

UNIVERSITY SENATE  
ATTENDANCE

Meeting of: February 13, 1989

Walter Long	Craig Dyer
Steven Sapiro	Ray Gross
Richard Clark	Lechae Bin
Robert Gibson	John Hayes
S. Ellis	W. Park
Steve Atkinson	Jung Kichun for M. Livingston
Bruce Marsh	Daniel Marshall
RABisco	Paire Kraban
John S. Mackinnon	Warren Kellman
David F. Elting	Sung Bok Kim
Karina Ricker	S. L. Turner
Robert W. Gross	Depress
Frank Borunino	Robert M. Jones
Dorinda Brighton	Frank P. Carrino
Roberta Bernstein	Frank P. Carrino
Paul Leonard Paul Leonard	Grandine Walker
Donna Parker	Lisa Rizzo
Francis Frank	Lisa Rizzolo
Meredith Butler	Ed Reilly
Bob Puzet	Harry Hamilton
Douglas Wincham	Willie Helt
Gilbert M. McCaw's	Ernest Neuman
Paul Foscano	AL MARLD.
Jeffrey Luke	Jeanne Gullahorn
Rory P. Whelan	Tim Lance
Gregory Stevens	
Dan Cohen	Social Welfare

UNIVERSITY SENATE  
ATTENDANCE

Meeting of: February 13, 1989

Bruce Anderson

Nancy Lawson

Christian Kersten

April D. Gustafson

John  
Lem Olson



University Senate  
518 442-5406

UNIVERSITY SENATE  
Monday, February 13, 1989  
3:30 p.m. — Campus Center Assembly Hall

Administration 259  
Albany, New York  
12222

### AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes: University Senate, December 5, 1988
2. President's Report
3. SUNY-wide Senate Report
4. Chair's Report
5. Council Vacancies
6. Council Reports
  - a. Council on Academic Freedom and Ethics
  - b. Council on Educational Policy
  - c. Graduate Academic Council
  - d. Council on Libraries, Computing and Information Systems
  - e. Council on Promotion and Continuing Appointment
  - f. Council on Research
  - g. Student Affairs Council
  - h. Undergraduate Academic Council
  - i. University Community Council
7. Old Business
8. New Business
  - a. Proposed Resolution in Response to the Executive Budget

UNIVERSITY SENATE  
February 13, 1989

Administration 259  
Albany, New York  
12222

PRESENT: V. Aceto, S. Atkinson, R. Bernstein, K. Birr, F. Boncimino, R. Bosco, D. Brighton, M. Butler, F. Carrino, R. Clark, D. Cohen, R. Collier, H. Desfosses, D. Ettinger, F. Frank, R. Garvin, R. Gibson, R. Greene, J. Gullahorn, H. Hamilton, W. Hammond, J. Hayes, W. Ilchman, C. Kersten, S. B. Kim, H. Kirchner (for M. Livingston), M. Krohn, T. Lance, W. Lanford, P. Leonard, J. Luks, J. Mackiewicz, A. Magid, B. Marsh, G. McCombs, G. Newman, V. O'Leary, D. Parker, R. Pruzek, E. Reilly, K. Ricker, L. Risolo, L. Rizzolo, S. Seidman, C. Snyder, I. Steen, G. Stevens, R. Stross, L. Tornatore, P. Toscano, E. Turner, B. Voronkov, G. Walker, L. Welch, D. Windham, R. Whelan.

GUESTS: A. Anastasi, F. Cohen, N. Lavson, S. Mahan.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hammond at 3:45 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 5, 1989 meeting were approved as printed.

2. President's Report

The President began his report by summarizing the State's revenue shortfall. On March 31, 1988, SUNY received its budget and began this fiscal year. The first sign that the projections were wrong began in mid-April, and, the budget was affected. In May the State had to pull back money from the agencies. SUNY received a \$600,000 cut. By December the revenues were more severely depressed. SUNY was "tithed" another \$400,000; amounting to \$1 million for the fiscal year 1988-89. In addition, at the end of 1988-89, Albany will have to "turn in" 45 vacant State positions along with 15 positions from GRI II.

In this year's Executive Budget, the Governor kept the increase less than inflation. For SUNY, President O'Leary said, bonds were also refinanced and a parking fee of \$10 per month for 10 months for the whole SUNY system was included as an income item.

But even with those adjustments, SUNY faces an estimated \$47 million shortfall. Albany's share is 3.6% of the amount or \$3.38 million. Some of that can be recovered by consolidations and by delaying GRI III. The remaining \$2.707 million will translate into 30 faculty and 45 support positions lost in 1989-90. He reported the loss of people is six percent, which will be spread across the campus.

The President stated that the major focus should be on restoring some of the cut to SUNY's budget. This effort will be going on through February and March. Such a reduction will also have an effect on enrollment. The Budget Panel is looking into this.

J. Lamb asked how many of the 45 lost positions were administrative and how many were added. The President responded that some were lost. J. Lamb also asked about course reductions. The President responded that we won't know until we get our budget. We will try not to have reductions. H. Desfosses asked if SUNY had its budget hearing with the legislature. The response was no.

R. Stross asked why the discrepancy between the totals from the two charts. The GRI was included in one and not the other, said the President. He also stated that the GRI money went to faculty and not to support positions.

D. Ettinger asked if admission standards for incoming freshmen will be raised. The President responded that the high school average will probably be raised for traditional students. It is our aim to continue to admit 25% minorities.

### 3. SUNY-wide Senate Report

R. Collier read two resolutions; one from SUNY and CUNY Senate Executive Committees and one from the Student Life Committee. The texts of both resolutions are attached to these minutes. Both resolutions were approved unanimously by the SUNY Senate. R. Collier talked about Provost Burke's project of academic assessment, which the members of governance will need to address.

The Statement of Tolerance included in the report was written by R. Collier. This statement is not intended to take the place of a significant and on-going dialogue between faculty and students. R. Collier welcomed any questions.

### 4. Chair's Report

Chairman Hammond reported that the Honors Reconsideration bill has now been approved in total by the President.

At the last Executive Committee meeting, the new poster policy was referred to CAFE for review, he reported.

The issue of released time for the Chair of the University Senate was brought up at the last Executive Committee meeting. The Task Force on Governing Bodies might propose something on this, he said.

Chairman Hammond then reported on the motion that was made by R. Bosco at the December 5 Senate meeting. The motion: "That this body request the Chair of the Senate to investigate the nature of committees such as the Library Acquisition Development Committee, to report to the Senate and to specify, as precisely as possible, the responsibilities of such committees and to whom they are answerable." The Chair responded: The University Budget Panel is appointed by, and is accountable to, the President. Under an informal arrangement made with the Council on Educational Policy in 1981 in order to avoid duplication of effort, the members of the Resource Advisory Committee (formerly the Resource Allocation Committee) of the Council have been included in the University Budget Panel since that time. While the Budget Panel is not accountable to the Council on Educational

Policy, the Resource Advisory Committee is. Although Budget Panel deliberations are confidential, the Resource Advisory Committee is free to comment as it sees fit on the Budget Panel process and on matters of policy related to the budget.

There are two administrative committees, one involving the University Libraries and the other related to the Computing Center, to which several appointments are made by the Council on Libraries, Computing and Informations Systems (LISC). These committees are accountable to the President and not to LISC. There is no reason, however, why LISC, if it so chose, could not spawn committees of itself which functioned in relation to the administrative committees as the Resource Advisory Committee does in relation to the University Budget Panel.

The issuance of the Senate newsletter has fallen to the Chair of the Senate by default. Chairman Hammond has looked for Senators to write short articles in opposition to "4 X 4." J. Lamb asked if Chairman Hammond specifically wanted a faculty Senator to write an article. The response was no.

5. Council Vacancies

The Executive Committee recommends that Nadine Repinecz, a graduate student in Public Administration, be appointed to a graduate student vacancy on the Research Council. The appointment was approved.

6. Council Reports

a. Council on Academic Freedom and Ethics: no additions to the written report.

Chairman Hamilton responded to a question concerning any set criteria in denying poster approval by stating that if the Council was offended by the poster, it will be denied. He also stated that 8-9 members of the Council will be involved in the decision.

R. Bosco asked if CAFE met and deliberated on the issue of the poster policy and could the Senate anticipate any legislation on this issue. Chairman Hamilton said that the Council had not yet met and there were currently no plans for presenting legislation. This could change when the Council meets, he said.

Chairman Hammond asked if CAFE is finished with the issue of academic integrity for the current year. The answer was no.

The report was accepted.

b. Council on Educational Policy: no additions to the written report.

In response to a question, Chairman Birr said that departments could channel any reactions to the "4 X 4" plan to the Task Force if they so chose.

The report was accepted.

c. Graduate Academic Council: no additions to the written report. The report was accepted.

d. Council on Libraries, Computing and Information Systems: no additions to the written report.

Chairman Newman reported that the Council has not received any responses from the Vice Presidents on the matter of University Micros.

H. Desfosses asked why there was a shortage of work-study students. Chairman Newman did not know why. W. Ilchman responded that Albany sets rates locally. The rates start at minimum and go up to \$4.50 or so. There are plans to raise the rates, Ilchman said. We have about half the number of students we need. It was also mentioned that students could earn more money working off campus than in the work-study program.

The report was accepted.

e. Council on Promotion and Continuing Appointment: nothing to report.

f. Council on Research: Chairman Mackiewicz gave an update on item B. The ad hoc committee's review is currently at SUNY Central. The question was raised that Item B might be coordinated with CAFE; it will be.

The report was accepted.

g. Student Affairs Council: a written report was distributed at the meeting. The report was accepted.

h. Undergraduate Academic Council: no additions to the written report.

The question was asked why the average for Computer Science was lowered so much. Chairman Reilly responded that there were not as many students electing that major as in past years. The Department wants to serve more students now.

S. B. Kim had a correction to Item #7, that a senior could override the rule during Early Registration. He said seniors must wait until the Program Adjustment Period. The closed section cards will only be accepted during that time. K. Birr asked how this was going to be administered. He said there must be some provision to override the rule and it must be more clearly defined. K. Birr then moved that Item #7 be returned to UAC for clarification of procedures; the motion was seconded. S. B. Kim responded that this policy was to protect freshmen, not to punish seniors. Procedures for the policy will be in place. B. Marsh moved the previous question (to terminate debate); seconded. Chairman Hammond explained that the Senators will be voting to terminate debate on this issue. The motion to terminate debate passed.

The Senators then voted on returning Item #7 to UAC. The motion was defeated.

H. Hamilton moved that the Senate continue to 5:30 p.m. or such sooner time as it finishes its work. The motion was seconded and passed.

Discussion on UAC Item #7 continued. L. Tornatore asked what was to be learned by the one-year experiment. S. B. Kim explained that in the past there has been some abuse by seniors taking 100 level courses. We will study the course taking pattern of the seniors. If it is achieving an effect, it will continue; if not, it will be re-examined. The experiment is scheduled to take place in March 1988. It was moved that the one-year experiment be delayed until the pre-registration period Fall 1989; motion failed for lack of a second. S. B. Kim will write a letter for the ASP to inform students about the experiment.

A. Magid said that advisement should take care of this. Freshmen and sophomores should take 100 and 200 level courses. The departments should police this. A. Magid moved to have the departments police this matter. The motion was ruled out of order.

H. Hamilton suggested that all actions that have an implication, like UAC Item #7, be printed in full, not summarized. R. Bosco agreed with Senator Hamilton and also felt that this should have been brought before the Senate as legislation.

The question was called. The report was accepted.

i. University Community Council: Chairman Boncimino said that the parking situation was being brought back for Council discussion.

A question was asked concerning the proposal by the Albany State Student Entrepreneurs Club. Chairman Boncimino responded that the proposal given to the Council was not adequate.

The report was accepted.

7. Old Business

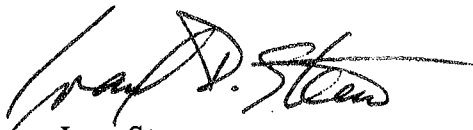
There was no Old Business to discuss.

8. New Business

a. Proposed Resolution in Response to the Executive Budget: V. Aceto moved the adoption of this resolution; seconded by R. Bosco and F. Frank. The motion was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Steen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ivan Steen  
Secretary



STATEMENT OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AND CITY UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW YORK FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

January 31, 1989

The future of the economy of the State of New York depends on the level and quality of education of its citizens. In this post-industrial age rising levels of education are necessary to enter into and participate successfully in the labor force. Every year New Yorkers who are currently employed enter or return to institutions of public higher education to gain knowledge and skills necessary to improve their performance, to upgrade their positions, or to switch to new fields. The young people entering the State's workforce in the next few decades will be drawn increasingly from populations currently peripheral to the socioeconomic institutions of American society. Their social mobility and ability to contribute to the economy depends to a degree greater than that of any other population upon their access to public higher education.

Traditionally, New York State has provided public higher education of excellent quality, to its own enrichment. Even during a time of short term financial exigency, the State must fully fund public higher educational systems which is an investment in its own economic stability and quality of life. By these means the State can continue to protect and open opportunities for its present underclass to enter into, contribute to, and participate in the benefits of society.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK FACULTY SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON STUDENT LIFE

RESOLUTION

Presented to the Senate Executive Committee  
February 2, 1989

WHEREAS the charge of the Student Life Committee of the State University of New York Faculty Senate is to concern itself with significant educational, developmental, social, cultural and recreational policies, programs, issues and services that affect the quality of student life and the campus environment of the State University of New York;

WHEREAS the University is committed to the creation and maintenance of excellence in an educational environment in which student diversity is an essential part of the overall educational experience;

WHEREAS this diversity can only be achieved by providing those groups who are presently underrepresented in SUNY with both access to an education and support services to facilitate their retention;

WHEREAS the quality of student life can be measured by the scope of the support services and programs provided to all students to meet their individual needs;

WHEREAS these support services and programs are being eroded due to increased enrollment throughout SUNY and a decline in budget appropriations;

WHEREAS access and retention of all students are endangered by the anticipated continued reduction in State funding for SUNY;

WHEREAS the University Faculty Senate supports the Chancellor in his efforts to provide access and excellence within SUNY, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Faculty Senate urge the Chancellor to alert all involved in the budget process to the crucial need for sufficient appropriations to ensure the access and retention of a diverse student body in SUNY and to maintain support for quality in all aspects of student life.

University Senate Meeting

Monday February 13, 1989

Student Affairs Council

**R E P O R T**

The Student Affairs Council held its first meeting of the semester on Friday February 10th. The following issues were discussed and are presently under review:

**A) Student Activities & Gov't Committee**

-University Council will be reviewing the language of the Student Guidelines, and this committee will be reviewing these guidelines before printed.

-Presently reviewing Freshman Rush Policy. The committee will be reviewing statistics from National Greek Headquarters, The Center for Study of the College Fraternities, and will be working closely with Campus Life.

**B) Health Committee**

-An article will soon be published in the ASP, which will educate the campus on the issue of asbestos. How safe is it?

-Presently reviewing the effects of AIDS education.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Council will be holding its second meeting on Tuesday, February 28th, 1989.

*David F. Ettinger*

Chair SAC

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR, SENATE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 1989**

From Senate minutes of December 5, 1988:

R. Bosco made the following motion:

That this body request the Chair of the Senate to investigate the nature of committees such as the Library Acquisition Development Committee, to report to the Senate and to specify, as precisely as possible, the responsibilities of such committees and to whom they are answerable.

**The Chair's Report:**

The University Budget Panel is appointed by and is accountable to the President. Under an informal arrangement made with the Council on Educational Policy in 1981 in order to avoid duplication of effort, the members of the Resource Advisory Committee (formerly the Resource Allocation Committee) of the Council have been included in the University Budget Panel since that time. While the Budget Panel is not accountable to the Council on Educational Policy, the Resource Advisory Committee is. Although Budget Panel deliberations are confidential, the Resource Advisory Committee is free to comment as it sees fit on the Budget Panel process and on matters of policy related to the budget.

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COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ETHICS  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

The Council met on 8 December 1988, first considering whether to propose any legislation relative to the action items reported to the Senate on 5 December.

1. Members decided to write to Dean Sung Bok Kim requesting that he act as faculty advocate in all academic integrity violation cases, helping faculty pursue their cases for academic and/or University sanctions. He will also be asked to report to the Faculty each year on the outcome of all cases reported to him during the preceding year. Finally, he will be asked to establish campus procedures regarding use of graduate students within and between departments as proctors in exams.
2. The Council will ask Vice President Livingston to assure that adequate means are used to inform faculty of how they can make themselves available for service on hearing boards which rule on academic infractions.
3. The Council is reviewing statements relative to the appeal process for all penalties imposed on academic infractions, to determine whether clarification is necessary and how to publicize the procedures appropriately.
4. The discussion concerning a faculty ethics statement continued. Some specific proposals for adding a section on research behavior (not to duplicate a more detailed statement being prepared by the Research Council) are under consideration. The Council has not reached consensus on how detailed the final statement should be.
5. The Council responded to a request from President O'Leary to provide rapid review of allegations of inappropriate denial of poster approvals. The Council will meet as a whole to review any posters referred to it after being denied approval by the Office of Student Activities; a 48-hour response is anticipated.
6. It is still hoped that the issue of complimentary textbooks from publishers can be explored. The matter of a uniform minimum penalty for academic integrity violations will also be discussed.

Harry Hamilton  
Chair

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

At its meeting of December 15, 1988, the EPC received from the Long Range Planning Committee positive recommendations on Letters of Intent for two new programs: M.S. in Biometry and Statistics and the Ph.D. in French Studies. The Council approved the recommendation of the Long Range Planning Committee and forwarded the two Letters of Intent. Next EPC meeting: Monday, February 6th.

COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY, Continued

The EPC's "4 X 4" Task Force was organized in mid-December as follows:

Kendall Birr (History, ECP), Chair  
John Levato (Business, EPC)  
Lillian Brannon (English, GAC)  
Warren Roberts (History, UAC)  
Vincent Aceto (Information Policy and Science)  
Stephen DeLong (Geological Sciences)  
Francine Frank (Humanities)  
Belinda Mason (Student, EPC)

The Committee met on December 16, 1988 and January 27, 1989. At the first meeting the Task Force decided

- To ask the GAC to consider the applicability of "4 X 4" to graduate programs.
- To ask the UAC to suggest (a) what degree requirements should look like under "4 X 4" and (b) what general education requirements might be assuming they were to constitute no more than the present 30% of the graduation requirements.
- To ask the Long Range Planning Committee of EPC to examine calendar/scheduling implications of "4 X 4" under different assumptions of the relationship between credit hours and contact hours.
- To circulate to all faculty and professional staff a description of the "4 X 4" proposal with a covering letter from the Task Force. (All faculty should have received the material by the time of the Senate meeting.)

At its second meeting the Task Force discussed

- The relationship between credit hours and contact hours.
- Methods of encouraging discussion of the proposal at the level of schools and departments.
- Ways of developing some examples of the implications of "4 X 4" for the curricula and requirements of individual departments.

Kendall Birr  
Chair

GRADUATE ACADEMIC COUNCIL  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

Based on reports from its Committee on Admissions and Academic Standing, the Council acted on 13 requests from students on waivers of regulations such as the statute of limitations for transfer credit, residency, number of attempts on field examinations, etc., approving ten and denying three.

The Council received, and passed on to its Committee on Educational Policies and Procedures, a request from the "4 X 4" Task Force for views on the applicability of "4 X 4" to graduate programs.

Bruce Marsh  
Chair

COUNCIL ON LIBRARIES, COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

A strong letter was sent to Vice Presidents Gullahorn, Hartigan and Ilchman urging swift and immediate action to replace the service formerly offered by UNIVERSITY MICROS.

Because of the budget crisis, cut-backs in services in both computing and libraries are anticipated. Areas in which these cuts will occur are being discussed.

It is likely that there will be some change in building hours for the libraries. A severe shortage in work study students has also contributed to the problem.

It appears, however, at the time of writing, that the proposed library building is still "alive".

The Council will meet again to discuss the 5 year plans of both the computer center and the libraries.

Graeme Newman  
Chair

COUNCIL ON RESEARCH  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

The Council met on December 5, 1988. In addition to reports of on-going activities of the various committees, the following was also reported:

- a. The Council has sent a letter to the Office of Management and Budget (Washington), expressing support for the new technological initiative taking place among federal science agencies relative to streamlining grant submission and review processes.

## COUNCIL ON RESEARCH, Continued

- b. The ad hoc committee on Fraud in Research (Chair: P. McCormick, Biology) has made a final review of the campus-wide policies dealing with fraud in research and expects to have them sent to the SUNY Central Legal Office in the near future.
- c. Research incentives awarded 16 Benevolent Awards from 45 proposals submitted by graduate students.

In the coming semester, the Council expects to address, among other issues, aspects of scientific freedom on this campus.

John Mackiewicz  
Chair

## UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC COUNCIL Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

At its meeting of February 2, the UAC approved the following:

1. A revision in the Minor in Latin-American and Caribbean Studies.
2. New course Ant 110N: Introduction to Human Evolution.
3. Consolidation of the Minors in Anthropology from eight variants to three: Anthropology, Anthropology for the Professions, and Medical Anthropology.

The Council commends the Department for the simplification.

4. A revision to the Major in Chemistry.
5. A revision to the Major in Linguistics.
6. A change in the Grade Point Average requirements for admission to a Computer Science major from 3.25 (guaranteed admission) and 3.0 for consideration, to 2.75 and 2.50 respectively. The averages apply to the same four-course core as before. The action was taken because undergraduate enrollment in computer science courses peaked here and in the U.S. in 1983 and there is now room to serve additional students.
7. A one-year experiment whereby seniors must wait for the program adjustment period before enrolling in 100-level courses on a space-available basis. The action was deemed necessary to alleviate the severe shortage of class space for Freshmen in 100-level courses. Since a department may issue a "closed section" card to any senior who has a pressing need to enroll in such courses during Early Registration, they will have the ability to override the rule for good reason. Endorsement of this Administration initiative was approved, though the only student present, Vice-Chair Ron Halber, dissented.

Ed Reilly  
Chair



UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Report to Senate Meeting of February 13, 1989

The Council met on February 2, 1989. Two proposals were reviewed and the Council's recommendations were sent to the President.

The Council reviewed the proposal from the Albany State Student Entrepreneurs Club to sell Coca Cola and Coca Cola products on campus through vending machines. The Council voted against the proposal. The Council found that the proposal did not take into consideration the many aspects of the vending machine business.

The Council also reviewed the proposal for parking violation fine increases. In October, the Council discussed the campus parking situation and suggested that stiffer fines could be an effective deterrent to illegal parking practices. The numbers received and agreed upon by UCC are as follows:

1. Increase the basic parking violation fine from the current \$5.00 charge to \$10.00 for each violation.
2. Increase the fine for parking in handicapped zones from \$10.00 to \$15.00 and for parking in fire lanes from \$5.00 to \$15.00.

Frank Boncimino  
Chair

The Educational Policies Council

The "4 x 4" Task Force

January 5, 1989

Dear Colleagues:

On November 28 the EPC created an eight person Task Force to advise the Council and oversee governance consideration of a major proposal for curricular change called "4 x 4". The members of that Task Force are listed below.

The attached material is designed to provide you with some preliminary information about this proposal which, if implemented, would affect all of our lives at the University. We urge you to familiarize yourself with the material. We want to emphasize that as of this date nothing has been decided. We are in the early stages of a complex process through which the faculty working through the governance system will decide whether or not it wishes to recommend to the President the adoption of a "4 x 4" system. Such a change can be implemented (if we choose to do so) only with the support and cooperation of the faculty. We urge your active participation in the process.

"4 x 4" is nothing new. It has been in operation at a good many prestigious institutions for many years. Academic Affairs became interested in the idea last spring, and last July two faculty and two administrators from Albany spent a day at Binghamton observing the operations of "4 x 4" there. Vice President Ilchman asked EPC at its first meeting to examine the idea, and after some preliminary discussion EPC recommended a full-scale consideration of the proposal.

In the coming weeks several things will be happening:

--General consideration by the governance system, chiefly through the EPC, GAC, and UAC.

--Some serious research into the attractiveness and practicality of converting to "4 x 4" at Albany.

--General discussion in a variety of University fora including departments, deans and other administrative groups, etc. Members of the Task Force stand ready to assist schools and departments in their own discussions.

If there appears to be general support for the proposal and no insuperable barriers to its implementation, the appropriate bills will be introduced into the Senate sometime next spring. If the Senate and the President approve, "4 x 4" might be implemented in the fall of 1991.

We can't overemphasize the importance of widespread understanding of the proposal. Such a far-reaching change, even if desirable and approved by the Senate, would fail if it lacked the active cooperation of the overwhelming proportion of the faculty.

Kendall Birr, Chair (History/EPC)  
Vincent Aceto (Info. & Policy Sci.)  
Lillian Brannon (English/GAC)  
Stephen DeLong (Geological Sciences)

Francine Frank (Humanities)  
John Levato (Business/EPC)  
Belinda Mason (Student/EPC)  
Warren Roberts (History/UAC)

## "FOUR BY FOUR"

**What Is "4 x 4"?** It is an arrangement under which most courses in the curriculum are offered for four credits and in which the standard student load each semester is four courses. By contrast the present University curriculum might be characterized as a "3 x 5" plan.

**Why Propose Changing Albany's Curriculum to "4 x 4"?** There are compelling educational reasons for such a change. Present students take at least five and often six or even seven courses at once; many faculty feel that no student can give truly serious intellectual attention to that many different courses at the same time, and some students admit to seeking one or two so-called "blow-off" courses each semester. A "4 x 4" system would permit both faculty and students to focus better their intellectual energies. Coherence would supplant fragmentation. True, there would be some loss in the variety of courses taken by the individual student, but we could partially compensate for that by making available a certain number of "half" courses.

There are also some compelling institutional reasons for such a change. The University is facing a serious instructional problem as these data from Institutional Research clearly demonstrate:

### % Change from 1975-76 to 1986-87

Number of Faculty	- 9.0%
Number FTE Students	+ 4.6%
Number FTE Undergraduates	+11.1%
Total Lower Division Enrollment	+17.2%

Meanwhile the pressures of research and faculty administrative responsibilities have continued to increase. The instructional problem becomes visible twice a year at registration with overloaded and closed sections and frustrated students. Increasing the amount of instruction is difficult without damaging the faculty research effort or faculty responsibility for advisement, governance, etc. If it is difficult to increase the supply of instruction, perhaps we can decrease the demand. "4 x 4" would appear to decrease the demand for courses by approximately 20%. Indeed, there is evidence that a number of prestigious institutions now on "4 x 4" (Harvard, Amherst, Cornell, etc.) converted to the system after World War II as a means of coping with the flood of returning students.

**Wouldn't "4 x 4" Require Rewriting the Entire Curriculum?** Yes. But this could become a classic case of converting a problem into an opportunity. In making the necessary curricular changes faculty members would take a fresh look at requirements for degrees, general education, and majors and minors, weigh the possibility of reconfiguring calendars and class schedules, and reexamine patterns of course offerings. Indeed, every aspect of what we teach and how we teach it could be reevaluated. For ex-

ample, converting to "4 x 4" would require the University to modify the present length of class meetings; but it would also offer the opportunity to consider scheduling patterns other than the current MWF/TTh pattern. In short, some major changes would be required, others would become possible.

**Would All Programs and Departments Find It Possible to Convert to a "4 x 4" System?** We hope so. At Binghamton which has been on a "4 x 4" system for some 25 years only the Watson School of Technology has found it necessary to retain a "3 x 5" system by reason of the nature of its disciplines and/or pressures from external accrediting bodies. There would obviously be some exceptions such as physical education, but we believe these would be few in number.

**Under "4 x 4" Is There a Danger That Less Well-Established Academic Studies May Suffer?** The Task Force recognizes that, if "4 x 4" were implemented in certain ways, subjects such as interdisciplinary studies, ethnic and gender studies, non-canonical literature, etc., might be damaged. Since students will take fewer courses under "4 x 4" than under the present system, they might be less likely to take courses in less well established fields. Majors might tend to be filled with required (and traditional) courses. And smaller departments might have difficulty in mounting adequate offerings. However, we believe that various protections can be built into the system to prevent that happening. For example, we believe that general education requirements should constitute no larger a percentage of the total program than at present. Moreover, at many institutions where "4 x 4" is used, interdisciplinary programs often flourish.

**How Would "4 x 4" Affect Teaching Loads?** It would probably cause the average teaching load to fall somewhat toward four courses per year. The 25% or so of the University faculty now teaching five or six courses per year would probably end up teaching fewer courses, although a few might choose to teach two and a half courses in a particular semester. *Despite some decline in teaching loads, the total number of courses offered in any semester would probably not be reduced as much as the 20% reduction in demand noted above.* We expect the average class size under "4 x 4" to decline, and over a period of time the average faculty member would probably teach fewer different courses; under such circumstances we could reasonably hope for less faculty preparation time and improved quality of instruction.

*Cunyellist*  
**Would Faculty Presently on a Four Course per Year Load See Teaching Loads Increase From Six to Eight Hours per Semester Under "4 x 4"?** Yes, if we retain the present "Carnegie unit" standards which call for 50 minutes of class time for 14 or 15 weeks for each credit offered. However, most other universities on "4 x 4" have modified that relationship. For example, a three-credit course should meet for 150 minutes per week and a four-credit course for 200 minutes; SUNY Binghamton courses meet for 180 minutes per week, those at Amherst for 150 minutes. [Note: Since our semesters average less than 15 weeks each, our three-credit courses presently meet for 160 or 165 minutes each week depending on how they are scheduled.] If the University decides to adopt "4 x 4" the relationship between credit hours and contact hours will be one of the most important questions to be decided.

How Can We Educationally Justify Reducing Contact Time per Credit? Like other institutions on "4 x 4" we can increase the amount of independent study and of work assigned outside of class. We have high quality undergraduate students fully capable of engaging in more out-of-class education. We ought to be doing much more than we are to encourage self-learning experiences. The University may also opt for some variation in this matter. One can argue that first-year students need closer faculty supervision than do seniors. Certain types of courses such as beginning language courses require relatively intensive faculty-student contact; by contrast advanced undergraduate reading or research courses need far less faculty contact. From the Binghamton experience, we also believe that students will be more likely to get the courses of their choice more easily than under the present more congested system.

Will External Authorities (SED, SUNY Central, e.g.) Accept Such Divergence from the Carnegie Standard? We believe so. Binghamton had to defend their system in the mid-1970s, but their defense was successful and has not been questioned recently. It is clear that the price of such divergence is some kind of monitoring; i.e., faculty must be able to demonstrate, usually through syllabi, that the total work load in the course does indeed justify the credit being given.

Is Conversion to "4 x 4" Administratively Feasible? The problems would be challenging. Clearly the University will have to take a careful look at issues such as the summer session, transition from "3 x 5" to "4 x 4", rewriting academic regulations to conform to "4 x 4", problems of transfer students, space availability, rewriting computer programs, impact on state budget, financial aid, etc. But preliminary investigations have revealed no insuperable barriers to "4 x 4".

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY  
UNIVERSITY SENATE

February 13, 1989

**RESOLUTION ON THE SUNY BUDGET**

Introduced by: Vincent Aceto, Chair, 1987-88 University Senate  
Ronald Bosco, Vice Chair, 1988-89 University Senate  
Ivan Steen, Secretary, 1988-89 University Senate

**Whereas**, the proposed budget for the State University of New York will have a major negative impact on the University at Albany, resulting in staff reductions and diminution of basic services; and

**Whereas**, such stringencies come after years of similar budgetary austerity, and are proposed to continue for at least the next two years; and

**Whereas**, these reductions in staff and shrinkage of services have seriously interfered with the University's quest for ever-increasing academic excellence, and they have impeded the University's ability to provide access to quality education for the citizens of New York State; and

**Whereas**, a high-quality public university system has been demonstrated to be an excellent investment of tax dollars; therefore

**Be it resolved**, that the University Senate of the University at Albany urges that all responsible parties, including (but not limited to) the State University of New York Senate, the University at Albany Council, the State University of New York Board of Trustees, and United University Professions, exert every possible effort to ensure that the State University of New York is funded at a substantially increased level, so that the erosion of the past 15 years is halted, and so that the citizens of the State of New York will have access to an outstanding public University.

PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR EVENT PARTICIPANTS  
OF THE FOLLOWING FIRE SAFETY INFORMATION

CC ASSEMBLY HALL

Fire exits are located in each of the four (4) corners of this room. In the event of a fire, you will be notified by the sounding of the Building's fire gongs. If notified, please move in a calm and orderly fashion to the nearest exit. Thank you."

(Department of Campus Life)

Billing  
 Food  
 Housing  
 Audio Visual  
 Labor  
 Other

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY  
 Campus Center

F/S

ACTION  
 Confirmed   
 Denied   
 Note \_\_\_\_\_  
 9/2/88 by RSB

RESERVATION REQUEST

- Describe Event Meeting Day Monday Date \_\_\_\_\_
- Approximate Number to Attend 160 Time of Reservation: From 2:00p To 6:00p
- EXACT Title or Theme of Event University Senate Meeting  
 Information Desk ( ) Clipboard ( )
- Sponsoring Organization University Senate
- Name of Person Making Request Beverly Roth Sheila Mahan Phone No. 5400 5400
- Name of Person Responsible for Event \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_ Address AD 259 246
- Bill to \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_
- Space Requested Assembly Hall Time of Event: From 3:00p To 5:30p
- Room Arrangement Requested:  Auditorium ( ) Discussion ( ) Banquet ( ) Lounge  
 ( ) Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) See attached diagram
- SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:  
 Stage  Blackboard  Tape meeting  Movie projector  Speakers table(s) for 5  
 Chairs on stage  Phonograph  Tape recorder  Overhead projector  Registration table  
 Lighting  Coat racks  Audio tape  Slide projector  Demonstration area  
 Lectern  Piano  Portasound  Screen (Size \_\_\_\_\_)  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 P.A. ( ) Monitor ( ) Bulletin board

Comments: Dates: Feb. 13; Mar. 13; Apr. 17, 1989

1 table by door for materials

Cost Estimate: Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ A.V. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Source of Funds: St. Assoc. ( ) State ( ) Res. Found. ( ) Private ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

FOOD SERVICE Requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Guaranteed Count Due on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Function \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Service: ( ) Table ( ) Cafeteria ( ) Mod. Cafe ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

No. of People \_\_\_\_\_ Serving Time \_\_\_\_\_ Linen \_\_\_\_\_ Flowers \_\_\_\_\_

Head Table \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_ Menu Code/Price \_\_\_\_\_

Other Costs \_\_\_\_\_ Comments: \_\_\_\_\_