

University Senate Executive Committee

Monday, October 13, 2016

2:45 PM

UNH 306

Jim Collins, Senate Chair

Minutes

Present: Collins, James; Fossett, James; Hamilton, Diane; Jerison, Michael; Jewell, Carol; King, Ekow; Kiorpes, Karen; Knudtsen, Morgan (SA delegate); Mamorella, David; Mower, James; Poehlmann, Christian; Reinhold, Karin; Robertson, Tom (GSA delegate)

Guests: Shawky, Hany; Szelest, Bruce

The meeting convened at 2:45 p.m.

APPROVAL OF SEC MINUTES

The minutes of September 12th were approved, with 1 abstention.

Chair Collins asked that the agenda be amended to omit the Provost's report and begin with new business, as Chief of Staff Bruce Szelest would serve as Provost Wheeler's delegate in the Provost's absence.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Collins reported that there was a problem with formal consultation over the most recent Compact Plan, as there had also been last year. He stated that VP Jim Van Voorst had not reported to UPPC's Resource Analysis & Planning subcommittee, but instead a campus announcement on the Compact Plan was issued. Chief of Staff Bruce Szelest outlined last year's University at Albany's Executive Committee membership. He also noted that information on the Compact Plan, including timeline and levels of review, was available on the MyUAlbany financial tab. The Senate Chair added that UPPC Chair Cynthia Fox was unable to attend the current meeting but would report on the matter at the next SEC meeting. Senate Chair Collins thanked SEC members for their recommendations regarding the issue and promised to bring those suggestions to the next UPPC meeting.

PROPOSAL TO SEPARATE THE ITM DEPARTMENT INTO DEPARTMENTS OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND BUSINESS ANALYTICS AND INFORMATION SECURITY AND DIGITAL FORENSICS

Dean Hany Shawky provided background on and an overview of the above faculty-driven proposal which had been approved by UPPC. A motion was made and unanimously approved to support the above proposal.

A PROPOSAL TO MERGE THE DEPARTMENTS OF INFORMATICS AND INFORMATION STUDIES INTO A DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SCIENCE

The above agenda item was tabled, as Dean Kim Boyer was expected to attend but did not make the meeting.

2016 REPORTS ON SURVEY OF SHARED GOVERNANCE

The above agenda item was tabled until GOV members had reviewed and voted to approve the report.

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – James Collins

I. Informational

1. Chair Collins attended the University Council Meeting on September 15, as a guest, and after hearing a report on the Presidential Search process of University Council Chair Michael Castellana, requested that the process be put underway as soon as feasible, given Senate's need to nominate and ballot six faculty representatives to the Presidential Search Committee.
2. On September 23, Senate Leadership (Chair Collins, Vice Chair Reinhold, Immediate Past Chair Fox) met with Provost Stellar and Vice Provost Szelest to discuss the following:
 - Schedule for rest of semester given leadership transition. It will be worked out with Interim Provost Wheeler
 - Humanities & Social Sciences 'Critical Conversation'/Forum. The Provost and Fox noted that it was an issue in strategic planning; the Provost that it must proceed, sponsored by the Office of the President as well as the Senate
 - Status of Decanal Review process. This will be a task for Interim Provost Wheeler.
 - Senate website changes. VP Szelest reported that websites are beginning to be reviewed and revised. Updates and improvements to the Senate website will be given priority within the general process
 - Issue of departments that won't appoint Senators. The Provost proposed inviting SGL to meetings of the Council of Deans, with this as an agenda item.
 - Restructuring ODI. This issue, raised as a concern by a member to Chair Collins, is currently on hold
3. On September 28 Chair Collins received an inquiry and request from the Office of Student Affairs to table outside of the Senate Faculty Meeting on October 24.
4. On September 28 Chair Collins and Vice Chair Reinhold met with JD Hyde, support staff for the University Council, and Brian Smith and Shivam Parikh of the Office of Marketing and Communication to discuss technicalities and logistics for conducting a university-wide call for nominations for the Presidential Search Committee and as soon-to-follow secret ballot of full-time faculty to elect six faculty representatives to the committee.
5. On September 1 and 29, Anne Marie Murray, Associate Provost for Program Development requested flexible dates for meeting with appropriate Senate Councils to discuss the University at Albany/Albany Law School affiliation.
6. On September 16 and 30, Chair Collins was informed of a problematic "Interdisciplinary Leadership Minor."

II. Actions taken

- a. After consulting with Senate leadership, following the meeting on nominations on 9/28, Chair Collins sent University Council Chair Castellana a letter expressing concerns with the process.
- b. Referral to UPPC of proposed name change of Department of Educational Administration and Policy.
- c. Referral to UPPC the University at Albany/Albany Law School affiliation.
- d. Referral to SEC of proposed merger of Departments of Informatics and Information Studies into a single CEAS Department of Information Science.
- e. Referral to SEC of proposed separation of School of Business ITM Department into Departments of Information Systems and Business Analytics and Information Security and Digital Forensics.
- f. Referral to SEC of Governance Council's 2016 Reports on Shared Governance
- g. Referral to Senate for
 - i. **SENATE RESOLUTION 1516-01R: RESOLUTION ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM POLICY**
 - ii. **SENATE RESOLUTION 1516-02R: RESOLUTION ON ATTACKS ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM**
 - iii. **SENATE BILL 1617-01: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION MANAGEMENT**
 - iv. **SENATE RESOLUTION 1516-03R: RESOLUTION ON STUDENT REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNANCE**

III. Recommendations for actions

- a. That SEC discuss Faculty Bylaws Article I, sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.3 on rights and responsibilities of the Faculty and Charter sections III.1, 2, and 3 on the powers of the Senate, with references to specific cases and issues:
 - i. A response from GAC on the scope of Governance, raised by Department name changes;
 - ii. CERS Chair Michael Jerison's report to the Senate on 9/26/16, concerning the recent arraignments of officials SUNY-Poly and related entities, and the role of previous UA administrations in not conducting sufficient oversight of both research and scholarly activities at what was then the UA College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering.
 - iii. Given recommendations for specific Senate Councils to address issues raised on the 2016 Reports on Shared Governances.
- b. To consider LISC Chair David Mamorella's proposal for improving the visibility of Senate Councils.

Chair Collins reminded members of procedures and due dates for council and committee chairs' reports. Chief of Staff Bruce Szelest clarified that content and style changes to the Senate website would be part of a shared process in response to feedback. GOV members made suggestions to improve the website and communication.

OTHER REPORTS

UFS (University Faculty Senate) – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little & Latonia Spencer, SUNY Senators

The SUNY faculty senators report that the 174th Fall Plenary Meeting of the SUNY Faculty Senate, hosted by SUNY Cortland, is October 20-22, 2016. Please contact Latonia Spencer, Diane Hamilton, or Walter Little with any concerns or questions that you would like us to take to the meeting.

Senate Chair Collins reported that he would be attending the fall Plenary as well.

GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Jefferson Garcia, GSA President Assembly Resolutions and Advocacy

Nothing submitted.

GSA Treasurer Tom Robertson reported that GSA had a new President, Dylan Card, as Jefferson Garcia was no longer eligible to serve. He added that GSA was working on a plan to assess student needs and that they had put in nominations for a graduate student representative on the Presidential Search Committee.

SA (Student Association) – Felix Abreu, Student Association President

Nothing submitted.

Morgan Knudtsen of the SA Supreme Court reported that she would serve as delegate on the SEC.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – James Mower, Chair

CAA met on Friday, September 30, 2016 to inform our new members on Council procedures and committee activities. Chairs for the General Education Assessment Committee and Academic Program Review Committee will be elected by committee members at their next organizational meetings. The Council will vote to approve the elected chairs at its next meeting in early November.

Chair Mower reported that subcommittees would be working on their reports very soon.

CAFFECoR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) –Carol Jewell, Chair

Malcolm Sherman has agreed to be seated on CAFFECoR, replacing Cheryl Frye, who can no longer continue.

Chair Jewell reported that the Senate was unable to attain quorum; as a result, professor Sherman was yet to be voted in as a member.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Michael Jerison, Chair

Nothing submitted

Chair Jerison reported that CERS was unable to attain quorum and so could not draft or vote on proposals discussed at the last Senate meeting.

COR (Council on Research) – Daniele Fabris, Chair

Nothing submitted

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Louise-Anne McNutt, Chair

The CPCA met on September 29th.
We reviewed and voted on two cases.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – James Fossett, Chair

GAC reported on graduate program revisions:

Ed Policy & Leadership Proposals

- a. MS program title change
- b. PhD program title change
- c. MS in Higher Education (program disaggregation)

The first two are changes in MS/PhD program titles to reflect the change in the name of the department; the third is a proposal to separate a higher education “track” in a pre-existing degree program into a freestanding master’s degree---no new courses/faculty/resources

Chair Fossett added that the MS in Higher Education is a disaggregation of one pre-existing track. He stated that 2 faculty representatives were still needed for the Academic Standing Committee and that Jon Bartow had circulated a request for members to the Deans.

GOV (Governance Council) – Karin Reinhold, Chair

On Sept 26, Chair Reinhold met with JD Hyde, support staff for the University Council, to discuss how the presidential search committee will be formed. This is a summary of the process:

- a) The open nomination period for faculty, student, prof/staff and dean will be Oct 5-12.
- b) Then faculty will vote for 6 full time teaching candidates: Oct 17-21
- c) Students, prof/staff, dean will be selected by Chair of Council, Castellana, in consultation with university community members. He will come to campus to meet with various people.
- d) Search committee will be finalized by end of October.
- e) During October, bids from Search Firms.
- f) During November there will be 2 or 3 listening sessions: open forums with members of search committee, a member of search firm and univ. community. These meetings will draw what we are looking for in a president, and it will inform the job description for the president.
- g) It takes 3-4 months for candidate applications. By mid-March we hope to have enough applications.
- h) There is going to be a website for the presidential search, lots of communication, sharing info, e-mails w/ updates.

On Sept 30, Chair Reinhold sent a letter to Castellana about the need of having a presidential search committee that has broad academic representation. He replied: “The faculty voting process is specifically outlined in the presidential search guidelines from the Chancellor making a representative from each college possible but subject to the voting process. “

On Oct 5th, the Governance Council discussed how to conduct the voting process for the six full-time teaching faculty members of the presidential search committee. It was decided that the faculty should be selected, by vote, proportionally to the size of the different campuses: 4 from the Uptown campus, 1 from the Downtown campus, and 1 from the Health Science campus.

The Report on the Shared Governance Survey is almost ready and will be presented at the next Senate meeting.

Chair Reinhold reviewed the Presidential search process, noting that the schedule in b) above might be moved by 2 days. The Chair added that there were 800 nominations.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – David Mamorella, Chair

In our first LISC Meeting Simeon Ananou touched upon the six goals of ITS and Rebecca Mugridge touched upon some of the highlights of the Library over the summer. We had a guided tour of the new Data Center in the ITB Building. If you have not seen it, it is worth checking out but you would need to make an appointment.

A few people were missing from our first meeting, so I hope to finalize the sub-committees and chairs at our next meeting on Oct. 17.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) –Karen Kiorpes and Christy Smith, Co-Chairs

UAC reviewed a proposal from the School of Social Welfare revising academic termination from the major policies. The Committee found the wording of the policy to be confusing and there were questions about under what circumstances students would not pass one of their two field placements. When Social Welfare responds, an email vote on the proposal will be conducted.

Co-chair Kiorpes reported that the subcommittee members and chairs had been appointed, and the memberships had been forwarded to the Senate Chair for review and approval to confirm that they met the requirements outlined in the Charter/Bylaws. She added that the next meeting would take place on October 18th.

ULC (University Life Council) – Ekow King, Chair

Nothing submitted

Chair King reported that ULC had met on October 5th and had spent a lot of time reviewing the Charter. Senate Chair Collins clarified that the Staff Support was not a voting member of the council and that the Undergraduate member still needed would be nominated through consultation with GOV and SA, though recommendations were welcomed. Chair King added that he was researching where the SUNY-wide Tobacco Free campus initiative of a couple of years ago stood.

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Cynthia Fox, Chair

I. Informational

1. The following requests have been placed on the agenda of our next meeting on October 19:
 - a. consideration of a proposal for an MS in Digital Forensics (S. Goel, School Of Business);
 - b. consultation on a name change in the School of Education: from the Department of Educational Administration and Policy Studies to the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership (J. Lane, School of Education);
2. Despite repeated requests from Senate leadership and in violation of its “core principles upon which the University’s annual Compact Budget Process will be based,” the university administration has failed for the second year in a row to honor its pledge that “appropriate Faculty Senate consultation will occur through interactions with the University Planning and Policy Council” and that “the University Policy and Planning Council will be convened at least once for consultation on the final Compact decisions.”

(See <https://portal.itsli.albany.edu/documents/14702/1255570/ep-fin-Compact-Budget-Process-2017-18.pdf>)

Actions Taken

1. At its meeting of September 21, UPPC voted:
 - a. to approve the proposal from the College of Arts and Sciences to convert the existing faculty-initiated degree in Environmental Science to a formally registered BS (CAS);
 - b. to approve a proposal from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to establish a BS in Environmental and Sustainable Engineering;
 - c. to support a proposal from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to merge the Departments of Informatics and Information Studies
 - d. to support a proposal from the School of Business to restructure the Information Technology Management department into two separate departments: *Information Systems and Business Analytics* and *Information Security and Digital Forensics*

Recommendations

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Members discussed Faculty Rights and Responsibilities and Senate Powers. Members suggested holding meet-and-greets or receptions in the fall and spring to improve Senate and Council visibility and communication on campus. Chair Collins charged chairs with drafting a short accessible description of what each council and committee does.

CAFFECOR Chair Carol Jewell would discuss the status and availability of the new Campus Center addition with Scott Birge as part of her work on the UPPC Facilities subcommittee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder