

2007-2008 University Senate Executive Committee
April 25, 2008
Reed Hoyt, Chair

MINUTES

Present: Richard Collier, John Delano, Sanjay Goel, Reed Hoyt,
Laurence Kranich, William Lanford, Eric Lifshin, George Philip,
Susan Phillips, Lawrence Raffalovich, Michael Range,
Karin Reinhold-Larsson

Minutes: The Minutes of March 31, 2008 were approved

Guest: Marjorie Pryse, Dean of Graduate Studies

Graduate Credit for UNI Courses: This issue was brought before the Committee by GAC Chair Laurence Kranich. Dean Pryse spoke in favor of a proposal by ITLAL to offer three variable credit (0-1) graduate level courses listed as UNI 600, 601 and 602 on College Teaching. It was emphasized that UUNI600 has not been approved and that a program or pilot requires Senate and the President's approval. After a lengthy discussion, Professor Range suggested to commend ITLAL for a proposal that addresses an important need; to encourage ITLAL to continue doing what it has been doing so far in support of the proposal; to refer the technical aspects of the process for approval and subsequent approval of courses related to this proposal to appropriate councils / committees (GOV, IRCAP [if approved], GAC, and -UPC). All agreed.

Provost's Report, by Interim President George Philip: Interim President Philip briefly reported on the status of the NYS budget.

Chair's Report, by Reed Hoyt:

- The Presidential Search is ongoing, and candidates should be coming to UAlbany for interviews soon.
- The Governance Committee on Council Nominations will meet next Thursday to review council volunteers for next year.
- The Faculty Forum is scheduled for April 30th.

Council and Committee Reports:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment)-William Lanford, Chair. Discussion continues regarding how to assess university wide academic programs, e.g. Project Renaissance. The Chair and Vice President of Institutional Research, Planning and Effectiveness have met to work out details of the process in anticipation of future assessments of these programs. **The Program Review Committee** has completed its

review of six programs: Communication, Physics, Psychology, Criminal Justice, Sociology, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences and submitted its reports to the CAA (April 24). In its final meeting, the review process will be discussed in general as will the review of Project Renaissance. **The General Education Committee** has completed its review of the 2006-2007 assessment of General Education on campus and has completed its assessment of the UHS Latin courses. In its final two meetings, the review process in general will be discussed as will the review of Project Renaissance.

COR (Council on Research) – Lawrence Schell, Chair. Nothing to report.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Eric Lifshin, Chair. Nothing to report.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Laurence Kranich, Chair. The GAC met on Thursday, April 17, 2008 and accepted and approved two reports, one by the Committee on Admissions & Academic Standing concerning two petitions for reinstatement in Ph.D. programs, and the other by the Committee on Curriculum & Instruction which considered (i) minimum grade requirements in core Ph.D. courses in the School of Education, Division of Counseling Psychology, and (ii) an internal certificate program by ITLAL on Preparing Future Faculty. In addition, the Council unanimously approved the establishment of two joint degree programs: B.A. in Economics/M.A. in Public Affairs & Policy and B.S. in Economics/ M.A. in Public Affairs & Policy. The Council forwarded the proposals to UAC. Finally, the Council briefly considered two course proposals for the Preparing Future Faculty Program but tabled discussion due to lack of time and pending clarification of relevant statutes.

GOV (Governance Council)-John Delano, Chair. The Governance Council has met three times (April 4, 11, 18). There have been two agenda items: (a) revisions of the proposed IRCAP amendment, which is being reported to the Senate Executive Committee on April 25; and (b) discussions on the composition of the proposed First Year Experience Task Force, which the Interim Provost mentioned in her report at the March 31 meeting of the Senate Executive Committee. Governance Council perspectives have been discussed with Interim Provost Phillips. Three options were developed for discussion with Interim Provost Phillips. Those options for UFSP 101 in Fall 2008 were the following. These three options were regarded by the Governance Council to be the most collegial and constructive ones that could be reasonably considered. (i) UFSP 101 would be approved by the Senate for Fall 2008 only, if the FYE Task Force was concluded to be a credible body that was likely to return important recommendations to the Interim Provost on the University's FYE program. All students must be told that the course is not required (ii) UFSP 101 would not be approved by the Senate for Fall 2008. The FYE courses would consist of Project Renaissance, UFSP 100, UUNI 100, and ECPY 120. Members of the full-time teaching faculty would be recruited to teach UFSP 100. (iii) UFSP 101 would be approved by the Senate for Fall 2008 only, and only under the conditions that S/U grading is the sole grading system and all students are told that the course is not required.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing)-Lawrence Raffalovich, Chair. Nothing to report.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council)-Karin Reinhold-Larsson, Chair.

Two weeks ago UAC approved the creation of **UUNI 399 University Peer Educators course**. This course expands the academic options for students to serve as peer mentors/educators. Some departments, Women Studies (WSS 101Z) and Educational and Counseling Psychology (E CPY 301/302/303) offer similar courses within the context of their discipline. UUNI 399 gives the opportunity to students in other departments for similar academic and mentoring experiences. Under this course, students meet regularly with a full time faculty instructor and prepare written reports on their experiences. UAC also unanimously approved at that meeting the **deactivation of the Asian Studies Major**. For the past three years there have been no majors in this area. UAC had a very productive meeting on April 24, and approved: **Change in Admission requirements to School of Business:** The School of Business proposes to modify the change in admissions standards approved last year. The proposed changes for University at Albany students are an increase from 3.10 to 3.25 in the overall GPA and an increase from 2.85 to 3.0 in the GPA in designated admission core courses required for admission. Similar changes are proposed for transfer students. **Revision of Anthropology Minor Requirements:** Currently the Minor in Anthropology requires ANT 100, however this course is taught sporadically. The revision makes this course optional. The proposed new Anthropology minor requirements are: two courses among: AANT 100, AANT 110, AANT 104, AANT 108 or AANT 220. **Combined Programs: BA Economics -MA Public Administration and BS Economics -MA Public Administration.** This proposal takes advantage of natural overlap and common interests between Economics and Public Policy, and the likelihood that students will find the combined degree program advantageous for the educational goals. The combined degree programs enhance the attractiveness and benefits of our undergraduate programs by providing students with well-defined career opportunities. UAC continues discussing the University Writing proposal. The CNSE proposal is still under review by the General Education Committee and the Curriculum and Honors Committee.

ULC (University Life Council)-Joan Savitt, Chair. No report.

UPC (University Planning and Policy Council)-Diane Dewar, Chair. Robert Gibson, University Registrar, presented proposed academic calendars for the Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters, which were unanimously approved. Mr. Gibson also proposed an amendment to the Fall 2008 calendar to suspend classes prior to sundown at 4:15pm on October 8th to accommodate students wishing to travel for Yom Kippur. This motion was also approved. Dr. Dewar invited Dr. Reinhold-Larsson to present a bill to deactivate the Asian Studies Major. After discussion, it was agreed upon to amend the proposal to include deactivating the Asian Studies Minor, which was approved. Dr. Dewar invited Dr. Robert Geer, Dr. Hassaram Bakhru and Dr. Daniel Smith to summarize the CNSE proposal for undergraduate academic programs leading to a B.S. in Nanoscale Science and B.S. in Nanoscale Engineering that was distributed to the members of UPC for their review.

Dr. Geer described the programs, noting that the subcommittee of the curriculum committee had passed the majors in March. The programs contain the necessary components of the University's first undergraduate engineering program; the courses offered parallel existing graduate degrees. The program is at the middle to low end of peer engineering requirements (132 credits) and represents a strong coherence with the University's mission – this is an excellent opportunity to attract engineering students, a population of high quality students that the University has not been able to attract. The new building on the CNSE campus will add six classrooms to the existing three. The College has ample instructional resources, with four established constellations (Nanoscience, Nanoengineering, Nanoeconomics and Nanobioscience). Review of the program is ongoing with the UAC Curriculum and Honors Committee. The proposal was put to a vote and approved by the council.

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility)-Sanjay Goel, Chair. CAFFECOR is continuing the process of investigating the impact of academic performance-enhancing drugs on academic freedom and community responsibility. At the last meeting on April 18, 2008, John McGuire, one of the two members of the K-9 Unit in UPD gave an informative presentation on “Narcotics and Law Enforcement”, which was tailored based on the presentation he normally gives to Residential Life to focus on stimulants (which most academic performance-enhancing drugs are). He covered how drugs are obtained around campus, what drugs are being used, and how student users are discovered and dealt with. In addition, he discussed the different drug schedules (classifications) based on addictive level, and the effects of illegal stimulants including amphetamines and methamphetamines compared to more legal stimulants, e.g. coffee. The committee meeting attendees proposed to begin write-up of a report calling for individual responsibility and providing access to what the associated risks are with use of these drugs as well as discussing recommendations based on academic research.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship)-Zai Liang, Chair. CERS has formed an Ad hoc Misconduct Policy Amendment Committee (see roster below). The Committee had its first meeting on April 22. We finalized the committee charge proposed earlier. We discussed experiences related to Misconduct Policy during the past few years. Finally, in light of a meeting with Mr. Chris Pascal (director of Office of Research Integrity) on April 24, the Committee brainstormed ideas/questions that we need to consult with Mr. Pascal. The Committee plans to meet again in the week of April 28.

New Business:

Bill No.: 0708-12 - Proposed Revisions to Information Technology Policy Usage Committee. The Bill was introduced by LISC Chair Lawrence Raffalovich. Forwarding the Bill to Senate was unanimously approved (with one abstention.).

Bill No.: 0708-17 - Deactivation of Asian Studies Major. The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. Forwarding the Bill to Senate was unanimously approved.

Charter Amendment: (IRCAP) Initial Review Committee of Academic Proposals: The Amendment was introduced by GOV Chair John Delano. It was agreed that the revisions will be presented at the Senate as a friendly amendment.

Bill No.: 0708-20: UUNI399 University Peer Educators Course: The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. There was a lengthy discussion on this Bill and it was agreed to send it back to UAC with amendments and revisions suggested by SEC members via email in the coming week. It was also noted that the proposal should be reviewed by UPC.

Bill No.: 0708-19: Combined BS in Economics and MA in Public Affairs and Policy: The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. Forwarding the Bill to Senate was unanimously approved.

Bill No.: 0708-21 Revision Of Anthropology Minor Requirements: The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. Forwarding the Bill to Senate was unanimously approved.

Bill No.: 0708-22 Revision Of Admission And Retention Criteria To The School Of Business Major: The Bill was introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson. Forwarding the Bill to Senate was unanimously approved.

Writing Program: Introduced by UAC Chair Karin Reinhold-Larsson: In addition to amendments suggested by the SEC, it was agreed that the resource issues involved require the program to be reviewed by UPC. It was also noted that even a pilot of such a program needs the Senate's and the President's approval. Motion: after UAC reviews the SEC amendments it will be transmitted to UPC. All agreed with one abstention.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne VanDenburgh, Recorder