

## 2012-2013 University Senate

Monday, May 13, 2013

2:45 pm, Campus Center Assembly Hall

Andi Lyons, Chair

### Minutes

**Present:** Aymen Assuwiyan, Lee Bickmore, Christine Bouchard, Pedro Caban, Marc Cohen, Anthony DeBlasi, Thomas Devlin, Bruce Dieffenbach, Evgeny Dikarev, Keith Earle, Sue Faerman, Erzsebet Fazekas, Susanna Fessler, Edward Fitzgerald, Richard Fogarty, Cynthia Fox, Elisabeth Gaffney, Jennifer Goodall, Glyne Griffith, Timothy Groves, Yenisel Gulatee, Jean Guyon, Janell Hobson, Michael Jaromin, LaRae Jome, Robert Jones, Jane Kadish, Daniel Keyser, Alice Krause, Vincent LaBella, Andi Lyons, Adrian Master, Antun Milas, John Monfasani, John Murphy, Nancy Newman, Susan Phillips, Sanjay Putrevu, Loretta Pyles, Rich Eliot, Helene Scheck, Lawrence Schell, Joette Stefl-Mabry, Caro Beth Stewart, Sandra Vergari, Christine Wagner, Kevin Williams, Oscar Williams, Mark Wolfe, Edelgard Wulfert

**Guests:** Jon Bartow, Gary Kleppel, Tamra Minor, Joan Savitt, Kendra Smith-Howard, Chris Thorncroft, Stephen Weinberg, Kathie Winchester

The meeting convened at 2:50 pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of April 29 were approved as written.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT—ROBERT JONES**

President Jones referred to death of an Oneonta student on campus over the weekend. He said UPD is investigating the matter but no foul play is expected to be uncovered. The president added that it was a sad event for all involved.

The President reported on the May Day protest organized by the Student Revolutionary Coalition. About 50 students rallied at University Hall, issuing demands on an array of topics. President Jones met with the students briefly and agreed to assemble the following week to begin a dialogue. He was adamant that the dialogue be one of mutual respect for both parties. An open forum was held on May 7. President Jones said he believed the meeting went well and hopes to address some of the students' concerns. He has agreed to hold a forum once during each semester for all students which will provide him an opportunity to listen to their concerns. The president will offer the same opportunity to all faculty and staff beginning in the fall semester.

President Jones said his nine county tour continues with recent visits to Washington and Columbia counties, bringing the total of visits to five. President Jones hopes the tours will provide strategic opportunities to raise the

visibility of the University at Albany in the Capital Region as well as assist him in his role as co-chair of the Capital Region Economic Development Council. His next tour will take place in Saratoga County.

President Jones reported the following notable events and achievements:

- The president offered his congratulations to Professor David McDowall in the School of Criminal Justice for his recent appointment as Distinguished Teaching Professor.
- The President's Awards for Exemplary Community Engagement ceremony was held on May 8. The event recognized the partnerships between UAlbany and nine partnerships in the Capital Region. President Jones thanked Miriam Trementozzi for her efforts related to the successful event.
- The University at Albany has been named one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the US and Canada. President Jones said our Office of Sustainability has made outstanding efforts with its lighting campaigns and solar panels on the Social Sciences building. The president was very pleased to have their work recognized.
- A ribbon cutting has been scheduled for the RNA Institute in June. The institute will be a one-of-a-kind research entity at the University at Albany. The project is coming in on time and within its budget. Nobel Laureate Dr. Ada Yonath will join the celebration on June 11 along with a number of members of the Scientific Advisory Board.
- This has been an historic year for our student athletes, winning over nine conference titles during the academic year. President Jones said our student athletes were not just outstanding athletes but outstanding students and citizens as well, having contributed more than 2,500 hours of community service.
- Commencement ceremonies will be held this weekend. The graduate ceremony will be held on Saturday with Dr. Jack Henion giving the keynote address. Dr. Henion is the Co-Founder of and Chairman of Advion. He will also receive an honorary Doctor of Letters. Dr. John Delano and Dr. Teresa Harrison will each be recognized as recipients of the Collins Medallion.

Keynote speakers for the undergraduate ceremony on Sunday will be Monty and Avery Lipman. The Lipman Brothers are Chairman and CEO of Republic Records as well as alumni of the University at Albany. Also on Sunday, Daniel C. Tomson, former University Council chair, will receive the University's highest award for distinguished service, the Medallion of the University.

President Jones thanked everyone for their work during the semester and said he looked forward to seeing everyone again in the fall.

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

Provost Phillips reported the following items from Academic Affairs:

- SUNY has offered an opportunity for campuses to submit proposals for high need areas. UAlbany submitted two proposals and both were approved. The two proposals will fund undergraduate degree in computer science and engineering.
- Year two of the strategic plan implementation is coming to a close. Some of the highlights included the addition of approximately 50 new faculty with another 40-50 expected for the fall, new general education and writing programs, new mentoring program, Advising Plus will provide new student support, new peer

educators, new programs to support faculty and staff, Online Teaching and Learning, adult and continuing education, and upgrading infrastructure.

- An academic retreat has been scheduled for next week following Commencement. Over 100 participants are expected to attend and discuss programs for undergraduates in the future. The retreat will include a study of who comes to the university and why, and who leaves and why.
- Provost Phillips thanked everyone for an outstanding year. She looked forward to the weekend events to celebrate all of the successes.

### **UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Andi Lyons, Chair**

- The proposed amendment to the Senate Bylaws opened to the voting faculty via electronic ballot on May 1, with voting available through May 10. In order to change the bylaws we must receive ballots from at least 30% of those eligible to vote. Please cast your vote, and PLEASE encourage your constituents to vote as well. Information on the amendment and the rationale for it is provided. The Chair of GOV will report the result at the full Senate meeting on May 13.
- President Jones signed the legislation to change the name of the Women's Studies Department to the Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies.
- Miriam Tremontozzi sent the SEC a letter of thanks from President Jones for supporting the Community Engagement Forward events. She also expressed her own appreciation, stating they had excellent attendance and discussions, and that the Councils' roles as co-hosts very much contributed to that. Thank you to all the Senators who are helping to move this important initiative forward.
- The UUP Albany Chapter Acting President, James Collins, has contacted the University Senate leadership regarding a perceived contract violation, in reference to CPCA membership as it is currently constituted under our Senate Charter. Senate and UUP leaders will be meeting in the near future to determine the exact nature and extent of any conflict, and how best to remedy any inconsistency.
- As the 2012-2013 regular session of the University Senate draws to a close, the Chair would like to thank each member of the SEC, every senator, and all council and committee members for their important contributions to the shared governance of this university. 2012-13 has brought new presidential leadership and renewed energy to us. I am grateful to this Senate for opening its arms to President Jones, and I applaud our collective willingness to put the past behind us and work toward a brighter future for UAlbany. Thank you.

*Chair Lyons reported on the voting results of the Bylaws amendment. A quorum of the voting faculty was not achieved and the vote resulted in 160 approving, 108 opposed and 4 abstentions. Information should be available soon concerning potential violations to the UUP contract and CPCAs membership which will determine how to move forward.*

### **OTHER REPORTS**

#### **UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) –Danielle Leonard, J. Philippe Abraham & Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, SUNY Senators**

Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik attended the UFS Spring Plenary meeting in Syracuse in May 2-4. A full report will be submitted.

#### **GSO (Graduate Student Organization) – Thomas Devlin, GSO President**

*GSO President Devlin reported that GSO met on May 10. The constitution has passed and been ratified. This year's GSO will pass on a \$14,000 budget surplus to its successors. The funds will be used to support graduate students and for the purchase of new computers for the GSO office.*

#### **SA (Student Association) – Marc Cohen, Student Association Representative**

The Student Association Senate had confirmation proceedings during their last meeting; all but one nominee were confirmed. We are having a Dippikill retreat May 3-4.

*Mr. Cohen reported that the SA held its spring formal on May 10. Executive Board positions are being filled and the SA will hold the remainder of its elections in the fall.*

## **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Adrian Masters, Chair**

Nothing to report

### **CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Leslie Saint-Vil, Chair**

Nothing to report

### **CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Carolyn MacDonald, Chair**

CERS will meet to have a training session.

### **COR (Council on Research) – John Monfasani, Chair**

COR held its last meeting for the academic year on April 25<sup>th</sup>. It engaged in a discussion with a guest participant, Johanna Hakala, a Fulbright scholar from Finland here in the States to study the organization of research in American universities. It also began work on several items to be taken up at the start of next year, namely, the decision making process for FRAP A awards and an effective annual reporting system of research centers at UAlbany.

### **CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Sanjay Putrevu, Chair**

The CPCA will meet weekly until Friday, May 24 to complete reviewing all pending cases. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8.

*Chair Putrevu reported the council received a new case today and expect to receive one more later in the week.*

### **GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Tim Groves, Chair**

The GAC met on 4-12-2013. A draft of an updated policy for academic integrity was approved. This will be reconciled with a similar draft from UAC, with the goal of implementing a common policy, to be placed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Bulletins. The Chairs of UAC and GAC will then draft a bill to be brought before the Senate before the end of Spring 2013 semester.

*Chair Groves reported GAC met on May 10. The council considered a proposal from Rockefeller College for an existing program. GAC hopes to close the discussion by the end of the week.*

### **GOV (Governance Council) – Christine Wagner, Chair**

GOV met on 4/22/13. GOV discussed the report from CAFFECOR recommending the dissolution of CAFFECOR as a standing committee of the Senate Executive Committee. Senator Susanna Fessler attended GOV as a guest as a representative from CAFFECOR. Senator Fessler explained that all as a body, CAFFECOR has no authority and is not recognized by General Counsel. In addition, all faculty, staff and student grievances can now be addressed and resolved elsewhere. GOV passed a motion that a GOV ad hoc subcommittee be formed to draft a Senate Charter Amendment proposing the dissolution of CAFFECOR and that Section VII.7.3 be removed from the Charter. GOV, upon the request of the Senate Officers, reviewed the Bylaws Article II. Section 6 – Senate Councils and Committees and interpreted term limits on Councils to be 3 consecutive terms on a single Council. Following the third term on a Council, membership on another Council in the next year is permitted. A vote on the Faculty Bylaws Amendment 1213-01BA will take place on MyUAlbany from May 1-10. The Committee on Council Nominations will meet on 4/24/13. The Call for Nominations for Vice Chair of the Senate was distributed by email to all Voting Faculty on 4/4/13 with a deadline for nominations of 4/22/13. GOV will meet again on 5/6/13 for its final meeting of the academic year.

*Chair Wagner reported GOV met on May 6 and considered a draft of a Charter amendment to dissolve CAFFECOR. The amendment will be presented to the SEC in the fall. Senate councils have been meeting this week to elect chairs for the 2013-2014 year. The process is expected to be completed by the end of the week.*

### **LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Elizabeth Gaffney, Chair**

LISC met on Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Richard Fogarty, Chair**

The council submits three bills (one of which is cosponsored with GAC) for consideration by the Senate at this, its final meeting. The final meeting of UAC on 8 May is devoted to reviewing and giving final approval to learning objectives for the major competencies generated by the General Education Advisory Board, as mandated in last year's revision of the General Education Program.

### **ULC (University Life Council) – Vincent LaBella, Chair**

Nothing to report

### **UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Susanna Fessler, Chair**

UPPC's final meeting of the academic year is scheduled for May 10. We will be voting on the academic planning calendar for 2014-15, and possibly also begin looking at the planning calendar for 2015-16.

*Chair Fessler reported that UPPC met on May 10 and voted to approve the academic calendar for 2014-2015. The council discussed a proposal it received from the School of Public Health. A motion was approved to table the proposal until the fall.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Changes to Council and Standing Committee Memberships (2013-2014)**

Secretary Gulatee announced two changes in senate memberships from the School of Education: Sandra Vergari who is on leave will be replaced by Lynn Gelzheiser and Istvan Kecskes who is on sabbatical for fall 2013 will be replaced by Carla Meskill. Secretary Gulatee reported the following changes in council memberships:

- COR: Erzebet Fazekas has been added
- CPCA: Lynn Gelzheiser has been added
- LISC: Susanna Fessler replaces Meredith Weiss who is on leave; Greta Petry has been removed
- ULC: Carla Meskill and Greta Petry have been added; Erzebet Fazekas and Cindy Riggi have been removed.
- UAC: Carla Meskill has been removed

The Senate approved the changes with the following voting results: Approved: 45; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 2

### **Senate Bills from UAC:**

UAC Chair Fogarty introduced the following bills to the Senate:

#### **Senate Bill 1213-06: Change the Curriculum of the Major and Minor in Public Policy and Management (UAC)**

Chair Fogarty said the bill had been thoroughly vetted with the Honors Committee. The details of the bill are in line with University Policy and aligned with the Strategic Plan, as well as the changes in the General Education Policy. There was no discussion on the bill. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill, and was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 41; Opposed: 1; Abstained: 3.

#### **Senate Bill 1213-07: Proposal to Modify Senate Bill 0506-25, “Standards of Academic Integrity” (GAC, UAC)**

The bill was jointly introduced by Chair Fogarty and GAC Chair Groves. Chair Fogarty said the rationale removes ambiguities and inconsistencies that exist and standardizes academic integrity. Reporting procedures are clearly specified and will bring our policy in line with SUNY’s record retention policies. The proposal differs from existing policy in that it now “requires” as opposed to “recommends” that instructors mention Standards of Academic Integrity in the course syllabi. The proposal also states that Violations of Academic Integrity (VAIRs) that are not upheld through the grievance process or other adjudication will be destroyed and not be retained as part of students’ records. Additionally, the proposal defined when the Office of the Vice Provost and Dean for either Undergraduate Education or Graduate Studies may forward a violation to the Office of Conflict Resolution and Civic Responsibility. Chair Groves said the emphasis was to provide a clear policy that was fair to both faculty and Students.

Senator Griffith asked if prior violation before a student matriculates would be compounded by a new violation. Chair Groves responded that the language in the bulleting would only apply to incidents that occur at UAlbany. There is not provision for prior incidents to be recorded here.

Senator Rich referred to a recent incident of cheating in the LCs. He wanted to know if policies are being informed by opportunities to cheat electronically. Chair Groves responded that the policy is meant to be generic and the use of electronic media is covered under cheating. Chair Fogarty said there was plenty of room to embrace all types of cheating scenarios including electronically. The proposal includes a general list of examples for

academic dishonesty it is not exhaustive. Senator Earle inquired as to how many cases of cheating or dishonesty were addressed each year. Vice President for Student Success Christine Bouchard responded there are about 600 each year and included all types of cases.

There was no further discussion on the bill which was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 37; Opposed: 2; Abstained: 3

**Senate Bill 1213-08: Create a Minor in Sustainability**

Senator Dieffenbach from Economics proposed a friendly amendment to add Principles of Economics as part of the minor curriculum. He said he believed an economics approach to the topic was significant. Professor Kleppel from Biology supported the move and the motion was seconded by CAA Chair Masters. Chair Fogarty said normally such a motion requires the approval of the department chair and said he would contact Economics Chair Daniels. There was no further discussion concerning the proposal and the Senate voted in favor of the bill pending approval from the Economics Department to add Principles of Economics. The voting results were: Approved: 34; Opposed: 4; Abstained: 3

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
Gail Cameron, Recorder