-16)  
Suspension of Admission to M.A. program in Public Affairs and Policy Program (0809-17)  
GPA Requirement for admission to School of Education Minor (0809-18)  
Admissions and Credit Transfer from International Baccalaureate Programs (0809-19)  
Minor in Neuroscience (0809-20)

## **2008-2009 Proposed Amendments to the Senate Charter**

Amendment Regarding Eligibility to Chair Senate Councils and Committees  
Clarifying Amendment on "Graduate Courses" (Section X.4.6)  
Amendment to Ensure Consultation  
Amendment for creation of an Initial Review Committee of Undergraduate Academic Proposals (IRCUAP)

## **2008-2009 Senate Resolutions**

Effect of NYS Budget on SUNY  
Implementing Recommendations of NYS Commission on Higher Education  
SUNY Board of Trustees on College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE)  
Voluntary Contribution of 2009-2010 Pay Raises