

Council and Committee Reports for SEC Meeting April 2, 2018
Christian Poehlmann, Senate Secretary

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

On Mon Mar 12, Senate leaders met to discuss the role of the Senate in the strategic plan alignment within each school & college. We talked about the importance of faculty and staff participating in the design of the alignment plans within their departments/schools/units. Provost Stellar stated during the Senate meeting of Mar 19, that if you don't see an important item in the current version of the strategic plan, you need to put it in the implementation plan. Therefore we strongly encourage active participation in the alignment process, which will occur during April. The Budgeting process will follow shortly during the early summer.

From the forum on gender equity and inclusion, a working group on pay equity was formed to analyze the situation on our campus related to pay equity for women and minorities. The group, initially composed by H. Larking, K. Hessler and K. Reinhold, met for a presentation by VP for Academics of UUP Jamie Dangler on equity studies on Mar 13. Conducting a study on pay-equity is one of the items of the strategic plan on diversity and inclusion initiative. We additionally discussed the need for a family-leave policy, lactation space for faculty and students, and more accessible daycare.

On Mar 21, Chair Reinhold attended a meeting of Alianza Latina with the President. It saddened me to hear reports of disrespect that members of this group have suffered on campus. Such situations are a calling for better training of personnel and updating and enforcement of guidelines to deal with people in authority that abuse their authority.

On Mar 22, Chair Reinhold attended the Online Summit to consider several options to increase online offerings as a strategy for growth. Chair Reinhold also attended the President's Council where President Rodríguez talked about 9 key objectives:

1. Implementing the Strategic Plan
2. Increase undergraduate and graduate enrolment
3. Reviewing initiatives that impact the budget, being better stewards of our funds, increasing resources. Improving retention of students.
4. Streamlining processes for more efficiency, through greater use of technology.
5. Diversity and inclusion at all levels.
6. Reducing the economic burden for our students. Engage our donors for scholarships. Better graduate stipends. Increase research expenditure.
7. Professional development of faculty and staff.
8. Creating a sense of a more cohesive community.
9. Maintain focus. Build on what we have.

Dean of Graduate Studies K. Williams talked about how the university had lost about 14% in graduate enrolment that translated in \$8million in lost revenue, which would have covered the deficit we currently have. To improve graduate enrolment he proposed a series of measures including the creating of a Graduate School, which would help manage graduate enrolment, and marketing for the different graduate programs.

Recommendations:

A working group on Contingent Concerns be formed to study the feasibility of establishing a mechanism within the Senate to address on-going concerns of contingent faculty.

Actions Taken:

SEC approved a report on the implementation of Blue Ribbon panels to be presented to the Senate on April 16th by Asc. VP and Sr. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Bill Hedberg.

Scheduled a special meeting of the SEC on Mar 26th for a meeting with Chancellor Dr. Kristina Johnson.

Scheduled a special meeting of the SEC on Mar 28th for a presentation of the Branding Project by Paul Miller, Interim Director, Marketing and Content Strategy.

Requested assoc. Prof. Fogarty, Senate's Faculty Athletics Representative, to present a report to the Senate on April 16th.

SAVE THE DATE:

- Strategic Plan Round Tables:
 - **Monday, March 26th** 12:30-2:30 pm, EC GEC Auditorium (Health Sciences)
 - **Friday, March 30th** 1:00-3:00 pm, CC Multi-purpose Room (Uptown)
- **Spring Faculty Address**, April 3rd at 1:00 pm in the CC Ballroom.
- Senate Elections begin April 3rd.
- *Senate Forum on The State of IT on Campus*: April 10th, 12pm to 2pm, Multi-Use Room.
- **April 13th : President's Inauguration**
- *Senate Forum on The State of Arts and Humanities*: April 23rd, 3:30-5:30pm, CC 375

Other Announcements:

- March Madness Challenge: For every gift made in March, no matter the size, PepsiCo will contribute \$250 to the student scholarship fund, up to \$100,000!
- April 14: 4th Annual Mindful Mile and Fight Hunger 5k, UAlbany Campus.
- April 20: SUNY Undergraduate Research Symposium 2018, Oneonta, and Saturday, April 21 at Monroe County Community College.
- April 27th: The 15th Annual University at Albany Undergraduate Research Conference will be held on Friday, April 27th in the Lecture Center Concourse and Classrooms.

SUNY Senators – Diane Hamilton, Danielle Leonard, Latonia Spencer

The UFS senators report that Danielle Leonard will be serving as the alternate for Walt Little while he is on sabbatical. Our next Plenary is April 19-21. Anyone who would like us to bring forward topics should contact us before then

Graduate Student Organization – Dawn Wharram, Lead Senator

- Nothing reported

Student Association Report –Jerlisa Fontaine, President

- Nothing reported

Council/Committee Chair Reports:

CAA – Istvan Kecskes, Chair, Mary Ellen Mallia Co-Chair

- Nothing reported

CAFFECOR – Carol Jewell, Chair

- Nothing reported

CERS – David G. Wagner, Chair

- Nothing to report

COR – Robert Rosenswig, Chair

- Nothing reported

CPCA – Jim Hargett, Chair

- Nothing reported

GAC – Sean Rafferty, Chair

- Nothing to report

GOV – Jim Mower, Chair

- Senate elections begin April 2, 2018

LISC – Billie Franchini, Chair

LISC Report for the Senate Executive Meeting, April 2, 2018

Submitted by Billie Franchini, Chair, March 22, 2018

The Council on Libraries, Information Services, and Computing (LISC) met on March 21, 2018. During the meeting, Council members heard an informal report from Dr. Lenore Horowitz, Professor of Practice in Information Science, describing the work of the UAlbany OER (Open Educational Resources) Fellows and had an opportunity to ask questions. We also received the following updates from the Libraries.

Reports/Updates from Libraries (submitted by Rebecca Mugridge, Dean of Libraries)

I. New hires and searches

- A. User Experience Librarian. We hired for this position and I will be making an announcement as soon as we notify the unsuccessful candidates.
- B. Budget Officer. We have four interviews scheduled for this position.
- C. Subject Librarian for Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, Cybersecurity, and Criminal Justice. We are reviewing the job description for this position and hope to launch the search soon.
- D. Scholarly Communication Librarian. This position has been posted with a deadline of April 15.

II. Facilities update

We will be renovating the basement of the University Library over the summer. This will include removing walls and the former periodicals service desk, re-carpeting, adding additional outlets, and possibly replacing furniture. We are also creating four group study rooms in the University Library in anticipation of eventually losing access to groups study rooms in the Science Library.

III. Therapy dogs

The Libraries are hosting therapy dogs in the Science Library atrium today from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. in an effort to help alleviate stress during midterms.

IV. Campus Conversations in Standish

The Libraries are hosting three presentations this spring that highlight faculty research. The presentations take place 12:35-1:30 in the Standish Room in the Science Library. Speakers include:

- Ilka Kressner, Photographic Contact Zones – The Mexican Travel Photographs by Fritz Neugass.”
March 28, 2018

Kendra Smith-Howard, PhD, Department of History “Finding Nature in Unexpected Places: What Cleaning Closets and Laundry Rooms Tell us About American Environmental History.” April 4, 2018

UAC – Karen Kiorpes, Christy Smith, Co-Chairs

SEC Report

Undergraduate Academic Council

April 2, 2018

UAC met on March 20th, 2018

- Ann Marie Murray, Associate Vice Provost for Program Development and a Service Professor in the *College* of Engineering and Applied Sciences, outlined the difficulties developing and administering multi-disciplinary programs at the University at Albany. A proposal for a minor in Legal Studies housed in Political Science was previously submitted to UAC for approval but has been pulled back for the time being. Two other interdisciplinary proposals with a law theme (a minor and a concentration) are in development in Arts and Sciences. Dr. Murray welcomes input from UAC members and requested names to work with the Multidisciplinary Studies Task Force. UAC recommends that Deans and the Provost’s Office further explore the “interdisciplinary problem” and develop guidelines for program development before review of the three different proposals commence.
- Five new course proposals are under review by the General Education Committee.
- Dana Newton, Academic and Administrative Coordinator/Educational Psychology and Methodology, School of Education, met with UAC to answer questions regarding a proposal to add a “Higher Education Concentration” within the Human Development B.S., effective Fall 2018. This is the 5th concentration that would be available in this area of study, all of which require a minimum of 45 credits for the degree, including 15 in the concentration. The proposal was approved unanimously.
- Public Health offers a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies with a faculty-initiated concentration in Public Health (FIC). As an FIC, Public Health is not a major registered with the

State Education Department. The School of Public Health provided a proposal to UAC to submit the program to State Education in order to become a registered major in Public Health. This proposed B.S. in Public Health is largely based on the existing Interdisciplinary Studies concentration, with a few curricular revisions based both on external site visitor input and recently updated accreditation criteria established by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the accrediting body for Schools of Public Health. Current restrictions for declaring the major will be lifted so enrollment is expected to increase. A faculty advisor will be hired as the program grows. One new course was added. The proposal was approved unanimously. UAC will submit the proposal to SEC as a bill to go to the Senate.

KK & KCW 3/23/2018

ULC – Ekow King, Chair

- Nothing reported

UPPC – Jim Collins, Chair

Chair’s UPPC Report 032618

UPPC Report for SEC Meeting on 032618

Information:

The Council met on March 21.

Provost Stellar reported that the Strategic Plan’s ‘roundtables’ were underway and provided a timeline: ‘alignment’ or ‘action’ plans should be completed by July 1, and an ‘implementation team’ would combine them into a general document, with implementation to begin in September.

Vice President for Financial Management Van Voorst made a brief report on the NYS Legislative Executive Budget, noting that funding for EOP had been restored, Capital Funding had been raised from the Executive Budget. He responded to three questions that Chair Collins had earlier sent to him: 1) that Indirect Cost returns were determined by the SUNY and UAlbany Research Foundations, though individual VPs determined the return to schools, colleges, departments, and PIs; 2) that recovered funds from retirements, resignations, and other personal returns were sent to the general University budget fund, then distributed to administrative and academic units. After they had been assigned to a given unit, it was the unit Directors’ discretion to determine how the funds were allocated to sub-units (in plain language, the Provost receives and allocates such funds to Colleges or Schools); 3) the current budgeting for the ‘structural deficit’ is underway and is mindful of likely costs for the upcoming Strategic Plan.

UPPC Chair’s Report to Council on 03/21/18 [provided only in written form]

Information:

March 5 Chair Collins attended the SEC and it was agreed that he would work with Governance Chair and two additional Senate volunteers, Virginia Yonkers and Dawn Wharram, to study the best way establish a Senate Committee responsible for the Contingent Faculty issues.

March 16, attended a Strategic Planning Roundtable. Two observations:

- Without faculty from UUP and the Senate, there would be no faculty attending these events
- The process is not transparent, that is, it is not clear how or whether the “input”, suggestions, or voices against a proposal are incorporated in the subsequent process. The event was in some sense a mock alignment exercise.

February 23-March 15, Chair Collins confirmed the current four members of the working group on student preparation and attainment: Kajal Lahiri, Louise-Anne McNutt, Cathy Parker, and Chair Collins. He also requested additional data from IR, but was told politely “not now.”

On March 19 Chair Collins met with one other member of the working group to discuss intended work and tentative schedule.

- As of this point, the work is focused on different accounts of student preparation; different strands of student attainment (EOP, LLC), and different causes for withdrawal or dismissal. It will continue to gather quantitative data, identify university members who may have research expertise in changing nature of learning in higher education, and UA departments who can present cases of their grappling with the issues we identify.
- For the schedule, it looks committee will spend some of the summer discussing existing data and preparing a preliminary working report, and in the fall it will meet with representatives from CAS departments with large undergraduate courses or programs and perceived problems with student preparation. The departments include Economics, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Human Biology (Anthropology).

On March 20, Chair Collins received a reply from Associate VP John Giarrusso of Office of Planning, acknowledging the receipt of the Facilities Committee’s recommendation that faculty and staff be given plenty of advance notice and opportunity to discuss planned moves or space reallocations. Mr. Giarrusso agreed that the issue was important that consultation processes with faculty and staff were the responsibility of unit directors – VPs and Deans. Chair Collins agreed to take up this matter with the Provost.

(End of Chair’s report to Council)

Reports from Committees:

Facilities Committee: Committee Chair Ray Bromley reported that the committee would meet in April with John Giarrusso and had submitted to him a list of planning topics they would like to have a report on from his office.

Resource Analysis and Planning Committee: No report. .

Old business:

1. The proposal for program changes in the SB major in Digital Forensics was discussed and approved by the Council
2. Minor changes to the Campus Information Form were discussed and approved by the Council.

New business

1. Proposal to establish an Electrical and Computer Engineering BS was discussed and approved;
2. Proposal to establish Public Health BS was discussed and returned to SPH for further information regarding anticipated enrollments, TA allocations, and the CAS MOU expressing concern with anticipated enrollments pressure on CAS departments, especially Mathematics, which provided foundation courses for the major;
3. Discussion of proposal to establish a Department of Environmental and Sustainable Engineering was tabled until the next Council meeting.

The Council next meets on April 18.

