

## 4-12-2013 GAC Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting for April 12, 2013

Approved by the Council on May 9, 2013

In attendance: J. Baronner (staff), F. Bolton (staff), S. Commuri, T. Groves (Chair), G. Kane, A. Krause, L. Jome, D. Mancini, P. Terpelets, K. Truby, M. VanUllen, K. Williams, R. Yang, A. Zemel

Unable to attend: J. Bartow (staff), P. Caban, B. Dieffenbach, M. VanUllen

Guests: R. Karl Rethemeyer, Associate Professor, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy; Yu-Ching Cheng (Sociology Graduate student); Christine Preble (Anthropology Graduate student)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Groves at 2:33 PM

### 1. Consideration of minutes for the 3/12/2012 GAC meeting

The Council unanimously approved the minutes.

### 2. Dean's Report – K. Williams

This week SUNY hosted a Graduate Deans meeting. 14 deans from various campuses attended. SUNY Central also joined the meeting. Discussions included financial support, methods to market graduate programs, distance learning, student professional development, graduate employment placement, etc. SUNY is undertaking a new marketing campaign for undergraduate admissions. A marketing strategy for recruitment for grad students/research would be welcomed.

This week also included number four of six development work shops with the main discussion of entrepreneurship. With current graduate employment shrinking, the speaker will discuss her experience. The final workshop at the end of this semester will discuss the writing of fellowship applications. Dean Williams mentioned that our University now has six fellowship grants.

We want enrollments to rise. If the University is able to meet enrollment targets, we will be allowed to retain some of the financial dollars from the new funding budget.

### 3 Chair's Report – T. Groves

Chair Groves requested that Council members that have *not* replied to his e-mail regarding their intentions of continuing to serve on GAC and its Committees to please do so.

At the April 8th Senate meeting President Jones discussed on-line teaching and the upcoming learning forums. All are welcome to attend, and an announcement is forthcoming in May. The State budget has been finalized, and our funding level remains the same as last year. There will be a rational tuition increase spread across all SUNY campuses. Residence halls have been taken out of the debt cap, and we will be able to utilize that money toward updating students' rooming.

#### 4. Committee Reports

##### CAAS – Chair R. Yang

Chair Yang presented the case. The Council approved the Committee's report with 10 yes votes and one abstention.

#### 5. Old Business

##### - Academic Integrity Guidelines

CEPP Chair Commuri reported on the Committee's review of the updated academic integrity guidelines. The Committee voted in favor of the following additions/changes:

- (A) A statement about the importance of academic integrity and the faculty member's policy on dealing with breaches must be listed on the syllabus. The actual penalty will be up to the discretion of individual faculty members. The Committee only recommended that faculty members must inform students (through the syllabus) the course policy on academic integrity.
- (B) A faculty member or School/College may forward a case directly to judicial. It will not be necessary to forward it to the Council first.
- (C) The Committee also discussed the option for a student to drop a class when in breach and decided that this should not be allowed.

The Council approved the updated guidelines with nine votes in favor and one against.

#### 6. New Business

##### - Rockefeller College Combined BA/MPA Proposal

Professor R. Karl Rethemeyer, Nelson A. Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy, discussed the proposal for two approaches for combined undergraduate and graduate study for students at other SUNY campuses. Pathway #1 entails completion of 3 or 3.5 years of undergraduate education. Students would be able to

enroll in graduate courses before the completion of an undergraduate degree, with a post-program entry audit of students' completion of their undergraduate degree. The proposal would enable high-quality SUNY students to count graduate courses toward both undergraduate and graduate requirements. It would provide a path of least resistance rather than students attending Brockport, Binghamton, or private colleges. Extensive consultation has taken place with Geneseo, New Paltz, Purchase, and Oswego regarding combined programs. All campuses are excited about this approach. Geneseo has a housing crunch and would benefit if students are prepared to exit after three years of study. Pathway #2 allows an undergraduate student to remain at their institution of study until they obtain their degree. This approach is popular at New Paltz and Purchase SUNY campuses. Undergrad students would be permitted to count three approved grad courses toward the undergrad obligations.

A discussion ensued. The University does not want to lose tuition dollars but could gain total enrollments by providing pathways to participation in graduate programs that begin while the student is still an undergraduate. It was mentioned that students commuting from Westchester County and other areas near New York City would be able to complete required MPA classes at New Paltz or other cooperating campuses under Pathway #2, which could boost enrollments. Students would be recruited in their sophomore or junior years and would be granted admittance to the program in the end of their junior year. The quality of teaching will be monitored. The syllabus for courses will need to be provided from other SUNY campuses. Feedback will be provided from completed student surveys throughout the student's MPA program. Under Pathway #2, if a student fails in their performance expectations during the first term of their MPA program and thus do not receive their undergraduate credential, probation will be provided. The student would not immediately be dismissed from the program. There will be no curriculum changes needed for either Pathway #1 or #2. Professor Rethemeyer stressed that the proposal is a new policy but not a new program. Undergrad students would not be considered as part of graduate enrollment until they have complete their BA. The Graduate Bulletin may not need to be updated once this proposal is approved since it is related to Graduate Admissions. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would need to be executed with each cooperating institution and would be reviewed in an institution by institution basis. Professor Rethemeyer mentioned the University hopes to have students physically in place by January 2014. These programs have been in place at Geneseo for a number of years. Dean Williams mentioned that the policy should be assessed every couple years. An update was suggested, and the updated draft will be sent to the Committee on Educational Policy & Procedures (CEPP) for reviewing purposes.

Future Meetings:

- Thursday, May 9, MSC 102, 2:30 – 4:00 PM

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Groves at 3:48 PM.

END OF GAC 4/12/2013 MINUTES

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