

2009-2010 University Senate

**Monday, September 21, 2009
3:30 pm, Campus Center Assembly Hall**

R. Michael Range, Chair
Minutes

Present: J. Philippe Abraham, Heidi Andrade, Hassaram Bakhru, Robert Bangert-Drowns, Henryk Baran, Brea Barthel, R. Scott Birge, Daryl Bullis, James Castracane, Richard Collier, Edward Cupoli, Kirsten Davison, John Delano, Jane Domaracki, Sue Faerman, Patrick Ferlo, Susanna Fessler, James Fossett, Elizabeth Gaffney, Robert Gibson, Eric Hardiman, Andrew Haas, Kristen Hessler, Allen Israel, Richard Johnson, Donald Keenan, John Kimball, Ryan King, Laurence Kranich, Winifred Kutchukian, Kajal Lahiri, William Lanford, Hamilton Lankford, Dustin Lanterman, Heather Larkin, Fernando Leiva, Cristian Lenart, Eric Lifshin, John Monfasani, Gwendolyn Moore, Nancy Newman, Julie Novkov, Dana Peterson, George Philip, Susan Phillips, John Pipkin, Marjorie Pryse, R. Michael Range, Carlos Rodriguez, Joan Savitt, John Schmidt, Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, Benjamin Shaw, Hany Shawky, Daniel Smith, Kabel Nathan Stanwicks, Eszter Szalczler, Daniel White, Laura Wilder, Gary Yukl

Guests: Zakhar Berkovich, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, Janna Harton, Reed Hoyt, Wayne Locust, Sheila Mahan, Tamra Minor, Tremayne Price, Christine Wagner, Edelgard Wulfert

The meeting convened at 3:33 pm.

Chair Range welcomed all new senators. He expressed his belief in shared governance and the importance of faculty involvement. He introduced the Senate officers and thanked John Delano for his leadership during the past year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of May 4, 2009 were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – GEORGE PHILIP

President Philip began by informing Senate members of good news in the Richard Bailey case. Three arrests were made today. The President has contacted the Bailey family and offered community support, and he expressed his gratitude for the work of the Albany Police Department. He hopes this will provide some closure to the incident.

President Philip attended President Obama's speech at Hudson Valley Community College today. He said the focus of the speech was community colleges and their value. President Obama and Jill Biden elevated the value of the community college in workforce training.

Move-In Day was a great event and everything went well. Other notable events that ushered in the new semester were the new faculty luncheon and the ice cream social.

Enrollment:

The University received more than 22,000 applications for the fall semester, and exceeded its target of 2,250 for freshman enrollment, enrolling 2,332 students.

- SAT scores were at 1164, up 13 points from 2008.
- Of those admitted, 22% were in the top 10% of their high school classes.
- There are 137 new students enrolled in the Honors College.
- 253 students are Presidential Scholars which is 92 more than in 2008.
- Thirty percent of admitted students of the freshman class are students of color.
- Three percent of new students are international students.
- Out-of-state enrollments were down slightly from 2008.
- Graduate student applications were up 3.9% over 2008.

Budget:

- Governor Paterson will try to close a \$2.1 billion budget gap. This could mean additional reductions for SUNY in the coming year.
- State Senator Neil Breslin has allocated \$1.15 million to fund an initiative for student access, which will provide additional scholarship funds and will also stabilize the Presidential Scholarship Fund.
- President Philip and Provost Phillips will hold several campus conversations and small gatherings about issues of concern such as the budget, capital planning and the new chancellor.

SUNY Wide and UAlbany News:

- SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher has had a busy summer visiting all of the 64 campuses. She is very energetic and persistent. President Philip believes she will accomplish much for SUNY and will be good for UAlbany. Her top goal is strategic planning for the SUNY system.
- UAlbany and other SUNY campuses will engage in a process of informing one another through a 200 person committee coming from all campuses. UAlbany has been asked to contribute nine members and will appoint the full complement. They will participate in seven meetings at seven locations around the state.
- The Chancellor has been on campus a number of occasions and she has a faculty appointment at the University. Tomorrow she will be on campus for the launch of the sustainable transportation initiative.
- The Rockefeller Institute for Government will return to the University, prompting a search for a new director. President Philip will be the chair of the search committee. Dean Jeffrey Straussman will also be on the search committee.
- The UB2020 legislation will include the four university centers and the two medical universities. President Philip believes this will be worthwhile for UAlbany. The flexibility of the bill will hopefully save money.
- UAlbany was one of eight universities selected to host about 40 international Fulbright graduate students to introduce them to U.S. culture and academic life through the Fulbright Gateway Orientation Program. This was an impressive group of articulate and bright students.
- Sanjay Goel from the School of Business will spearhead a project to improve cyber security. Moscow State University and UAlbany are lead universities in the project. Professor Goel is one of the most highly respected people in the field.
- The New York Giants attracted 47,000 fans to the campus this summer. It is still uncertain as to whether or not they will return.

Upcoming Events:

- George McGovern will visit the campus on September 30th.
- Colin Powell will be on campus October 10th to kickoff a new speaker series sponsored by the Student Association. The President lauded the Student Association for this effort.
- The Fall Faculty Meeting will be held on October 15th.
- The 30th anniversary of the Citizen Laureate Award will be held on October 22. Former New York State Governor Hugh Carey will receive this year's award.
- There will be a University wide celebration of the Hudson 400.
- This year will recognize the 25th anniversaries of the New York State Writers Institute and the School of Public Health. It will be the 11th year of Division 1 Athletics.

President Philip acknowledged Provost Phillips for receiving a lifetime achievement award from the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Program.

Vice President for Athletics, Lee McElroy, received the Under Armour Athletic Director of the Year Award.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – MICHAEL RANGE

Welcome to the first meeting of the 2009-2010 Senate. I am looking forward to a productive year as we work together on fulfilling our responsibilities on behalf of the Faculty of the University at Albany. I would like to encourage all senators to familiarize themselves with the documents that describe the Faculty's and Senate's rights and responsibilities, and with the applicable operational details. These documents can be found at

http://www.albany.edu/senate/Faculty_Bylaws_of_the_University_at_Albany_11-06.doc, and
http://www.albany.edu/senate/04-08_Charter_of_the_University_Senate.doc.

Here is a summary of a few items that occurred since the Senate's last meeting.

- **Revisions of Misconduct Policy.** At the last Senate meeting on May 4, 2009, CERS introduced proposed revisions that addressed many of the items that had been discussed by an ad hoc committee over a period of well over a year. After lengthy discussion, the senate approved a motion to charge CERS and GOV to work together to create a new ad hoc committee to address the revision process. Before CERS and GOV began working on this charge, the Provost called for a meeting of the expanded existing ad hoc committee to continue discussions. The meeting scheduled for June 23, 2009, was eventually cancelled. After some further discussion CERS chair MacDonald and GOV chair Range decided to postpone any further action until the fall. CERS and GOV will now work together with the president to set up a new ad hoc committee to move the revision process forward.

In the meantime, the existing *Policy on Misconduct in Research and Scholarship* continues to govern the University's response to allegations of misconduct.

- **Meeting with President Philip.** On June 11, 2009, then Vice Chair Range requested a meeting of senate officers with the President in order to discuss a) the position of Vice President for Research after the announcement that VPR Videka would step down at the end of August, and b) the budget situation. In preparation of b), Range submitted a few specific questions that arose from a comparison of the 2004/05 budget with the 2008/09 budget figures contained in "Tsunami 101". President Philip forwarded these questions to the Office of the VP for Finance and Business (F&B). Interim VP Beditz replied on July 7 that his office was not able to provide answers. The meeting of the President and senate officers took place on July 28, 2009. Regarding the VPR there was agreement on the importance to appoint an Interim VPR as soon as possible after Aug. 31 and to begin a national search to fill the position on a permanent basis. Senate Officers conveyed to the President some suggestions about criteria for the Interim VPR. Regarding the budget, the response from F&B mentioned above was discussed extensively. There was agreement that it is very difficult to make decisions involving reallocations, especially in a period of shrinking resources, without accurate and more complete data, and that consequently it is critical that F&B upgrade its mode of operation.
- **Follow up meeting.** At a meeting on September 2, 2009, President Philip informed senate officers of decisions he has made regarding a number of items.
- **Senate Councils and Committees.** The Committee on Council Nominations of GOV met over the summer and formulated recommendations for membership, utilizing the list of names that had been received in response to the call for

volunteers sent to the Faculty last spring. The complete recommended membership is distributed to senators in a separate attachment and will be considered for approval by the Senate at the September 21, 2009 meeting. Please review carefully and submit any suggestions and/or corrections to Senate Secretary Dick Collier (rcollier@uamail.albany.edu) or at Monday's meeting. During the period August 26 – September 2, 2009, the Chair, with the assistance of other senate officers, convened and facilitated brief organizational meetings of the councils and committees. The chairs elected at these meetings are identified in the membership roster. COR and CPCA elected members who are not senators. A related motion will be discussed under new business on Monday, 9/21.

OTHER REPORTS

PROVOST'S REPORT -- SUSAN PHILLIPS

Provost Phillips noted that the summer was a busy time. The new Chancellor's visit was an exciting event and Chancellor Zimpher was impressed with UAlbany faculty and the campus.

- The Provost informed the Senate that the results of the Budget Advisory Group have been posted on MyUAlbany.
- A search continues for the Dean of the School of Criminal Justice.
- There has been a lot of pandemic planning. The Provost urged faculty to work with students who do not attend classes due to the flu and not penalize students for staying out of class if they are sick.
- The Fall Faculty Retreat held at the Desmond hotel was attended by 120 faculty. The speaker talked about engaging in teaching and making teaching visible.
- The Provost referred to a handout which is a frontline effort about communication.

Around the Campus:

- Rachel Dressler has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend.
- Bonnie Steinbock was awarded a residency at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in Italy.
- Anthropology Professor John Justeson was awarded \$900,000 by Mexico's National Institute of Indigenous Languages (INALI)
- Geography and Planning has entered a Memorandum of Understanding with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for geographic information systems services totaling \$3 million over the next five years.
- Li Niu, Chemistry, has been awarded a grant from the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
- Karin Reinhold-Larson, Mathematics and Statistics, has received a grant from the US Department of Education.
- John Molinari, Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, received a grant from NSF to study cyclones.
- Melinda Larson, Biology, has received a grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.
- School of Business Dean, Donald Siegel was selected by Governor Paterson to serve on a small business task force.
- Criminal Justice Professor Robert Apel received a two year grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Julie Novkov's book on racial union received the APSA's Ralph Bunche Award.
- Theresa Pardo has been appointed to Director of Technology in Government.
- Phase two of the wireless program is complete and is now available in every building
- The Indian Quad dining hall renovation has been completed

Upcoming Events:

- The Provost discussed a new initiative for teaching faculty, CLUE (Career, Leadership and University Excellence), to support the Going Forward Plan

- The Provost asked for participation in the development of the Going Forward Plan, specifically in the areas on critical thinking and developing skills for student success.
- Provost Phillips talked about the new communication plan which will include both formal and information conversations in online opportunities and at town hall meetings. These are opportunities to both talk and listen.
- University wide strategic planning will be on the agenda for the fall and the spring semesters.

The Provost was asked about the loss of graduate assistant support. She discussed the process of reviewing doctoral programs which is peer and budget driven. The only resource for providing restorative funds would be from salaries. The timeline to complete the review is expected around Thanksgiving.

UFS (UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATOR'S REPORT) – WILLIAM LANFORD & DANIEL D. WHITE, SUNY SENATORS

Nothing to report.

GSO (GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION) – MELANIE BREGANZA, GSO PRESIDENT

There are no updates from the GSO.

SA (STUDENT ASSOCIATION) – DUSTIN LANTERMAN, SA PRESIDENT DESIGNEE

SA is proud to announce the inaugural World Within Reach Speaker Series with debuts on October 10th with Gen. Colin Powell; USA (RET.)

Registration will open Wednesday, September 23 on the web.

SA Senate will be holding its annual fall elections for Resident Hall & Off- Campus positions. Voting will occur on myualbany, on September 23 -24.

You should have SA reps on Senate Committee and councils soon.

MSCHE STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT – REED HOYT, UNIVERSITY SENATE REPRESENTATIVE

In attendance at the 13 May 2009 meeting were C. Anderson, S. Faerman (Co-Chair), T. Gage, R. Hoyt, E. Lifshin, K. Loscocco, D. McCaffrey, C. McNeill, S. Messner (Co-Chair), M. Sutherland, B. Szelest, L. Trubitt. The response to the first drafts was discussed, especially organizational issues for each chapter. Some items may have to be transferred from one chapter to another, and it may be necessary to move around parts of chapters—especially chapter to appendix and vice versa: normal editorial processes. An introductory chapter will provide an overview and make sure that information and data are kept consistent throughout the report. The timeline has been adjusted, affecting only the summer portion, and should be back on track as of 31 July. The Timeline stipulates that the campus response to the initial draft will take place in "September-October 2009."

Dr. Donald Langenberg has been named chair of the external evaluators. The steering committee has not met since May 13 and not sure if first draft that has been gathered by the co-chairs. Sue Faerman was able to provide information on the status. She stated that each of the committees submitted its first draft. The drafts were reviewed with feedback and the committees have since submitted their second drafts. Those have been shared with senior staff and deans. Feedback has been received from the senior staff. Sue, Steve Messner and Bruce Szelest are working on editing. Professor Hoyt was asked if the timelines for releasing the report to the UAlbany community have been revised. He indicated that they have and the report is expected to be out sometime in October. It is also expected that there will be meetings to allow the community to comment. Professor Hoyt indicated that Dr. Langenberg will probably visit the campus sometime in late November.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Heidi Andrade, Chair

The Council on Academic Assessment met this month to elect a chair and determine membership on standing committees. A total of seven additional volunteers have been added to the Program Review and General Education Assessment committees. The council is preparing a proposal to the SEC for an evaluation of the process of General Education assessment.

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Susanna Fessler, Chair

CAFFECOR had its organizational meeting on September 2. Susanna Fessler was elected chair for the '09—'10 year. Agenda items for the '09-'10 year were also discussed. There are, in essence, two holdover issues: the inconsistencies of campus policies on speech, and the "Red Light" rating given to our campus by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). The Committee agreed that these "holdover" issues should remain on our agenda this year, and that involving university counsel and the President's office would be a good first step.

A third, new issue for CAFFECOR in '09-'10 was presented: it is unclear whether both students and faculty/staff operate under ONE campus policy on conduct or if there are two PARALLEL policies, perhaps with slight differences. In other words, we may have a double-standard in place. Further investigation should reveal whether this is an area of concern.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – John Monfasani, Chair

Nothing to report.

COR (Council on Research) – James Castracane, Chair

From the initial COR meeting is that we have a full contingent of members with a slot or two available for graduate/undergraduate participants which are being pursued. In addition, we began to populate the sub-committees with some success. We continue to recruit for the full sub-committee memberships. There was a general discussion of priorities for issues to be addressed by COR including ICR, Conflict of Interest and Researchers' Liaison Committee. Next meeting is October 14th.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Carlos Rodriguez, Chair

Nothing to report.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Laurence Kranich, Chair

GAC met on May 11 and approved three measures: (1) a proposal by the Department of Chemistry to modify coursework in its MS in Applied Chemistry with a Concentration in the Forensic Chemistry Program, (2) a proposal by the Department of Communication to establish a Health Communication concentration within its MA Program, and (3) a proposal by the History Department to require GRE scores for MA applicants. In addition, the Council discussed a proposal by the Department of Biological Sciences/CAS and the Department of Computer Science/CCI to establish an Advanced Graduate Certificate in Professional Science Management for students in the MS Forensic Molecular Biology Program; the MS Biodiversity, Conservation and Policy Program; or the MS Computer Science Program. While generally supportive of the measure, the Council tabled the proposal pending receipt of additional clarifying information. The Council will meet next on September 23.

GOV (Governance Council) – Eric Lifshin, Chair

The first meeting of the Governance Council took place on Wednesday Sept 9. The focus of the meeting was to generate a list of candidates for the Governing Board of the Honors College, in response to a request by Provost Phillips. This task was completed at the meeting following a discussion of criteria for the nominees, their responsibilities, potential candidates, and the need for appropriate representation from various academic units. The list was submitted in time for the suggested Sept. 11th deadline.

At its meeting of Sept 18, GOV reaffirmed its recommendations for the HC Governing Board. Deliberations began of choices to replace the two members of the DSP/DTP Committee whose terms have expired; it is expected this will be concluded at the next meeting, Oct. 2.

GOV also reviewed a request to eliminate an anachronism in the *Senate Charter*, section X.3.8.4.1 concerning membership of school and college representatives on UAC's Appellate Subcommittee on Academic Standing: "... Three representatives shall be invited from the College of Arts and Sciences and one from each of the following: Business, Criminal Justice, Education, Information Science and Policy, Rockefeller College, and Social Welfare." In the period following the *Charter's* approval, the ISP School has evolved into the College of Computing and Information and there are now undergraduate major programs in the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering and the School of Public Health. The Council felt the intent of the Charter was clear and voted unanimously that these are simple housekeeping changes and do not require a formal amendment of the *Senate Charter*.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Gwen Moore, Chair

Nothing to report. GAC meets later in the week of September 21st.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Joan Savitt, Chair

UAC met on Thursday, Sept. 10. Its regularly scheduled meetings are Thursdays from 1:30-2:30, in the Terrace Lounge when possible, but otherwise in LC 31.

1. After a discussion of the matters that are traditionally handled by each of UAC's committees, all members volunteered to serve on a committee. There are sufficient UAC members on all committees except for the committee on Admissions and Academic Standing. Since UAC is not expecting that committee to have any tasks at this time, UAC decided not to attempt to form it yet. Should there be business for it, it will be constituted. Additional members for the other committees will be sought to bring each to the mandated size. Chairs have not yet been determined, but it is hoped that the UAC members will decide amongst themselves who will take on that responsibility.
2. UAC reviewed carry-over business from last year and will be working on the overall issue of minors, as well as creating rules for restricting minors. This project will likely entail a review of the rules for majors as well to make policies as consistent as possible. It was also noted that the rules set for restricted majors are subject to periodic review, although no reviews have been undertaken to date.
3. Concerns about how absences caused by H1N1 flu would affect undergraduate teaching and learning were also discussed. UAC learned that the basic approach UA will take is one that encourages students to go home if they are sick. Because teaching itself is changing and involves activities done on-line and otherwise, how students will complete their work if they are ill is not being determined at this time, and will probably remain a course-specific matter.
4. Several small curricular changes have already been received and these will be reviewed once committees are functioning.
5. UAC also noted that the Budget Advisory Group's final report included many recommendations that affect undergraduate education.
6. UAC also expects to be receiving a document from the governing board of the Honors College with their proposed criteria for maintaining membership in the Honors College. UAC will then respond.
7. UAC expects to be receiving recommendations from the First Year Experience Task Force. UAC 08-09 was briefed on the report at the draft stage and requested reconsideration of certain areas. UAC now awaits the final report of the task force and will then consider its recommendations.
8. UAC voted to allow the Chair to include Greg Stevens and Suzanne Phillips to be added to the email distribution list of the council for regular business matters. Both have historically been regular attendees of council meetings.
9. UAC met on September 17th to look at a study abroad issue about what to do with students who take more than 19 credits overseas.

ULC (University Life Council) – Daniel R. Smith, Chair

ULC report: we are fully constituted and will be setting the first meeting date for the next week or two. Our first piece of business is from the Vice President of Student Success is the campus plan for an H1N1 virus outbreak. We will hear from the VP of Student Success and the Director of the University Health Center.

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – John Delano, Chair

The UPPC meetings during the Fall 2009 semester will occur at 3:30-5:00 PM in UNH 306 on October 8, October 22, November 5, November 19, and December 3 (all Thursdays). At the September 14 meeting of the Senate Executive Committee, Senate Chair Range requested that the UPPC consider the matter of budget transparency, which will be on the agenda for the UPPC meeting of October 8.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Council and Standing Committee Memberships

Senate Secretary Collier referred to the membership listing that was distributed. He noted that two names on the list should appear as senators, Daryl Bullis and Donald Keenan. Secretary Collier further noted that the student members selected by SA and GSO and the *ex officio* representatives of the administrations are not on the membership list since they are not subject to Senate confirmation.

A request was made for approval of the council and committee memberships. A vote was taken and the membership was approved.

Election of Senators Selected by their Council as Council Chair: COR--James Castracane, CPCA--Carlos Rodriguez

Secretary Collier stated that per the *Bylaws*, council chairs must be senators. At two of the organizational meetings, the councils were not able to elect senators as chairs. The newly elected chairs must be elected as senators for a one-year term. A motion to appoint James Castracane and Carlos Rodriguez to one-year terms was made, seconded and approved.

Election of Senior Vice President Kaloyeros to One-Year Term

Chair Range provided background from discussions last December when the Senate passed a resolution on the SUNY Board of Trustees Resolution concerning CNSE. At that time, the Senate Executive Committee discussed that it would be appropriate to change the *Bylaws* allowing the CNSE Senior Vice President to become an *ex officio* member of the Senate. No action has been taken to put that in motion. The *Bylaws* state that the SEC may nominate up to two Senators from the eligible voting faculty for Senate approval for one-year terms, which was done last year for Alain Kaloyeros. Chair Range asked for a motion to appoint Dr. Kaloyeros for an additional one-year term. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Gail Cameron, Recorder