

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE SUMMARIES

Meeting of the University Senate, April 4, 2016
As submitted to Yenisel Gulatee, Senate Secretary, University Senate

UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT –Cynthia Fox

I. Informational

1. Chair Fox has received a request that the Senate consider hosting a forum on the diversity issues emerging from the bus incident. The matter has been referred to ULC for consideration.
2. Chair Fox has been contacted by various people with concerns about campus contracts with respect to travel, advertising job openings, and campus catering. The matter of faculty input on campus contracts has been referred to UPPC for consideration.
4. Chair Fox was made aware that there was no formal orientation program for new faculty this year. The issue has been referred to ULC and to UPPC for consideration.
5. A question has been raised as to the formal requirements of the petitions that are required from those who wish to nominate themselves for at-large and SUNY-wide Senate positions. The matter has been referred to GOV for consideration.
6. At the invitation of President Bret Benjamin, Chair Fox and Vice Chair Collins attended the March 21 meeting of the UUP Albany Chapter Executive Committee to talk about current Senate activities and discuss ongoing collaborations and initiatives.

II. Actions Taken

1. At its meeting of March 21, a motion was made and unanimously approved to urge the university to resume holding an orientation program for new faculty and that the 2016 program s include faculty who arrived in fall 2015 and spring 2016 for whom there was no program.

III. Recommendations for actions

N/A

UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) – J. Philippe Abraham, Walter Little & John Schmidt, SUNY Senators

We look forward to the next plenary meeting of the SUNY Senate in Brockport on May 6 &7. Details of the next SUNY Budget will be a prominent topic then.

GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Katherine Slye, GSA President Elections

Our elections are scheduled for April 5-7th. We will hold a candidates forum on March 30th where the candidates for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Equity and Inclusion Chair, Lead Senator, and University Council Representative can speak to graduate students and answer their questions. I will announce the results of the elections in April.

State Legislative Action Day

Our training on March 5th went very well and the students in attendance said they thought it was useful and they learned a lot. The meetings on March 8th went just as well. While we had a few people call out sick, those who attended meetings said they were productive, the members/staff were engaging, and that they felt they learned a lot by participating. We met with Senators Breslin and MacDonald and Amadore's staff about SUNY Funding who were all very engaging and supportive of our call for an increased maintenance of effort. We also met with staff in Abbate, Ortiz, and Golden's office about divesting NYS money from fossil fuels, and Fahy, O'Donnell, and Montgomery about Banning the Box on SUNY College applications. We are currently gathering feedback from participants about how we can make this day better next year.

Diversity Conference Update – April 23rd

Currently, we have two workshops: an address by Dra. Aurora Chang and a workshop by SUNY Albany alumna Janelle Bechdol entitled #BlackGirlMagic.

Upcoming Assembly Resolutions

Our assembly will be considering two sustainability resolutions at our April 1st meeting. One is on fossil fuel divestment in support of the current bill in the state legislature (that we lobbied on on March 5th) and the other is supporting the incorporation of sustainability into the curriculum. The resolution on sustainability in the curriculum will be forwarded to the Senate for consideration.

Power Dialogue – April 5th

The GSA will be helping put together the Power Dialogue event. These discussions will be occurring all over the country in response to the Executive Order that mandates each state to develop a Clean Power Plan to accomplish goals set at the climate negotiations in Paris. Richard Kaufman, the Chairman of Energy and Finance for NYS and a member of the Governor's Executive Cabinet, will be coming to have an open dialogue about his plans to implement the Clean Power Plan with students. Additionally, Jared Snyder, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Air Resources, Climate Change, and Energy at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation will also be there to speak on his plans. This is a full day event.

TESOL Resolution

At the GSA Assembly meeting on March 4th, the Assembly passed a resolution calling on the Dean of Graduate Education to allocate two TESOL Graduate Teaching Assistant funding lines for the Writing Center. Below you will find the resolution in full.

Some money has been allocated to hire a TESOL consultant for the remainder of the Spring 2016 semester, \$11.00-\$15.00 an hour depending on education and experience. This is a great first step, but we are looking to make this support for ESL students more permanent. We are still pushing for two lines of funding through the Education TESOL program.



GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY *State University of New York*

Resolution regarding TESOL ESL Consultants for the Writing Center

Proposed for consideration on 3/4/16 by: School of Public Health Recognized Graduate Student Organization, English Graduate Student Organization, and Students of Sociology.

WHEREAS, academic writing support for English as a second language (ESL) has been identified by many graduate student leaders as a concern at this University for both ESL international students and American ESL students; and

WHEREAS, instructors of the recently added Writing and Critical Inquiry (WCI) and WCI-equivalent courses have identified the WCI requirement as a particular challenge for ESL students; and

WHEREAS, these same instructors have frequently found their ESL students required and/or requested ESL-trained writing support in addition to the instruction performed within a WCI classroom; and

WHEREAS, the recently added WCI courses highlights the lack of dedicated TESOL-trained writing support as a key way in which ESL students are an under-served population at this University, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels; and

WHEREAS, many graduate programs mandate ESL international students to teach undergraduate courses or to assume the role of Graduate Teaching Assistant, suggesting a growing demand for institutional support for academic and writing services; and

WHEREAS, there is a TESOL program at this University with PhD students developing the expertise to teach English as a second language; and

WHEREAS, the former TESOL Graduate Teaching Assistant demonstrated that ESL services within the Writing Center offered a valuable and frequently used resource for ESL students at all levels of writing at this University; and

WHEREAS, a focus-group study done in 2013 on 224 international student at UAlbany suggested that systematic referrals to access ESL and writing services is much needed among both undergraduate and graduate international students; and

WHEREAS, ESL support in the Writing Center is a benefit to all faculty, contingents, and GTAs teaching ESL students at this University; and

WHEREAS, the WCI requirement has increased the demand for TESOL-trained writing support at this University that will unlikely be met by one TESOL Graduate Teaching Assistant working alone;

RESOLVED, the Assembly of the Graduate Student Association at the University at Albany calls on the Dean of Graduate Education to allocate two TESOL Graduate Teaching Assistant funding lines for the Writing Center; and

RESOLVED, that this resolution be forwarded to the University at Albany Dean / Vice Provost of Graduate Education, the Office of the Provost, the Office of the President, the Chair of the University Council, and the Chair of the University Senate.

Passage: 100% in favor, 0% against, 0% abstaining

SA (Student Association) – Jarius Jemmott, Student Association President

No response

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – James Mower, Chair

CAA met on March 22 to review and vote for approval of 2 assessment reports and one procedural item, as follows:

- 1) Assessment Report of the Department of English (approved)
- 2) Assessment Report of the Mathematics General Education Category (approved)
- 3) Procedures for Program Review Extensions (approved pending suggested edits)

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) –Carol Jewell, Chair

I. Informational

On Friday, March 25, 2016, CAFFECOR held its joint (with UUP) Forum on Academic Freedom. About 32 people attended. The three panelists gave their thoughts on the issues, and then we had a lively Q&A which lasted until the end of the forum. CAFFECOR will be “debriefing” this at its April meeting, as well as reviewing evaluation forms that were submitted.

II. Reports of Actions

Chair Jewell is in communication with some professors in the College of Arts & Sciences regarding possible incidents of infringement of academic freedom.

III. Recommendations for Actions

Chair Jewell will consult with various units on campus to get more information regarding the regarding possible incidents of infringement of academic freedom.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Michael Jerison, Chair

Nothing to report

COR (Council on Research) – Daniele Fabris, Chair

Nothing to report

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Lynn Warner, Chair

Feb. 22- reviewed 1 promotion and 1 continuing appointment & promotion case

March 7 - reviewed 1 promotion case

March 28 - 2 cases scheduled for review; 1 continuing appointment case, 1 promotion case

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Ronald Toseland, Chair

At its meeting of February 23rd 2016, the Graduate Academic Council approved changes to the curriculum in the MA in Criminal Justice, Certificate in Graduate Study in Public Sector Management, PhD in Philosophy, and PhD in History.

GOV (Governance Council) – James Collins, Chair

Old/continuing business

Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation: In consultation with the Office of the President, the Assessment Committee has completed a survey questionnaire for the mandated survey of shared governance. It has now been distributed to Senate constituencies, and all Senators are encouraged to complete the survey.

Committee on Liaison & Election:

1. Has sent out final slates for the scheduled University Senate Elections.
2. Has scheduled three Senate Forums:
 - a. Academic Freedom, March 25, 1:30-3:30PM, Assembly Hall,
 - b. Contingent Faculty Concerns, April 5, 3:00-5:00PM, Humanities 354
 - c. Sustainability, April 18, 11:30-1:00PM, Assembly Hall

The Council has approved members for the UPPC Resource Analysis and Planning Committee and is soliciting members of the Facilities Committee.

Actions taken/new business:

At its meeting on February 29, the Council discussed and voted to send forward a Resolution on Emeritus Faculty.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – David Mamorella, Chair

LISC will be meeting on March 28.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) –Karen Kiorpes and Christy Smith, Co-Chairs

UAC met on 03/01/2016, and again on 03/10/2016, to continue their discussion of the *CEHC BA/BS Program Proposal* begun at the 2/18/2016 meeting.

In February, the Curriculum and Honors Committee of UAC met to review the proposal. C&H requested needed revisions from CEHC. In response, CEHC made some modifications to the concentrations. In March, C&H met again and agreed to move the proposal formally to UAC for consideration. C&H submitted a final report to CEHC, outlining recommendations for additional changes and for logistical considerations when the program is implemented.

Prior to the UAC's 3/10 meeting, CEHC responded to C&H's report and made some changes, including adding a *FAQ* document which addressed multiple concerns both C&H and UAC had regarding the non-credit training requirement for the program.

Representatives David Rousseau and Elizabeth Q. Gray attended the 3/10 meeting and answered questions on the 9-credit experiential learning core, the non-credit training requirement, and the decision to move forward with both a B.A. and a B.S., depending on the selected concentration.

UAC approved the first two items under discussion. Of the three areas of concentration (Cybersecurity, Homeland Security, Emergency Preparedness) there was concern that Cybersecurity students may be challenged to get enough liberal arts and sciences credits to meet State Education requirements, hence this decision to move it forward as a B.S. Left unresolved on 3/10, Kiorpes asked for final comments via email on March 15, and for an online vote on March 16. All voting members approved the *CEHC BA/BS Program Proposal* offering two degrees. A follow-up report of UAC's recommendations will be sent to CEHC.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 31st.

ULC (University Life Council) – Michael Jaromin, Chair

Next meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 11:00 am.

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Joette Stefl-Mabry, Chair

Actions

03/02/2016 UPPC officially approved the letter of intent for a new Master of Science program in Data Science in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

Information

03/04/2016, Chair of UPPC, Chair Fox and Vice Chair Collins of the Senate met with James Van Voorst, Vice President for Finance and Administration to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the two subcommittees of UPPC - the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee and the University Facilities Committee. These two UPPC subcommittees are currently being populated and will be convening shortly.

03/22/2016, Chair of UPPC sent materials from SUNY Provost Cartwright re: Guidance Related to the SUNY's Trustees Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy via email to UPPC council members in preparation for the next UPPC meeting on April 7th.