

## 4-4-2012 GAC Minutes

Minutes of the Council meeting for April 4, 2012

Approved by the Council on May 4, 2012

In attendance: J. Baronner (staff), J. Bartow (staff), F. Bolton (staff), S. Commuri, C. Duncan, T. Groves (Chair), L. Halpern, A. Krause, D. Mancini, G. Robinson, M. VanUllen, K. Williams

Unable to attend: A. Assuwiyan, J. Bissonnette, B. Dieffenbach, D. Dewar,

Guest: Vincent Commisso (Graduate Student, Political Science)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Groves at 2:21 PM.

### 1. Consideration of minutes for the 3/6/2012 GAC meeting

The Council approved the 3/6/2012 minutes unanimously by a 7-0-0 vote.

### 2. Dean's report – K. Williams

The Graduate Education Working Group for the UAlbany Strategic Plan has completed its first objective of developing metrics to be used to assess doctoral programs. This list was shared with the Council during discussion of new business.

Graduate enrollment missed its enrollment targets for 2011-12, and hence graduate admissions is at the top of Administration concerns for 2012-13. Dean Williams, Bruce Szelest, Director of Institutional Research/Associate Vice President ARP, and Bob Andrea, Director of Admissions and Enrollment/Associate Vice Provost, met with program directors to develop realistic Fall 2012 enrollment goals. Graduate applications are up across the board for most colleges/schools so departments should have the applicant pool to reach their goals. Hitting target goals has important revenue and budget implications.

Dean Williams reported that there has been some confusion regarding the UAlbany 2020 status. The Governor has not yet signed Albany's plan, but Stony Brook and Buffalo have been approved. Senior administration believes Albany's plan will be approved soon. Albany submitted their plan last Fall with a biomedical initiative as the centerpiece. Since that was a duplicate of another school's submission, Albany was requested to submit a different plan.

### 3. Chair's Report – T. Groves

Chair Groves mentioned that the last couple Senate meetings have been tied up with Undergraduate activities. For the last two years an effort has been underway to revamp the General Education criteria. The overall purpose of the revamping was to streamline the process to guarantee students meet General Education goals and ensure an earlier graduation time. JoAnne Malatesta, Chair of the Undergraduate Council, presented the bill to the Senate, and the Senate voted to approve the bill.

4. Committee Reports

CAAS – Chair S. Shahedipour

Chair S. Shahedipour presented the case. GAC approved the report

5 Old Business

Review and possible update of guidelines for addressing academic dishonesty

Chair Groves mentioned that there will be particular language for both Graduate and Undergraduate bulletins.

Review status of outstanding assessment reviews

The Psychology Department assessment was provided by Council member D. Mancini. The Council voted 7-0-0 to approve the report.

All Council work for departmental assessment reports has now been completed.

6. New Business

Strategic Theme 3: Graduate Education

Assessment criteria for doctoral programs have been recommended by the Strategic Plan Working Group on Graduate Education. Dean Williams provided a handout to discuss “Strategic Theme 3: Graduate Education”. The work started a year ago and will continue for the next two years. The Doctoral program is presently being studied, and the Master’s program will be reviewed in the future. Some departments will be responsible for the assessment criteria while the remaining will be under Bruce Szelest’s supervision. #4 (student research productivity per capita) is a new category

Discussion followed. Program teaching dimensions are not considered in this report. Although quantitative score will be provided, it is not the same as metric measurements. Is there some provision for some type of verbal assessment to accompany this? Dean Williams mentioned that 3-4 reviews would have a narrative attached to the report and not a situation of just receiving a score. This is desired so that programs may chart results from year to year. A member inquired of the period of candidacy. Dean Williams mentioned that we will need to compare our outcomes against national discipline benchmarks for assessment. Regarding students being well prepared, there will be a semi-annual survey. However, it will not be part of outcome assessment. A member mentioned that this will not catch quality regarding impact and also does not catch quality of publications. The steering committee meets in May, and Dean Williams prefers to have the handout approved ahead of time to bring it to the May committee meeting. Chair Groves requested that further thoughts be forwarded to Dean Williams via e-mail.

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Future Meetings:

- Friday, May 4, 2012, 2:45-4:15 PM (MSC 102 Conference Room)

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

END OF GAC 4/4/2012 MINUTES

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