

University at Albany - State University of New York
2006-07 University Senate
Minutes of October 23, 2006
Diane M. Dewar, Chair

Present: J. Philippe Abraham, Tom Bessette, Scott Birge, Roger Bisbing, Katharine Briar-Lawson, Gene Bunnell, Gerald Burke, Maria Chau (President GSO), Nick Chiuchiolo (President SA), Richard Collier, Casey Crandall, Diane M. Dewar, Sue Faerman, Sally Friedman, Robert Gibson, Andrew Haas, Jil Hanifan, Frank Hauser, Susan Herbst, Anne Hildreth, Heather Horton, Reed Hoyt, Allen Israel, Rachel Jean-Baptiste, Donald Keenan, Laurence Kranich, William Lanford, Pamela Lee, Zai Liang, Eric Lifshin, Kathryn Lowery, Carolyn MacDonald, Matthew Martens, Steven Messner, Robert Miller, John Monfasani, Gwendolyn Moore, Michelle Moshier, Joy Newman, Olympia Pelosi, Marjorie Pryse, Sanjay Putrevu, Joan Savitt, Lawrence Schell, John Schmidt, David Shub, Lawrence Snyder, Timothy Stephen, Lynn Videka, ThomasWagtowicz (GSO Lead Senator), Rose-Marie Weber, Wendy West, Daniel White, Alissa Worden, Robert Yagelski, Kehe Zhu, Adam Zonder

Guests: Maria Brown, Jillian Berke, Lisa Dorcell, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, Pierre Joris, Nicole Kotary, Wayne Locust, Sheila Mahan, Brittany Purdy, Jackie Simone, Daniel J. Smith, Dan Truchan, III, Edelgard Wulfert

Minutes: The Minutes of September 25, 2006 were approved.

Provost's Report, by Susan V. Herbst, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs:

Honor of President Hall: Provost Herbst announced that she and Mrs. Hall will be accepting an award from the Albany Local Development Corporation on behalf of President Hall from the City of Albany this afternoon.

UAlbany Student Arrests: Provost Herbst commended the Division for Student Success, namely, Christine Bouchard, Estella Rivera, Julie Copek, and Captain Aran Mull of the UPD, along with many others who are working on the case of the three male students that were arrested this week in connection with an alleged rape on campus. She announced that the University is forming a task force to work on issues of acquaintance rape; which Dean Briar-Lawson and Vice President Anderson are heading up. She noted that support, education, counseling, and policing will be reviewed. She noted that she is proud of our students; that they have shown such tremendous leadership during a trying time.

SUNY Systems Administration Presidents' Meeting in Saratoga, NY: Provost Herbst reported that at the SUNY Presidents' meeting, Chancellor Ryan introduced his strategy for the coming year including, increasing the number of full time faculty across the state and raising the bar for all colleges/universities in the system. He indicated that, the *theme song* for all schools/colleges this year is "Economic Development."

Football Stadium: Provost Herbst reported that there is [a lot of discussion](#) out there in the media on the University's building a football stadium. She noted that the University may not be able to achieve Division 1 status without the proper stadium. She also noted that the Giants are coming back for two years, with interest in a third.

Winter Commencement: Provost Herbst announced that The Honorable [Richard C. Wesley, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit](#) will be the Commencement Speaker; and he will receive an Honorary Degree.

Recruitment: Provost Herbst announced that there are major prestigious grants coming in. Grants include approximately \$500,000, which will go toward Albany High School teachers and students to learn more about the nano sciences, an endeavor called "Nano High."

Enrollment: Lead by Wayne Locust, is up 11%.

Student success: Provost Herbst noted that faculty [and students are dining together on the quads.](#)

Freshmen year experience program: [The freshman year experience pilot program is going well. About 400 students are involved.](#)

Course Availability: Provost Herbst reported that the course availability project is going very well; there are no complaints about students getting the courses they need.

Senate Chair's Report:

Fall Faculty Meeting: Chair Dewar reported that the Fall Faculty meeting held earlier in the month had a very good turnout in attendance. [Dr. Steven Portch](#) discussed the Board of Visitor's recommendations and reported on how the University [can find its own niche as a great university.](#) She noted that she has received a lot of [positive](#) feedback.

Capital Priorities and Economic Development Opportunities: Chair Dewar reported that the Senate Executive Committee invited Vice President Charlie Williams to speak about capital priorities and economic development opportunities for the university. He explained the responsibilities of his office and also reported that his office is working with CIO Haile and the Offices of Admissions and Development on managing the University website and making it more interactive than it is currently.

VP Williams also spoke about the need of the University to focus on building relationships with governmental agencies. He discussed the current work of the Professional Development Program and the forensics institute. It was suggested that the Council on Research can assist in the endeavor to work with government.

Relationship between Faculty and Students: Chair Dewar reported that the next scheduled Senate Executive Committee meeting will focus discussion on building relationships between faculty and students to have an *integrity* based community.

Final note: Chair Dewar thanked the Student Association for providing refreshments at today's meeting.

Council and Committee Reports:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) -- William Lanford, Chair. CAA met October 12 and formed two subcommittees ("blue" and "gold"), chaired by Rose-Marie Weber and Seth Chaiken, to review assessment folders for Spanish and Biology. Discussion of assessment of Project Renaissance was continued from last year. The CAA hopes to establish a firm schedule for this assessment at its next meeting. The Council has begun discussion of providing comparative data that would allow individual course instructors to better understand their own student course evaluations. It was reported that UPC is also discussing this topic. CAA will try to coordinate with UPC (and perhaps other councils) as it explores this topic.

COR (Council on Research) -- Andrew Haas, Chair. The Council met October 18. Volunteers are sought to staff the subcommittees. Robert Webster announced that the Campus Impact Statement, which includes detailed instructions, is now available online. It is expected that the paper version of the form will eventually be replaced with the electronic version. Deans and PIs will be alerted when this happens. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 to allow everyone to attend the Northeast Regional Forensics Institute announcement. Vice President Videka's presentation on Indirect Cost Recovery will be deferred until the November meeting.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) -- David Shub, Chair.
Nothing to report.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) -- Sally Friedman, Chair. GAC had its first meeting October 19. Graduate Dean Pryse briefed the Council on a number of matters, most notably the new guidelines for allocating graduate student stipends. Future agenda items include an examination of the language requirements for international students and whether insufficiently prepared students may be placing undue burdens on University resources, consideration of the incomplete grade policy for graduate students and how it compares to the undergraduate policy to be discussed in the Senate, and following up on the recently created ombudsmen process.

GOV (Governance Council) -- Reed Hoyt, Chair. The Council met on October 16, with guests Vice Provost Sue Faerman and Professor John Monfasani, Chair of the Undergraduate Academic Council, to discuss issues of General Education with respect to charring committees and subcommittees of the UAC. Legislation will soon evolve from these discussions. The Council is nearing completion of a ballot for the election of recommended members for the Presidential Search Committee. The Council will continue to work on handbooks and initiate the election of senators for next year.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Daniel White, Chair. LISC met on October 20 to discuss two main agenda items: Council members were encouraged to solicit feedback from colleagues throughout the campus to begin to assess the impact of Libraries acquisition budget cuts scheduled for January 2007. Feedback will be collected throughout the academic year, the findings reported to the Senate in the spring. LISC members also encourage University Senators to forward any feedback about these impending cuts to Dan White (dwhite@uamail.albany.edu). A draft resolution for the use of email as an official means of communication with students was discussed and edited at the council meeting. A revised draft will be circulated to council members and the Information Technology Usage and Policy committee of LISC for further comment.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – John Monfasani, Chair. The UAC approved a proposal to limit the number of times an Incomplete can be extended. The problem of “blank” (not reported) grades was also discussed. The UAC and its Committee on Admissions and Academic Standing are also reviewing a proposal to raise admission requirements to the School of Business. The UAC also approved a change in treating transfer credit from military institutions. The UAC is having ongoing discussions concerning the General Education Program, an Ombudsman for undergraduates, and the Honors College.

ULC (University Life Council) – Joan Savitt, Chair. ULC met on October 16 and continued its discussion of insurance and bookstore issues. In addition, ULC voted to recommend to James Anderson and Lee McElroy that specific recognition of Veterans be made at the football game which will occur on November 11. There has been a positive response to this action

UPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Steven Messner, Chair. At its meeting on September 21, UPC voted to endorse the recommendation of the *ad hoc* Committee on Student Satisfaction to create an Ombudsmen Office for undergraduate students and to convey this endorsement to UAC in hopes of introducing a joint resolution to the Senate. Draft legislation was sent to UAC. UAC has suggested further discussions involving representatives of the two councils. UPC will consider this matter at its next meeting, scheduled for October 24.

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) -- Lawrence Snyder, Chair. CAFFECOR met September 28 with John Murphy and Michael Jaromin, Director of Student Activities, to review the draft administrative guidelines for the Senate Bill 0304-25, "Campus Policy on Freedom of Expression".

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) -- Elga Wulfert, Chair. Nothing to report.

New Business:

1. CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – a motion was made to add Joette Stefelmabry [\[according to Outlook it's Stefl-Mabry\]](#) to the CAA roster. All approved.
2. Senate Bill 0607-01: Revision Of Undergraduate Policies Regarding Incomplete ("I") Grades. The bill was introduced by UAC Chair, John Monfasani. After discussion, the bill passed unanimously.
3. Senate Bill 0607-02: Revision and Clarification of Transfer Credit Policies Regarding Undergraduate Academic Work Completed at Military Institutions. After discussion, the bill passed unanimously.
4. Presidential Search Ballot: Senate Chair-Elect Hoyt explained the regulations that stipulate exactly what the composition of the Presidential Search Committee should be composed of; which is 15 members. He reported that George Philip, the University Council Chair, would like changes to the regulations. He would like the Committee to consist of 17 rather than 15 people, adding another Dean and a Professional Staff Member. The Senate Chair will receive nominations for the faculty members. There is no schedule or time table for this process yet.

When asked if someone can be on the Search Committee again, after serving a couple years ago, [Chair](#) Hoyt said they will not be excluded.

Chair Dewar added that she spoke to George Philip, and he indicated that he is waiting until the state elections are over and that he is pushing for diversity on the composition of the Committee.

Chair Dewar suggested having George Philip speak to the Senate and most were in agreement. She will check to see if he is available to speak at the next Senate meeting.

[\[The last two paragraphs perhaps should be indented since they related to item 4. Dick\]](#)

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne VanDenburgh, Recorder