

**University at Albany, State University of New York  
Governance Council**

**Friday, March 5, 2010**

Eric Lifshin, Chair

**Minutes**

**Present:** Erin Bell, Ray Bromley, Nan Carroll, Richard Collier, Edward Cupoli,  
Sung Bok Kim, Eric Lifshin, John Pipkin, John Schmidt, Lawrence Snyder,  
Daniel White

The meeting convened at 10:34 am.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of February 5 were approved.

**CHAIR'S REPORT BY ERIC LIFSHIN:**

**Charter Amendments:**

Chair Lifshin discussed the four charter amendments approved by the Senate last year but not signed by President Philip. Even though the President has not signed the amendments, they will become part of the Charter. Chair Lifshin asked for a discussion of the potential consequences of having legislation passed by the Senate but not having presidential signature. He referred to conversations where this had been discussed as it related to Middle States, and there appears to be a conflict in the relationship and responsibility between the President and the SUNY Board of Trustees. He inquired as to whether GOV plays a role in attempting to reconcile the two positions and decide if further action needs to be taken. Secretary Collier informed GOV that the amendments do not need the president's signature. If they were challenged, the SUNY Senate would intervene on behalf of the UAlbany Senate. Chair Lifshin and Chair Range will meet with President Philip to discuss the status of the CERS policy and the amendments concerning chairing a council by an *ex officio*. GOV members discussed replacing the UPPC chair for the second term of the 2010-11 year. *(Eric, I wasn't sure if this should be included.)*

**General Education Requirements:**

Chair Lifshin informed GOV that the General Education Task Force has met and is being chaired by Stephen North. Provost Phillips was advised by SUNY Administration that in order for our local requirements to continue, we need to make it very clear that they are local.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Senate Secretary Collier led the discussion for upcoming spring elections. He provided a handout of the current Senate membership, highlighting the names of those members whose terms expire this year. The handout also provided information on how Senate membership is

apportioned throughout the colleges and schools. Secretary Collier provided an explanation of the formula used to calculate the number of members each school or college is allowed.

Secretary Collier referred to the first page of the handout and informed Chair Lifshin that he will need to send out a call for nominations for the positions of Senate Vice-Chair and Senate Secretary to the entire voting faculty. Anyone who is a member of the voting faculty is eligible for nomination. Self nominations can be accepted and verification of any nominee's willingness to run is also required.

Secretary Collier will provide a letter to the deans of each of the schools and colleges notifying them that they have senators that need to be reelected or replaced. He explained that CAS has vacant slots due to the fact that they have more departments than allotted Senate slots. GOV is required to provide slates of names as follows: four nominees who are willing to run for SUNY-wide senator. There are two positions available, one being the new third senator seat allotted to UAlbany. The second slate required is for senators at-large from both the teaching and professional faculty. There are two terms in each group that will expire this year and four names are needed for each. GOV members proceeded to identify potential nominees for the above positions. The nominees will be contacted, as well as the current incumbents, to verify their willingness to run.

Before the slate can be sent, the volunteer website needs to be activated. IT will be contacted to assist. Senate Secretary informed current GOV members to fill out the form if they wish to continue next year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted by  
Gail Cameron, Recorder