

University Senate Executive Committee

Monday, March 11, 2019

2:45 PM – 4:45 PM

UNH 306

James Mower, Senate Chair

MINUTES

Attendees: Kaylynn Enright; Billie Franchini; Diane Hamilton; Deborah LaFond; Chris Poehlman; Sean Rafferty; Karin Reinhold; Rob Rosenwig; Elga Wulfert; Ann Marie Murray; Elizabeth Gray; Kathie Winchester; Kevin Williams; JoAnne Malatesta

Meeting commenced at 2:45pm

**Approval of SEC Minutes of Feb 11, 2019:**

Discussion: strike the statement that a designee can vote on member's behalf

Vote: 6 in favor; 2 abstentions; 0 opposed

A member brought up the policy on surveillance and one member shared having concerns. It was clarified that policies are being shared for comment, but will not necessarily be added as an agenda item. It was suggested that this policy be added to the agenda for discussion.

**Provost's Report:**

Interim Provost Wulfert provided an update on the Women in Higher Education group. Topics that emerged include the creation of a women's leadership institute, the second is a review of campus policies and practices to ensure consistency across colleges and departments, and the third is to create a conference on Women in Higher Education on this campus.

She stated that the creation of a Graduate School was discussed and approved at the Deans Council and that the University will move forward with these plans. She also mentioned that the Graduate Dean's office has developed a marketing campaign for a number of programs; others interested in receiving help with marketing their programs are encouraged to reach out to Kevin Williams.

**Chair's Report:**

**Progress report on efforts to promote speedup in academic process approval:**

JoAnne Malatesta and Kevin Williams provided an update on the working group. They shared that the group, which includes senate representation, has met three times and has made good progress. The primary areas of improvement recommended are: aligning the graduate and undergraduate approval process; creating and disseminating timelines and deadlines; the creation of a simplified flow chart; to the extent possible aligning the schedules of the councils, SEC and Senate; recommending early consultation with GE and UGE with a strong proof of concept phase including funding approval; and utilizing a proposal tracking software. Kevin and JoAnne agreed to bring documents back to the April meeting for final review by the SEC.

**New concentration in English Major:**

Kathie Winchester shared about the reactivation of a writing concentration in the English Department. She indicated that this is happening in response to student and industry demand.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

**New Minor in GIS:**

Kathie Winchester and Jim Mower shared that this is being created in response to industry demand. It also provides an opportunity for a path from undergraduate to graduate. It will replace the undergraduate certificate in GIS.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

**Combined BA/MS and BS/MS in Math/Data Science:**

Karin Reinhold shared that this is a typical combination where 12 credits overlap between the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Vote: 7 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention

**Combined BS/MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering**

Kathie Winchester shared that this uses shared resource courses to achieve the 12 credits of overlap. She also clarified the structure of the combined programs.

Vote: 8 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions

**Micro-credentialing Policy and Procedure**

Chair Mower provided background on how this policy has come to SEC. Kathie Winchester provided background on the content of the proposal, indicating the alignment with the SUNY priorities. She shared that this proposed policy includes the addition of a review board that includes a representative from UAC and GAC, and that the full councils would not need to approve every micro-credential individually.

Vote: 7 in favor; 1 opposed; 0 abstentions

**Reconsideration of ULC Commencement resolutions on December Commencement and departmental Commencement ceremonies subsequent to Senate comments from 2/25****Departmental:**

Deborah LaFond shared that the feedback from Senate has been incorporated into the most recent draft. Changing the word "benevolence" to "good-will" was suggested.

Vote: 7 in favor; 1 opposed; 0 abstentions

**December:**

It was suggested that December “graduation” needs to be changed to “commencement”. There was feedback that there were in fact presentations and explanations given multiple times to the Senate so the third Whereas claiming otherwise is misplaced and suggested removal. It was clarified that any changes made here should go as-is to the Senate, and should not come with additional changes that have not been reviewed by SEC. It was shared that it had been recommended to the proposers that feedback be solicited in advance to avoid suggested edits on the Senate floor.

Vote: 7 in favor; 1 opposed; 0 abstentions

**Other Reports:**

SUNY Senators: nothing to report

GSA: meeting with provost candidates and will give their comments to the student representatives on the search committee. Several representatives are graduating and so there will be elections for new members of the eBoard.

SA: not present

CAA: not present

CAFFECOR: not present

CERS: not present

CoR: Chair Rosenwig indicated that CoR is looking into where indirect costs from research grants are ending up and how they are utilized. He has requested of the CFO and VPR that this be clarified, and also an explanation for shifting RF money into state funds, and has met with the CFO. He suggested that SEC request that the VPR and the CFO attend an SEC meeting. He indicated that there are typically answers to these questions and that transparency would go a long way to reduce concerns.

CPCA: not present

GAC: Approved all proposals presented at the SEC meeting today, as well as a policy proposal on undergraduates taking graduate credit.

GOV: not present

LISC: Met on Feb 27<sup>th</sup>; will have report for full Senate.

UAC: not present. Kathie Winchester shared to say that UAC met March 8<sup>th</sup>; passed 4 minors.

ULC: Will be creating a forum to follow up on the MLK Presentation by Rev. Barber.

UPPC: Karin Reinhold shared that the word “full” has been removed from the UPPC Charter Amendment. She shared about the building naming policy, indicating that the suggestion was made that geographic features like rivers and mountains be used. The council recommended a signage policy that better indicates what departments and other units are inside a building from

the outside, as well as an app for navigating the campus. She also shared about an event that took place on International Women's Day, and announced that the Forum on Academic Inequalities will occur on March 28<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm.

Chair Mower shared that the President's University Address will occur on Wednesday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1:40pm, at the Performing Arts Center Main Theater.

There was discussion of how Senate representatives share materials and information back with their departments. A motion was made that the SEC reiterate the importance of the Senate participatory process and that representatives share materials with their departments.

**Proposal that SEC reiterate the importance of the Senate participatory process and that representatives share materials with their departments:**

Vote: 4 in favor; 0 opposed; 3 abstentions

Meeting adjourned at 4:36pm