

## Council and Committee Reports for Senate Meeting February 26 2018

Christian Poehlmann, Senate Secretary

### UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – Karin Reinhold

#### Informational

During January, an informal survey among SUNY wide senators and campus governance leaders on assessment of administrators showed that a few campus have established procedures to evaluate their senior administrators. Among these are Brockport, where their Senate's procedures require a performance review survey of administration officials once every three years on a rolling basis; and Oswego, which periodically reviews their academic administrators and their President.

On Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, Senate leadership, Jim Collins and Jim Mower (Reinhold was ill), met Provost Stellar and VP for Academic Affairs Bruce Szelest. The following items were discussed. a. President Rodriguez's views of contingent faculty issues that were addressed in a set of contingent faculty reports compiled by Bill Hedberg and distributed to CGL. b. Data on the number of fulltime vs part-time positions over the past 3 years and how the University stands with respect to national averages. c. How will the strategic budgeting for strategic planning work? d. The state of the new Environmental Science and Engineering Department. Approval continues to move along in the University/SUNY/StateEd approval process. The proposed Department already has a chair and has approval to conduct on campus external review (standard for new program proposals through SUNY System).

On Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, Chair Reinhold received a request for data concerning ratios of part time & contingent faculty vs tenure-lines over the last 5 years. The request was sent forth to VP for Administration. At the same time, a request was made for the Senate to consider the creation of a council for contingent concerns, a place within the governance structure that would address the continuing concerns of the part time and contingent faculty, whose numbers continue to grow, comprising now more than 50% of our teaching faculty.

Provost Stellar and VP for Student Success will present the Draft Strategic Plan to the SEC on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> and to the Senate on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. The presentations will be interactive, all are encouraged to bring their smart phone or tablets to be able to participate and give feedback.

Chancellor Christina Johnson requested comments on her resolution on Open Access Policy for the SUNY system by February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Comments can be sent to : [provost@suny.edu](mailto:provost@suny.edu) . The letter with the resolution is attached to this report.

On Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, the Senate leadership and UUP leadership sent an Open Letter to the Provost concerning the Strategic Plan, addressing key issues for our constituencies that are not clearly addressed in the strategic plan.

On Feb 5<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting the President announced a Graduate School task force. One of its main charges is studying ways to improve enrolments of master students. The task force is composed by: Dean for Graduate Education K. Williams, College of Arts & Science Dean E. Wulfert, Interim Dean School of Public Health L. Schweitzer, Chair of Educational Policy and

Leadership J. Lane, Associate VP for Enrollment Management S. Starke , Associate Provost for Online Learning P. Shea, Vice Provost and Dean of Center for International Education and Global Strategy H. Charles, VP for Communications and Management J. Brennan . This task force was charged with studying the challenges of graduate enrollment (enrollment targets have not been met for the past 8 years) and make recommendations for improving enrollments. A report that addresses the factors that have impacted enrollment and that makes recommendations was shared with the Senate and will be presented to the SEC in March.

At the Senate meeting, Zina Lawrence suggested that a more effective way to advocate for UAlbany would be to bring Senators to campus and show them our students and programs. Jerlisa Fontaine, SA president, asked for inclusivity efforts to better integrate international students with US students.

On Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, Chair Reinhold met with Seery, VP for Government & Community Relations to discuss ways in which the Senate can support UAlbany's lobbying efforts. GSA is organizing Higher Education Advocacy for Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.

On Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, Winchester from Undergraduate Office requested that the Senate review the definition of Liberal Arts as well as the policy on credits for BA & BS programs.

On Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, SUNY Interim Provost Wang circulated a final report on micro-credentials.

On Feb 8<sup>th</sup>, Senate and UUP leaders met with the President regarding the Open Letter that the Senate and UUP jointly sent to the Provost and VP for Students Affairs. It was a positive and productive conversation where all parties committed to continue to work collaboratively for the betterment of this university. The Senate was consulted and has been involved in the drafts for each of the five strategic priorities of the Strategic Plan, but the Senate was concerned about being consulted on the steps going forward, that is, in the implementation and strategic budget. It is in these steps that crucial decisions are made that affect faculty, students and professionals. As a result of this meeting, we were impressed for the openness and the commitment to continued consultation on the crucial aspects of the strategic process that President Rodríguez expressed and we look forward to collaborative partnerships between the Senate and the this administration.

On Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, all councils' support persons were granted authorization to manage website software in order to be able to update minutes, agendas and council news. The new Senate and Shared Governance website is estimated to go live by Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.

On Feb 13<sup>th</sup>, the Senate held an informative forum on Gender Equity and Inclusion hosted by UPPC Chair Collins.

**Recommendations:**

SEC evaluates the proposed review of a) the current definition of Liberal Arts, b) the current policy on credits for BA & BS programs.

**Actions taken:**

Chancellor's resolution on open access was sent to LISC for comments and consideration.

An invitation was sent to Gerry Zahari, UAlbany representative to the SUNY-wide Open Access Committee, to report on the work that committee.

Senior Vice Provost and Associate VP for Academic Affairs, Bill Hedberg was invited to present a report to the SEC on Mar 5 on the state of implementation of the Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations on contingent concerns and graduate students stipends.

At-Large Senator for Part Time faculty, Virginia Yonkers, was invited to present a report to the SEC on Mar 5, about the concerns of the contingent faculty.

Senate representatives on the Assessment of Administrative Units Advisory Board were invited to present a report on this year's work of the board to the SEC on Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Provost Stellar and Graduate Dean Williams were invited to present a report on the work of the task force on graduate enrollments to the SEC on Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The UAlbany Strategic Plan for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was requested, as part of the SUNY diversity initiative.

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

- Senate Forum on *The State of Arts and Humanities*: March 21<sup>st</sup> 3:30-5:30.
- **Spring Faculty Address**, April 3 at 1:00 pm in the CC Ballroom.
- Senate Forum on *The State of IT on Campus*: April 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Other announcements:**

- Feb 10<sup>th</sup>: 2018 President's Awards for Exemplary Public Engagement Nomination deadline - Mary Hunt
- Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7-9 pm: ODI Conversations for Change presents: "*Speaking out on Campus in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*"
- Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>: SUNY wide Advising Conference at UAlbany - <https://advisingsuny.wordpress.com/>
- Feb 29<sup>th</sup> GSA Higher Education Advocacy day.
- March 2<sup>nd</sup>: SUNY Voices Conference: Middle States & Shared Governance, 10:00-4:30, SUNY Administration, Albany, NY
- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Date planned for Strategic Plans to be submitted.
- **April 13<sup>th</sup>: President's Inauguration**
- April 20<sup>th</sup>: SUNY Undergraduate Research Symposium 2018, Oneonta, and Saturday, April 21<sup>th</sup> at Monroe County Community College.

#### **SUNY Senators' Report** – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little, Latonia Spencer

- Nothing to report

#### **Graduate Student Organization Report** – Dawn Wharram, Lead Senator

- Nothing to report

#### **Student Association Report** –Jerlisa Fontaine, President

- Nothing reported

**Council/Committee Chair Reports:**

**CAA** – Istvan Kecskes, Chair, Mary Ellen Mallia Co-Chair

- Nothing reported

**CAFFECOR** – Carol Jewell, Chair

- Nothing reported

**CERS** – David G. Wagner, Chair

- Nothing to report

**COR** – Robert Rosenswig, Chair

A Council on Research Meeting was held on Monday, Jan 29, 2018 where:

1-CoR members discussed proposed revision of policy and procedure for Centers, Institutes and Specialized Research Labs (CISRL) and the formation of a task force to review the existing and proposed policies and procedures with the goal of presenting a recommendation to CoR by May

2-The Subcommittee on the Faculty Research Award Program Category A (FRAP-A) Subcommittee submitted their recommendation to CoR. After discussion, the subcommittee ranking was approved and sent to the VPR's office for funding decisions.

3- UAlbany Excellence in Research & Creative Activities Award (ERCA) nomination case was reviewed by award subcommittee and reported to CoR.

4- In response to a recent meeting on Shared Governance with Councils of the Senate, CoR has begun to work on its Policy and Procedure Manual with the goal of having it ready by May.

A Council on Research Meeting was held on Monday, Feb 12, 2018 where:

1- Benevolent subcommittee updated the Benevolent Award Application guidelines

2- CoR heard a presentation of the proposal for the establishment of the Albany Center for Intelligent Systems (ACIS) by Dr. Siwei Lyu. After questions and discussion, the proposal was approved.

**CPCA** – Jim Hargett, Chair

- Nothing to report

**GAC** – Sean Rafferty, Chair

- Nothing reported

**GOV** – Jim Mower, Chair

GOV is currently working on

- Compiling a preliminary slate for Senators At-Large and UAS Board members for the 2018-19 term
- Developing the 2017-18 Faculty Survey

The February GOV meeting 2/7 was rescheduled for 2/21 due to the snow event.

**LISC** – Billie Franchini, Chair

### **LISC Report for the University Senate Meeting, February 26, 2018**

Submitted by Billie Franchini, Chair, February 13, 2018

The Council on Libraries, Information Services, and Computing (LISC) met on February 6, 2018. During the meeting, Council members heard a presentation from Lindsay Van Berkem, University Libraries, about Scholars Archive and received the following updates from the Libraries and ITS.

#### **I. Report/Updates from Libraries (submitted by Rebecca Mugridge, Dean of Libraries)**

##### **New hires and searches**

1. Web Developer/Designer. The Libraries have completed interviews and are in the process of making an offer.
2. Desktop Support Technician. The Libraries hired Amanda McGown for this position; she started January 11.
3. User Experience Librarian. The Libraries are in the process of scheduling three candidates for on-campus interviews.
4. The University Libraries are in the process of initiating searches for the following three positions:
  - a. Budget Officer
  - b. Subject Librarian for Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, Cybersecurity, and Criminal Justice
  - c. Scholarly Communication Librarian

**Virtual Research Consultations Pilot Project.** The Libraries are launching a pilot project to offer virtual research consultations to students and others. Currently we offer research consultations through in-person, chat, email, phone, and by appointment. Virtual consultations will allow us to offer more in-depth research consultations to students and others over the web. It will be especially beneficial to those in online courses. We're reaching out to classes in Public Health and the School of Education.

**Student Advisory Board.** The University Libraries' Student Advisory Board is going to be chaired by Kelsey O'Brien, Information Literacy Librarian; and Camille Chesley, Reference Librarian, for the next year. They will report to Deborah Bernnard, Director of Public Services. We're in the process of scheduling the meetings of the SAB for the spring semester and putting the agendas together.

**Campus Conversations in Standish.** The Libraries are hosting three presentations this spring that highlight faculty research. The presentations take place 12:35-1:30 in the Standish Room in the Science Library. Speakers include the following:

1. Danny Goodwin, "Photography is Dead. Long Live Photography!" February 28, 2018
2. Ilka Kressner, Photographic Contact Zones – The Mexican Travel Photographs by Fritz Neugass." March 28, 2018
3. Kendra Smith-Howard, PhD, Department of History "Finding Nature in Unexpected Places: What Cleaning Closets and Laundry Rooms Tell us About American Environmental History." April 4, 2018

## **II. Report/Updates from ITS (submitted by Brian Heaton, Director of the Enterprise Infrastructure Services, reporting for Simeon Anounou, Vice President of Information Technology Services and CIO)**

**Personnel:** ITS is currently filling a number of positions such **Associate Director of Network** and also a **data visualization support specialist** in hopes to bring us to a staffing level necessary to better address critical issues.

**Infrastructure:** ITS is continuously improving our infrastructure. Many network switches have been deployed in recent months to improve network connectivity in many parts of the campus. Similarly, a design to improve institutional wireless coverage is underway. Wireless coverage is expected to be extended to 40 additional classrooms over the next several months.

### **Resource Consolidation and Security Initiative**

1. ITS is working with various departments to create a better inventory of institutional resources to better understand our risk and develop a mitigation plan accordingly.
2. Workstation and server affiliations
  - a. A login script to migrate workstation computer accounts from CAS in the main University domain is prepared but needs to be retested.

- b. CAS expects to deploy the script to Biology, a large department, next week and will move forward in batches/departments over time.
  - c. Server computer account migrations from CAS are on the backburner while they focus on workstations.
  - d. Similar efforts are underway with the Library. In fact a team of library technical personnel and ITS systems architects have established that they can recreate library group policies in the UAlbany domain. The team is recreating the library's Organization Unit structure in the UAlbany domain, then they will work on login script. They expect to begin their migration soon and predict a quick jump to 90% overall completion rather quickly. They are still working on their server migration plan.
3. The Network, Identity and Access Management and Information Security teams are working on a new VPN for the University. This new remote access tool will be deployed later this spring. Stay tuned for more info.

**UAC** – Karen Kiorpes, Christy Smith, Co-Chairs

UAC met on January 25.

Committee Reports:

*General Education Committee* – The Committee approved a course proposal in the International Perspectives category. Two competency plans still need to be reviewed in Physics and Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

*Interdisciplinary Studies Committee* – One U UNI 390 internship was approved over break. Two U UNI 290 and 11 U UNI 390 internships were approved in December. In December three Student Initiated Interdisciplinary Studies Majors were approved, a combined major/minor in social justice, a BA in social services, and a second major in French Studies. The Committee will meet soon to discuss the structure of U UUNI 390 with attention to how consistent it is with other university internship opportunities, particularly as it relates to the academic components.

*Committee on Academic Standing* – The committee met for two days in January to review academic dismissal appeals and that ultimately approximately 167 undergraduate students were dismissed.

*Curriculum and Honors Committee* – The UAC liaison has been working with departments on the two new proposals for revisions of majors, and a new minor in legal studies is close to being submitted by Political Science in Rockefeller College. There are four new undergraduate programs in various stages: Public Health, which is working on responding to the program reviewers' comments after their site visit; Business Economics, for which the SUNY comment period recently ended (there were none);

Electrical and Computer Engineering, which has a site visit 2/15 - 2/16; and Environmental and Sustainable Engineering, which has a site visit 2/20 - 2/21.

*Old Business-* Sanjay Goel from the School of Business attended the 1/25 meeting to explain the proposed changes to the Digital Forensics program which were distributed to UAC in the December meeting. The program is four years old. Recent reviewers of the program indicated that certain changes should be pursued with the goal of cyber defense accreditation from the National Security Agency. There are some redundancies currently, and the field has developed since the program's inception. Some courses in the program will be dropped, new courses will be added, and other courses will be restructured. Criminal Justice courses will be replaced with courses on programming, database and computer security. Committee member from CEHC expressed concern that there may be an overlap of cybersecurity courses in different departments and that there needs to be discussion of a campus "vision on cybersecurity." She would like coordination involving her Dean and other involved Schools or Colleges. Sanjay will follow up directly with CEHC.

*New Business* – Dayna Newton from the School of Education spoke about three program proposals for combined programs with the BA in Human Development and the MS in Mental Health Counseling, in Educational Psychology, and in Special Education and Literacy. There is large need for special education teachers and mental health counselors in New York State and the combined programs are financially beneficial to students. The program proposals were voted on and approved. Once approved through GAC, a bill will go to the Senate.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

## **ULC – Ekow King, Chair**

Report of Chair, University Life Council

Date: 2/14/2018

### **I. Informational**

1. VP of Finance and Administration reported that the new eating space in CC West will be opening by the end of February. Also as it was a cold winter, Pipes burst on campus during intersession.
2. There were questions about the H<sup>2</sup>O Zone fountains that were in the CC prior to the recent modifications. The council appointed a member to investigate further.
3. EAP Director shared update on resources for Faculty & Staff and shared that they provide referrals and all work is confidential.



4. Discussion was held regarding the impact of the most recent charter changes; Increased graduate student representation, CSEA representation on the council, Director of Athletics to be invited as Ex-Officio.
5. Chair has been asked and accepted invitation to serve on Tobacco Free Steering Committee
6. Graduate Students parking issues and General parking issues were discussed at length
  - i. Graduate rep and Chair will meet with Dir. of Parking management
7. Council members continue to work on the following resolutions:
  - i. Affordable Childcare
  - ii. Interfaith Center
  - iii. Trauma Informed Responses to Oppression
  - iv. Inclusion of Eid al Adha and Eid al Fitr on the University Calendar
  - v. Indigenous People's Day

## II. Reports of Actions

1. The Council agreed to invite Kevin Benn, Pres. Of UAlbany CSEA chapter, or designee as a representative on the council
2. Mark Benson, or designee would be invited to serve as Ex-Officio on the council

## III. Recommendations for Actions

1. No recommendations at this time

**UPPC – Jim Collins, Chair**

UPPC Report for Senate Meeting on 02618

### **Information:**

The Council met on January 31.

Provost Stellar reported on the Strategic Plan's 'road shows' whereby more than 20 University Constituencies will be engaged in presentations and responses to the current draft Strategic Plan. All are encouraged to read the draft plan and participate in a road show. The Provost answered questions from Council members.

Vice President Van Voorst was absent and unable to provide a report

Chair Collins reported as follows:

On December 18, Chair Collins participated in a Campus Governance Leaders meeting with Jim Mower, Vice Chair of the Senate, Provost Stellar, Associate Provost Ann Marie Murray, and Chief of Staff Bruce Szelest, on January 29, all parties met again. Among items discussed were three items on today's Council agenda:

- Budgeting in relation to Strategic Planning;
- Status of implementation of Panel on Contingent Concerns, 2016 recommendations;
- UPPC study of incoming freshman and transfer student cohorts over ten year period

These meetings occur monthly, and Chair Collins asked Council members to notify him or other Senate leaders if they have items to be taken to these governance meetings.

Following upon the recommendations from the 12/13/17 Council Meeting, the Council continued its study of incoming student preparation, discussing data on 2007-2017 freshman and transfer incoming classes, their SAT and GPA and retention rates. Council members identified areas of strong retention and graduate rates among EOP students, and asked for additional data on students in the Living and Learning Communities and the Honor's College, as well as on the Academic Dismissals (from UAC).

At the request of the Provost, the Council tabled a proposal to change the Campus Information Form from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education.

**Actions:**

The council voted to sponsor the *Senate Forum on Gender Equity and Inclusion at the University* at 12-2 on February 13<sup>th</sup> in the Campus Center West Multi-Use Room)

The council reaffirmed its support for the recommendation from the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee: *that the Office of Graduate Studies survey graduate departments to determine which are interested in having assistance in increasing international graduate enrollment and to create a designated graduate international recruitment position which would interface with the existing international recruitment infrastructure at CIEGS to recruit for departments which choose to participate.* Council members suggested that this recommendation be communicated to the Dean of the Office of Graduate Studies as well as the Graduate Affairs Council.

The council voted to affirm its support for the recommendation the Facilities Committee: *That the relevant office within Campus Planning Committee offer timely forums to affected*

*faculty and staff when facilities changes are planned, scheduling such forums well in advance of actual changes, and remind supervisors and academic department chairs of the importance of timely discussion opportunities for the faculty and staff they supervise. Chair Collins will communicate this recommendation to the Director of the Office of Campus Planning.*

**Recommendations:**

No new recommendations

The Council next meets on February 21, 2018.