

Governance Council
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
2:45 PM
UNH 306

Karin Reinhold, Chair

Minutes

PRESENT: Earle, Keith; Moore, Chris; Nowell, Greg; Ostro, Austen; Petry, Greta; Poehlmann, Chris; Reinhold, Karin; Schmidt, John; Sergay, Tim

GUESTS: Jim Collins

The meeting convened at approximately 2:45 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 25 were unanimously approved.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

Chair Reinhold reviewed her written report, submitted as follows:

Jan 30: During the SEC meeting, Jim C. asked for a) Council Procedures to be included in the Senate Handbook, b) recommendations for the different Councils from the shared governance survey.

Feb 3: Interim Provost Wheeler announced that the structure of commencement will change starting Spring 2017. We'll no longer have small departmental ceremonies. They will be clustered while still focusing on celebrating families and students.

Feb 6: Meeting with Jen Carron, assistant VP for marketing, to plan the Identity Forum. Jen and Joe Brennan will come to the March meeting of the Senate to present the results of their exploratory survey. Forum on Identity will focus on messaging and crafting ideas for who we are.

Feb 6: I checked with Finance & Administration about placing the budget on the webpage.

Feb 9: Results of votes on the resolutions. Nine people voted as follows:

1) RESOLUTION: AFFIRMATION OF UALBANY'S COMMITMENT TO A SAFE, DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE MULTICULTURAL CAMPUS

6 Yes, 2 Abstain, 1 No

2) RESOLUTION: CONDEMNATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER ON IMMIGRANTS.

7 Yes, 1 Abstain, 1 No

Feb 10: Convergence strategic planning event: Expedition Mapping.

http://www.albany.edu/strategicplan/expedition_mapping.shtml

It was interesting to see the conversations. Description of Design Thinking:

http://www.albany.edu/strategicplan/design_thinking.shtml

Feb 13: Senate meeting. Dean Alicia Ouellette's ALS presentation mentioned that ALS offers a legal clinic. We are wondering if this clinic can help people caught up in the travel ban and ICE crackdown. Jim Collins is in the process of finding out details.

Feb 14: I received information from the Director of ISSS Mike Elliot for students in need of help:

"In regard to resources, the materials we provide to international students are available in our office so if you have any international students who need support or additional information, please send them our way. The ISSS general email box is iss@albany.edu and phone is [518-591-8172](tel:518-591-8172). We also provide updated information to our international students via our weekly newsletter, future forums, and direct emails. Something helpful to you and for all immigrant/immigrant-intent and non-immigrant students is the NYCLU Know-Your-Rights resources. These can be printed as pocket size resources and referenced for dealing with specific cases.

1. What to Do if You are Stopped by an Immigration Officer <http://www.nyclu.org/publications/palm-card-what-do-if-youre-stopped-immigration-officers-2012>
2. Immigrants' Rights are Human Rights: Universal Guarantees of Rights to All People <http://www.nyclu.org/publications/immigrants-rights-are-human-rights-universal-guarantees-of-rights-all-people-2009>
3. Your Rights to an Attorney if You are Arrested and Accused of a Crime <http://www.nyclu.org/publications/know-your-rights-your-right-attorney-if-youre-arrested-and-accused-of-crime-2014>
4. What to Do if You are Stopped by the Police <http://www.nyclu.org/publications/palm-card-what-do-if-youre-stopped-police-english-and-spanish>

Also helpful for following presidential policy changes, particularly through Executive Orders, is to visit www.whitehouse.gov for briefings, including presidential actions (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions>). Judicial action updates on Executive Orders can be found on government websites such as the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals (<https://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/>).

I hope this is helpful information and please do refer international students with concerns to our office.

Thanks so much- Mike

Michael Elliott, PhD

Director, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at the Center for International Education and Global Strategy (CIEGS) Science Library G-40, University at Albany, Albany, NY 12222
tel: [518-591-8189](tel:518-591-8189) fax: [518-591-8171](tel:518-591-8171)"

Recommendations for actions from Governance:

1. Update of Senate Handbook
 - a) Student representation
 - b) Update of dated material
 - c) Inclusion of procedures for different Councils
2. Update of Faculty Bylaws to update the representation of contingent faculty
3. Nominations for At-Large Senators
4. Identity:
 - a) List of faculty that would be beneficial to talk to while developing the UAlbany Identity
 - b) Names for panelists for Forum on Identity

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Liaison and Elections Committee (LEC) – Christian Poehlmann, Chair

Nothing to Report

Chair Poehlmann added that the LEC had started its part of the Faculty Handbook and was in the information gathering stage. He noted that a meeting was scheduled for February 16 to discuss allocations for elections. We started the process of preparing for elections of senators and Senate officials for next year.

Assessment of Governance and Consultation Committee (AGCC) – Greta Petry, Chair

Nothing to Report

Ad hoc Committee on Contingent Representation

Nothing to Report

Chair Reinhold reported that the committee had not met.

OTHER REPORTS

Senate Handbook: Jim Collins

Senate Chair Collins explained that the approximately 9-page Senate Handbook, called for in the Bylaws and last updated in 2010, is a user-friendly guide with suggestions on how to conduct Senate business. He noted that the Senate Handbook is separate from the Senate Charter and from the University at Albany Handbook not sponsored by the Senate. Senate leadership had discovered the need for GOV to update and revise the Senate Handbook, he added, in reviewing inconsistency in such Senate procedures as the approval of department name changes. The Chair highlighted that, with the high overturn of membership, the document specified Council Chairs were encouraged to keep a written record of procedures. Chair Collins stated that this year he and the Senate officers would be following up on procedures to update and edit the Handbook going forward.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Representation of contingent faculty

Chair Reinhold shared her research on the issue, including procedures at other Universities and a 2003-2004 University at Albany Senate amendment about the representation of part-time Senators.

GOV members considered the following:

- a) Amending the Bylaws granting voting rights to part-time faculty to elect their own Senate representatives and submitting nominations for candidates.

- b) Whether to increase the number of Senate representatives, a change that would also involve a Bylaws amendment.

Potential means of implementing voting outreach for part-time faculty was discussed including through the part-time list that the UUP Part-time Concerns Committee has and through the university listserv, developed in 2015-16. GOV determined that before voting on an amendment Chair Reinhold would consult with the Senate Parliamentarian regarding the definition of part-time faculty.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for At-Large Senators

Chair Reinhold asked that members solicit nominations from their respective units: teaching faculty and professionals.

The Chair also asked members to consider individuals who could contribute to a forum on the University's brand and for a smaller focused group to work on UAlbany's identity.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Elisa Lopez, Recorder