

## 2010-2011 University Senate

Monday, March 14, 2011

3:30 pm, Campus Center Assembly Hall

Eric Lifshin, Chair

### Minutes

**Present:** J. Philippe Abraham, Andrew Abramowitz, Sandra Austin, Hassaram Bakhru, Robert Bangert-Drowns, Brea Barthel, R. Scott Birge, Bryant Burksdale, Lana Cable, JoAnne Carson, James Castracane, Sue Faerman, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, Patrick Ferlo, Susanna Fessler, James Fossett, Cynthia Fox, Elizabeth Gaffney, Timothy Groves, Kristen Hessler, Janell Hobson, Donald Keenan, Daniel Keyser, Ryan King, Laurence Kranich, , Vincent LaBella, Kajal Lahiri, William Lanford, Hamilton Lankford, Danielle Leonard, JoAnne Malatesta, Richard Matyi, Candace Merbler, Carla Meskill, John Monfasani, Robert Nakamura, Nancy Newman, Heidi Nicholls, Julie Novkov, Dana Peterson, John Pipkin, Katie Reed, Joan Savitt, John Schmidt, Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Hany Shawky, Leonard Slade, Lorre Smith, Fotini Spero, Kabel Nathan Stanwicks, Joette Stefl-Mabry, Christine Wagner, Daniel White, Kevin Williams, Rongwei Yang

**Guests:** Rebekah Bale, Jon Bartow, Susan Blood, Richard Collier, Pradeep Haldar, Lee McElroy, Michael Range, Paul Urbanski, Elga Wulfert

The meeting convened at 3:31 pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of February 14 were reviewed and approved with minor changes.

### **PROVOST'S REPORT by SUSAN PHILLIPS**

Provost Phillips presented the report in President Philip's absence.

### **Campus budget:**

The Provost reported that President Philip has reviewed the comments and feedback he has received and hopes to make decisions in the near future about proposed program actions. There is no clear statement of what the budget will look like next year. The State executive budget is calling for a \$131 million cut to SUNY, which translates into about \$10.5 million for UAlbany. Chancellor Zimpher is fighting for restoration of funds and flexibility in tuition and procurement. The NYS Senate and Assembly have completed one bill but it does not include any restoration. The NYS Senate has considered a 5% tuition increase for out of state students with ongoing conversations to extend it to the larger student population. The Senate has also proposed fiduciary provisions which would prevent a mid-year reduction, and both the Senate and Assembly have included a provision in the budget that would support procurement of goods only. Neither house has advanced the notion of a public-private partnership.

### **Enrollment Management:**

Freshman applications have exceeded 20,000 for new admits. The University will host an open house April 3-4 and assistance from the faculty is essential. Graduate applications have increased over 21% from last year.

## University-wide News and Events:

- Dr. David Rousseau has accepted the position as Interim Dean of the Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. Dr. Rousseau will assume this responsibility when Dean Jeffrey Straussman leaves to accept a distinguished visiting appointment at a premier public policy school in Singapore.
- New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd appeared on campus March 10 as part of the NYS Writer's Institute series.
- University Council member James Jackson has been selected as a member of the NYS Board of Regents.
- UAlbany is in the process of creating relief efforts for the Japanese earthquake and tsunami victims.

## Student Success:

- Eleven students from the graduating class have been recognized with the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. They will be honored at a SUNY-wide ceremony on Tuesday, April 5 at the Empire State Plaza. The recipients are Nicole Branchini, Hillary Closs, Carolyn Frantz, Sara Ganetis, Chinthaka Jayawardena, Patrick Lawrence, Cynthia Mellen, Leah Rotella, Rukayatu Tijani, Justin Wax Jacobs and Melinda White.
- President Bill Clinton was featured at the World Within Reach Speaker Series on March 2. He spoke to approximately 4,500 students, alumni and staff at the SEFCU Arena. The Provost applauded the Student Association for its effort.
- UAlbany student group Third World Impact placed first in the Newman's Own Challenge for its efforts to build a school for students in Uganda.

## College of Arts and Sciences:

- Assistant Professor Ryan Torn in Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences received two editorial awards at the 2011 American Meteorological Society Conference in Seattle, Washington in January.
- Distinguished Teaching Professor John Delano, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, is the recipient of the "2011 Citizen of the University Award" from the Alumni Association.
- Lisa Thompson, Associate Professor in the English Department, is a Sheila Biddle Ford Foundation Fellow at the W.E.B. DuBois Institute. She is researching her next book-length project, "Performances of Black Cultural Trauma in Contemporary African American Theatre".
- The English Department has several faculty members who will launch new books this spring including, Branka Arsic, Ineke Murakami, James Bellflower, Pierre Joris, and Eszter Szalczar.
- Associate Professor Amy Murrell Taylor in the History Department has been appointed to The Society of Civil War Historians Board of Advisors.

## School of Business:

- Students Jay Sherwood, Rostislav Spitchka and Mahmood Sajid were winners of the regional "green business/sustainability" business plan competition at Wharton.
- Alumni at Ernst and Young donated \$125,000 for the Ernst & Young Student Services Suite.
- Professor Rich Johnson will serve as Associate Editor of *AIS Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction* which is the leading journal in the field of human-computer interaction.

## School of Criminal Justice:

- The School of Criminal Justice and the Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center welcomed three international visitors recently: Dr. Joshua Guetzkow as part of a faculty exchange program between the School and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Anke Ramakers, a PhD Student in the Department of Criminology at Leiden University in The Netherlands; and Dr. Leyla Cakici Gercek, a lecturer at Zonguldak Karaelmas University in Turkey.

### **School of Education:**

- Lynn Gelzheiser, Educational and Counseling Psychology/Child Research & Study Center, has received \$3.1 million for the US Department of Education for research aimed at assisting struggling readers. Professor Gelzheiser and her colleagues, Kevin Quinn, Donna Scanlon, Frank Vellutino, and Glenn Deane of Sociology will conduct research in moderate to high poverty school districts in the Capital Region.
- Jason Lane and Kevin Kinser in Educational Administration and Policy Studies are recipients of the 2010 International Association of Universities/Palgrave Macmillan Research Essay Prize in Higher Education Policy Research for their essay, *Reconsidering privatization in Cross-Border Engagements: The Sometimes Public Nature of Private Activity*.

### **Intercollegiate Athletics:**

- In Women's Basketball, Julie Foster has been named to the America East All-Academic team. Ms. Foster is a Presidential Scholar with a 3.9 GPA in Business.
- The Men's and Women's Indoor Track was crowned the 2011 American East Champions.

### **University Development:**

- Michael Motta from the class of '74 made a \$250,000 pledge in support of Athletics. Steven and Bruce Dey, '82 and '80 respectively, have also made a generous pledge of \$100,000 in support of Athletics.

Provost Phillips asked if there were any questions.

Q: What do you see for the next round of program deactivations?

The Provost responded that hopefully there would not be any. If we were to receive the tuition increase that would stabilize the income the campus receives, we could defer further cuts. Should cuts have to be made, she said she hoped that BAG IV will advise on what needs to be done.

Q: Do you expect that BAG IV will create criteria that will be applied?

The Provost said there have been conversation within the Senate about what the Senate would like to have BAG IV to come forth with and about how specific it will be. Chair Lifshin added there have not been any suggestions about the Senate's role and suggested that people submit their ideas.

Professor Michael Range from Mathematics was recognized to speak and asked why he was removed from the Senate mailing list. Chair Lifshin explained that Senate mailings are sent to members of the Senate, the administration and their secretarial staff. He said that it was Professor Range's personal decision to take on other responsibilities this semester and relinquish his position with UPPC. Professor Range is currently on sabbatical. Chair Lifshin stated further that Senate activities are open to public view and communications are available on the Senate web site. Chair Lifshin said this was not an action against Professor Range but standard policy and suggested moving ahead with the agenda. Professor Range asked that the record reflect that his name was removed from the mailing list.

### **Change in Senate Council Memberships:**

GOV Chair Fessler announced the names of new Senators who have been added to councils. Senator Janine Jurkowski from the School of Public Health has been added to CAA. Senator Carla Meskill from the School of Education has been added to CERS. Andrew Abromowitz, Undergraduate Student Senator, has been added to LISC. Chair Fessler asked for a motion to approve the membership changes. A motion was made and seconded, and the changes were approved by a vote.

## SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT by ERIC LIFSHIN

Chair Lifshin reported the ad hoc revenue committee which is charged with coming up with alternative sources of funding, held its second meeting earlier in the day. UPPC Chair Fossett will be incorporating activities of this group with UPPC instead of having a separate committee.

## OTHER REPORTS

### SUNY-WIDE SENATE REPORT – J. PHILIPPE ABRAHAM, SHADI SHAHEDIPOUR-SANDVIK AND DANIEL WHITE

The SUNY Senators continue to be active. Senator Shahedipour-Sandvik reports that the March 8, 2011 Graduate Student Poster Session at Empire State Plaza had a full complement of posters from UAlbany. The event was successful and we encourage more UAlbany community members to visit these events in the future. We note that Professor Hany Shawky from the School of Business will be the University Faculty Senate representative to Senior Vice Chancellor Rimai's Resource Allocation Model Team. From what we understand, Senior Vice Chancellor Rimai has put together an ad hoc group of experts to reexamine the models that are used to allocate budget dollars to the 64 SUNY campuses. Dr. Shawky will have an independent voice and represent the entire faculty of the SUNY system. We are thrilled that one of our colleagues has been chosen to represent us in this important discussion. The Senators have been asked to prepare a report for the UFS President for which they are currently engaged in the data collection stage. The report is to include concrete examples of how de-funding SUNY has had a negative impact on UAlbany's campus.

*Senator Hany Shawky will be the University Faculty Senate representative to Senior Vice Chancellor Rimai's Resource Allocation Model Team.*

### GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION REPORT – HEIDI NICHOLLS

*Senator Nicholls reported that Fontini Spero was approved by the GSO Assembly. Senator Nicholls is working with Community Engagement on the Community Recognition Ceremony on March 18 to honor the work of students and staff involved in service work. GSO will hold a brown bag speaker series to highlight students from different departments. The Multicultural and Affirmative Action Committee will hold a graduate student forum on March 31. The GSO is the recipient of a Great Dane Award.*

### STUDENT ASSOCIATION REPORT -- JUSTIN WAX JACOBS

Nothing to report.

## COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) - Richard Matyi, Chair**

The CAA has nothing new to report – our next meeting is tentatively planned for the week of March 22, 2011.

### **CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) - Pradeep Haldar, Chair**

N/A

### **CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) - John Monfasani, Chair**

N/A

### **COR (Council on Research) - James Castracane, Chair**

COR met on February 16th and most of the meeting centered on three things:

1. A presentation by Adam Gibbs (Senior Vice President and Treasurer, SUNY Research Foundation) which focused on the use of the ~3% assessment by the RF. A combination of personnel services, legal services (including IP), financial services and assistance with policy management were cited.
2. VPR Dias gave a comparative breakdown of the expenditures by the major SUNY campuses and their rates of return. Albany's low return rate (~19%) stood out because of the large public services segment of its budget compared to other campuses.

3). The FRAPA recommendations were forwarded to VPR Dias and award letters were sent out. 24 proposals were submitted and 13 awards were granted totaling \$120,000.

## **CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) - Vincent LaBella, Chair**

CPCA continues to review cases.

## **GAC (Graduate Academic Council) - Laurence Kranich, Chair**

GAC met on February 11 to continue its consideration of CAA program reviews. The Council also met on February 18 to conduct its regular business. It considered a proposal from the School of Education for a Certificate of Graduate Studies in Online Learning and Teaching. The proposal was tabled pending slight modification. Sue Faerman, Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education, spoke to the Council of the work of the Campus Committee on University-Community Engagement Community-Engaged Learning Working Group, which she co-chairs. Finally, the Council resumed discussion of the CAA program reviews.

## **GOV (Governance Council) - Susanna Fessler, Chair**

GOV met on Thursday, March 3rd. GOV elected S. Fessler (Chair of GOV) as interim chair of the Committee on Liaisons and Elections, to replace T. Bessette who resigned from his position as Senate Secretary on February 22nd. S. Fessler will serve as interim chair until March 14th, when a new Senate Secretary will be elected.

Three members of GOV volunteered to be on the Committee for Council Nominations: J. Schmidt, R. Hoyt, and L. Shultz. One will be chosen, based on availability when the CCN meeting in the first week of April is scheduled.

The GOV Chair/Interim chair of CLE, noting that nominations for at-large senators and Senate Vice-chair are due on March 14<sup>th</sup> this year, sent out a call for nominations for Senate vice-chair and at-large senators via broadcast e-mail to the campus on March 3rd. On March 4<sup>th</sup> the Chair of the Senate requested that this call be retracted because he felt it was a violation of the Bylaws, and that a preliminary slate should have been distributed by GOV *before* the call for nominations. The Chair of the Senate wrote in part,

“The process you describe in [your broadcast e-mail calling for nominations] is in violation of the Faculty Bylaws.... that is not how University-wide elections must be run, and I am therefore requesting that you send out a broadcast instructing the Voting Faculty to ignore [the Senate Recorder’s] communication and promise that the appropriate information will be forthcoming.”

The Chair of GOV consulted with GOV about how to proceed; opinions were mixed. The Chair of GOV decided based on that feedback not to retract the e-mail, and to focus on finalizing a preliminary slate for campus-wide distribution by the deadline of March 14<sup>th</sup>.

The ad hoc committee for Assessment of Administrators and Administrative offices will be chaired by Joette Stefl-Mabry. She will work with other committee members to clearly articulate the committee’s charge. GOV discussed that perhaps SEC could decide who the ad hoc committee reports to and to involve CAA in the pilot case as a courtesy.

## **LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) - Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Chair**

LISC met on Feb. 14, 2011. A list of items/actions implemented for Managing Budget Reductions 2009-2011 was distributed by CIO Haile. CIO indicated that ITS is trying to mask any negative impact on the clients, as result of the budget cuts to ITS. Also, a pilot program of about 500 users will begin in late March/early April to test Live @ Edu. The wiki has all the updates and information on the opt-in period, bulk migration, etc. On the library side, three conceptual drawings on the library renovations have been presented to the campus for its final decision. The Libraries received an \$18 million grant to digitize WAMC’s audio programs from the archives.

The IT committee of LISC is focusing on the issue of statistical software licenses. Currently, IT subscribes to three packages: SPSS, SASS, STATA. As the operating budget for IT goes down, the SPSS renewal licensing fees are going up significantly, with reduced modules available (currently \$40K, increasing to \$53K with reduced modules available). Some of the questions are then whether ITS should decrease SPSS licenses, reduce the number of Statistics software options from 3 to 2 to 1, and Are there other products suitable to substitute? Are open sources as good as or better? These will be the focus of IT Committee for the remainder of the Spring 2011 semester.

## **UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) - JoAnne Malatesta, Chair**

UAC continues to meet every Wednesday. On February 21<sup>st</sup>, we asked all of the Schools and Colleges to submit comments about the General Education Task Force recommendation by March 7<sup>th</sup>. We have received a significant amount of feedback at this point and the General Education Committee is reviewing the responses. While we are now working to incorporate the task force recommendation and the responses from the University community into proposed legislation, we encourage any additional comments or concerns from the Senate, Schools, and Colleges. We continue to evaluate proposals regarding the undergraduate curriculum and will bring those to the Senate once approved at the Council level.

## **ULC (University Life Council) - Danielle Leonard, Chair**

On Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 ULC discussed its council membership and absenteeism. ULC needs one more Teaching Faculty Senator to conform to the charter and we have two too many Professional Faculty. The bulk of the discussion then centered around BAG IV and the budget. ULC members felt strongly that a university-wide conversation about the budget must continue—including ample opportunity for student participation. Specific recommendations included President Philip emailing students and/or writing something in the ASP, and creation of a campus culture that helps students to understand themselves as stakeholders. This might be done through such things as faculty encouraging student participation in a dialogue between themselves, administrators, and legislators. Finally we discussed access to the RACC facilities in light of the 2/16 ASP article “Students Can’t Count on Fitness Center.” ULC members recommend improving the Athletics website ([ualbanysports.com](http://ualbanysports.com)) to make its hours of operation (including closures due to events in the RACC) and contact information more accessible, to include the group exercise schedule, etc. There were also recommendations to have work-out facilities for all students and staff moved to the P.E. building to eliminate closure of the facilities due to events in the RACC.

## **UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) - Jim Fossett, Chair**

UPPC members have been participating in the deliberations of the Budget Advisory Group (BAG IV). Reports on the substance of these deliberations, together with relevant presentations, have been posted on the BAG IV website (<http://www.albany.edu/budget/bag-IV.shtml>) and the Senate’s web site (<http://www.albany.edu/senate/>). We have made one announcement to the university community as a whole about the availability of these materials, encourage Senators to pass these websites onto their constituents, and would welcome advice on how to insure that both the entire faculty and the university community as a whole are aware of these deliberations.

*Chair Fossett reported that budget information on the web is not being widely viewed. He encouraged everyone to inform their constituents that BAGIV reports have been circulated, and that there is a large amount of statistical and budget material on the web. An effort is being made to circulate the information as broadly as possible. Views expressed by Senate members were divided in their reactions to the information being made available with some believing a good job was being done and others did not feel there was enough transparency. Chair Fossett said that BAG IV and UPPC have gone to great lengths to provide budget information to the larger university community. The information on the wiki has not received any comments to date. Everyone wanted transparency and he said he did not know what more could be done to make the process more open. Bowles suggested that information about the way not state re venue is spent be made available to the uppc, bagiv and wider university community on the web site instead of a pie chart still missing 63% of the revenue. Bowles will submit something in writing*

## **Special Election for Senate Secretary to Complete 2010-2012 Term**

GOV Chair Fessler announced that there were two candidates on the ballot to fill the vacancy of Senate Secretary, Richard Collier from CNSE and Danielle Leonard from International Education. She asked if there were any further nominations from the floor. There being none, each candidate was given time to speak.

Mr. Collier introduced himself and said he has been involved with the senate and governance for many years. He is a past Senate Secretary having held the position for four years. He said it is complex and important work and was willing to assume the responsibility.

Ms. Leonard said she is fairly new to governance. She is an alumna of UAlbany and her studies were concentrated in the social sciences, and the humanities and art. She received her master’s degree from Ohio State University. She lived overseas for a number of years and is currently a study abroad coordinator on campus. Ms. Leonard has served on the ULC and was elected chair of the council last fall. She said she enjoys the work of the council with its focus on community life and would miss that work if elected Secretary. She believes that a variety of people from across the campus need to be dually represented and would work to provide broad participation. Ms. Leonard said she believed that the Senate should continuously have an infusion of new blood and cannot let any one person hold any one position for an extended period of time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Policy and Procedure on Misconduct in Research & Scholarship (CERS)**

CERS Chair Monfasani said this has been in process for four years. The discussions between CERS members and University Counsel, John Reilly, have led to a meeting of the minds and he believes the text satisfies the concerns of both sides. Chair Monfasani referred to the text in lines 291-2 of the policy which provides agreement between

the Research Integrity Officer (RIO) and the CERS chair that an allegation warrants an inquiry. The point of the text is to make sure that one person could not stop an inquiry. Chair Monfasani said this is healthy for the University. He said that University Counsel was not totally in agreement with the procedure but were otherwise in agreement on the rest of the policy. Chair Monfasani further pointed out that the revised CERS Policy Text states that the Complainant is obliged to maintain confidentiality during the CERS proceedings, but the text does not require confidentiality from the Complainant as far as his or her allegations are concerned once a determination has been reached. In response to a question from the floor, Chair Monfasani reaffirmed that CERS understands the text to mean that the Complainant is free of any rules of confidentiality in respect to his or her allegations, but not in respect to other aspects of the proceedings such as other evidence that was brought forth or the identity of other participants.

The floor was open for discussion of the bill. Senator Cable asked if this policy would apply to the CNSE since they report to the Chancellor instead of the President. Chair Monfasani said it would apply to all faculty. CPCA Chair LaBella, from CNSE, clarified that the Sr. Vice President of CNSE only reports to the Chancellor where it concerns financial matters. Senator Cable followed up and asked if CNSE is provided legal counsel from our legal counsel since CNSE is not part of the University. Chair Monfasani said CNSE is part of the University in all academic matters.

GAC Chair Kranich inquired as to how and to whom information would be disseminated if the President were to decide against the respondent. Chair Monfasani said the CERS chair would be notified and as well as others at the President's discretion.

A motion was made to put the bill to a vote and the motion was seconded. The vote approved forwarding the bill to the President.

Ask John to send language to be added.

### **Proposed Deactivations—Statement Read by Cynthia Fox, French Studies**

I have asked to speak today because the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, continues to be in a state of suspended animation following the proposed deactivation of our degree programs in French, Italian, and Russian

Senate Chair Lifshin has asked that I not cover information that has already been entered into the record of previous meetings. That is decidedly not what I am here to do.

On November 15, the Senate provided, at the President's request, a lengthy document about the proposed deactivations of these and other programs, and passed a resolution condemning both the deactivations and the flawed process that led to them.

On January 5, and again on February 21, the Chair of LLC wrote to the President requesting that, in the light of the Senate resolution, the suspension of admission to our programs be reversed.

The President has not responded to the comments, the resolution, or the letters. Nor has he respected his own administrative timeline for "Consultation and discussion addressing the declining resource picture at UAlbany" which lists December 2010 as the date for "final decision for further program actions."

The Senate should know that the 60 people who teach, work and generally earn their living in both the "affected" and "unaffected" programs of LLC, have been doing our best to soldier on. But the unanswered questions about just how we are supposed to do so, and especially how we are to serve the hundreds of students enrolled in our courses, are becoming more numerous and more critical every day. As time marches on, even the optimists among us find it hard to believe that the President is looking for a way to reverse the suspensions, and more and more

likely that the administration has arranged for a way of creating the conditions it desires--our deactivation--without having to go through proper channels, and that it is now simply hoping to bully tenured faculty into leaving. Why else would the President take so long to the Senate's comments and resolution, or to our Chair's letters?

We all agree that this University, and the entire SUNY system, is in a financial crisis. We all agree that difficult choices will be made. None of us envy the President, or the Provost, or the Dean of the CAS their job. But we have the right to insist that they perform their duties in ways that are transparent and offer some sort of accountability.

As the governance body "responsible for the development of the educational program of the University and for the conduct of the University's instructional, research, and service programs," it is the Senate's job to be asking the President why he is so uninterested in opinions that he himself solicited, and so unresponsive to the Chair of the department whose faculty, staff and students, are most deeply affected by his actions.

With more program deactivations on the horizon, the Senate needs to be very concerned that the President's silence is a sign that the same flawed consultative process has been launched all over again.

My comments aren't about the past, they are about the future. The crisis we face is not just financial. It is about leadership and it is about governance. Thank you.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Undergraduate Concentration in Entrepreneurship (UAC)**

UAC Chair Malatesta introduced the bill which was proposed by the School of Business. It has further been approved by UAC and the SEC. The proposal offers a 15 credit internship. Much of the course work will come from existing courses taught in the School of Business. One new course, *Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Social Responsibility*, will be taught by Dean Donald Siegel. Stressors on faculty and resources should be minimal. Chair Malatesta was asked by Senator Lahiri if other schools have this kind of program and she said UAC did not look into that. Senator Shawky from the School of Business added that this type of coursework is becoming a theme in the School of Business and the dean is responding to some demand that already exists. Senator Bakhru agreed, saying that he has seen a number of universities opening similar programs. A question was raised about the specificity of textbooks and reading materials. Sue Faerman, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, responded that the course listings on the third page are what should be voted on. The second page outlines the development of the proposal. Senator Merbler asked if courses will be taught by current faculty and if there would be any additions of new faculty. Chair Malatesta said it was her understanding that there would be no new faculty. Senator Shawky added that the proposal uses all existing resources. Senator Barthel asked if a writing intensive component needed to be designated. Senator Shawky responded that it meets university requirements.

There was no further discussion and Chair Lifshin asked for a motion to put the bill to a vote. The motion was approved and seconded. The bill was passed by a vote.

### **Results of Election for Senate Secretary:**

Chair Lifshin announced the results of the balloting. Danielle Leonard will be the new Senate Secretary to complete the term ending in 2012.

### **Report from Faculty Athletics Representative-- Faculty Rep., Teresa Harrison**

Chair Lifshin introduced Professor Harrison. She provided a report to the Executive Committee in February and she was asked to share the information with the full Senate.

Professor Harrison said she assumed the responsibilities of the faculty athletics representative in 2006 and this was her fifth report to the Senate, although the first report to the Senate as a whole. In the past, she has reported to ULC, UPPC and SEC. The purpose for reporting is to present descriptive information about student athletes in their studies and their performance in competition.

Professor Harrison reviewed statistics in several different categories for student athletes, beginning with comparative data for incoming students in 2010. The information shows that the academic qualifications of student athletes compares favorably with that of students at large. She added that UAlbany student athletes are of the highest quality. Professor Harrison was asked to provide additional information concerning students athletes admitted with consideration. She said these are students whose GPAs are below those of the traditional admits but they bring with them talents in other areas such as music or art. Approximately 14.5% are designated as being admitted with consideration.

A review of student athletes by major shows they are roughly distributed throughout different majors in a manner that mirrors that of the general student population. Professor Harrison said faculty have expressed concern about student athletes clustering in programs that may be more friendly or conducive to them but the statistics do not provide any evidence of this taking place. She was asked why this was important and responded that faculty are concerned that some majors may be easier or reflect favoritism towards student athletes who would otherwise not be qualified to enter UAlbany.

Professor Harrison reviewed the GPAs for student athletes during the spring 2010 semester and said they came close to those of traditional admits. For fall 2010, the women's teams generally outperformed the men's teams academically. This is true for teams across the country as well.

The graduation success rate (GRS) of student athletes was reviewed. Professor Harrison said the federal graduation rate (FGR) is problematic as it does not count transfer students both coming in and going out. Our FGR is around 67%. As UAlbany has moved forward in Division 1 athletics, our GSR has progressively improved.

Progress reports assist in providing academic support to student athletes. The reports are sent to the instructors of student athletes who have been designated as having academic difficulty or any group of student athletes that has been flagged by their coaches as needing or wanting this service. In 2010, over 1,000 reports were sent to instructors inquiring as to how students were doing and to identify any concerns about their performance in those courses. Professor Harrison said they are very grateful when instructors take the time to complete and return the reports.

The academic progress rate tracks the academic achievement of teams by semester. Professor Harrison described the formula used that was provided as a handout. A score of 925 is the cutoff and when an institution falls below this number they may be subject to sanctions by the NCAA such as having scholarships levied or losing opportunities for competition.

Professor Harrison said she hope that everyone would conclude from the report that student athletes mirror academic interest of the student population at large in their choice of major and their success in graduating.

Change 14% to 44%

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
Gail Cameron, Recorder