

Governance Council
Wednesday, January 25, 2016
2:45 PM
UNH 306

Karin Reinhold, Chair

Minutes

PRESENT: Durio, Sabin (GSA); Earle, Keith; Herrmann, Susan; Moore, Chris; Nowell, Greg; Petry, Greta; Reinhold, Karin; Schmidt, John; Sergay, Tim; Yan, Zhen

GUESTS: Van Voorst, Jim; Bessette, Kim

The meeting convened at approximately 2:48 p.m.

GOV welcomed members Zhen Yan, who had been on sabbatical, and Tim Sergay, the replacement for Ilka Kressner who was on sabbatical.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 7 were unanimously approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

Chair Reinhold reviewed her written report, submitted as follows:

Dec 7th: Governance started evaluating the representation of contingent faculty in the Senate. Holly McKenna & Annette Richie gave a presentation on the issue.

Dec 21st: UAlbany Council meeting: preliminary evaluation of search firms.

Jan 13th: UAlbany Council meeting: Sandra Starke, who has served as Binghamton University's enrollment management leader for the last 15 years has joined us. Her office conducted a survey of admitted top students that did not come to UAlbany, an exercise that will shape UAlbany strategy going forward to better attract the group 1 students.

Jan 13th: UAlbany Council meeting extended session: Interviews and selection of firm that will conduct the presidential search.

Jan 18th: Cynthia Fox and Karin Reinhold joined the UAlbany leadership team that met with SUNY Provost Alex Cartwright for UAlbany's Performance Improvement Plan. UAlbany is showing improvements in enrolment and retention and is addressing the challenges regarding graduate enrolments. Cartwright was very welcoming of faculty concerns, was supportive of humanities and social sciences programs and aware of their current challenges. He was aware of the challenges UAlbany faces with expansions into new colleges and programs and the situation of contingent faculty. UAlbany is invited to apply for funding to support ideas that would move the university forward.

Jan 24th: Leadership meeting: a report is soon to come about the implementation of Contingent Concerns. The Critical Conversations forum on the role of humanities and social sciences will be held Feb 27th. The assessment of deans and administrative units is moving along. A draft was presented to the Council of Deans for feedback. The plan is to evaluate 2-3 deans per year. Results will be presented to the President and Provost for professional review. A committee was formed to evaluate written documents describing EOP program practices. The strategic planning process is moving along. We had the “divergence” exercise in the Fall to create a pool of ideas to move forward. Now we will move into the “convergence” phase on Fri Feb 10th. The goal is to write the strategic plan by the end of the semester for implementation in the Fall 2017.

Governance Council will be working on the update of the Senate Handbook this semester and probably during next year.

Forums update: Forum on Shared Governance has a preliminary date of Feb 21st, Contingent Concerns Mar 21st, UAlbany Identity in April.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Liaison and Elections Committee (LEC) – Christian Poehlmann, Chair

Nothing to Report

Assessment of Governance and Consultation Committee (AGCC) – Greta Petry, Chair

Nothing to Report

Ad hoc committee on Contingent Representation

Nothing to Report

OTHER REPORTS

UAlbany Budget Presentation – Vice President James Van Voorst and Associate Vice President Kim Bessette, Finance and Administration

Jim Van Voorst and Kim Bessette gave a revenue and expenditure presentation which highlighted the source and use of University funds and the 2017-18 executive budget. Discussion followed.

Representation of contingent faculty would be discussed at a subsequent meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder