

**University at Albany, State University of New York
University Senate**

**Minutes
April 14, 2008**

Present: J. Philippe Abraham, Henryk Baran, Kristina Bendikas, Joel Berkowitz, Scott Birge, Irina Birman, Ray Bromley, Fan Pen Chen, Richard Collier, Edward Cupoli, John Delano, Diane Dewar, Bill Ding, Phil Erner, Sue Faerman, Mary Gallant, Robert Gibson, Sanjay Goel, Elizabeth Gray, Andrew Haas, Heather Horton, Reed Hoyt, Allen Israel, Donald Keenan, Jon Jacklet, Donald Keenan, Sung Bok Kim, Nikki Kotary, Laurence Kranich, William Lanford, Eric Lifshin, Irene Lurie, Jean McLaughlin, Carolyn MacDonald, George Philip, Susan D. Phillips, Marjorie Pryse, Sanjay Putrevu, Lawrence Raffalovich, R. Michael Range, Karin Reinhold-Larsson, Sarfoh Kwadwo, Joan Savitt, Lawrence Schell, Karl Schlegel, John Schmidt, Malcolm Sherman, Scott South, Tim Stephen, ManKit Tse, Rose-Marie Weber, Wendy West, Robert Yagelski, Adam Zonder

Guests: Jonathan Bartow, Rita Biswas, Linda Krzykowski, Wayne Locust, Sheila Mahan, Fardin Sanai, Harry Shawky, David Smith, Bruce Szelest, Edelgard Wulfert

Minutes: The Minutes of March 10, 2008 were approved.

Ballots: **Ballots were handed out for Senate Vice-Chair and Senate Secretary:**

Interim President's Report, by George M. Philip:

- UAlbany Day: The event was very successful, there was great attendance.
- School of Business Dean: Dr. Donald Siegel has been appointed Dean of the School of Business. He is currently at the Anderson Graduate School of Madison, CA, and was Dean of Economics at RPI several years ago.
- Dean Paul Leonard will serve as Dean Emeriti and will also teach.
- Enrollment Management: There was a tremendous turn out at the open house over the weekend; there were approximately 58 appointments each day.
- Student and Faculty Scholarships and Awards: Interim President Philip announced several awards for both students and faculty.

- Relay for Life: The event was a great success.

Chair's Report, by Reed Hoyt:

- Senate Election Results: Chair Hoyt announced the results of the elections: the 2008-2009 Senate Vice-Chair is R. Michael Range, and the 2008-2010 Senate Secretary is Richard L. Collier.
- Presidential Search: The search continues; expect to see a lot of activity very soon.
- Retention Committee: The work is continuing. The *Ask UAlbany* page is going well.
- Diversity Audit Task Force: The task force is up and running. Work will continue.
- Spring Faculty Meeting: The meeting is Tuesday, April 22, 2008.
- Faculty Forum: The Forum entitled: "Our Undergraduate Curriculum: What are we Teaching and What Should We Be Teaching our Undergraduates?" is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, 2008.
- Last Senate Meeting of the year: The final meeting of the year is scheduled to begin at 3:00 for the 2008-2009 organization. This year's business will follow.

SUNY-wide Faculty Senate Report: No Report, the Senate will meet this week in Syracuse.

Council and Committee Reports:

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) -- William Lanford, Chair.

(1) This term, CAA's Committee on Program Review (Chair: Peter Duchessi) is reviewing the assessments of: Sociology, Communication, Physics, Criminal Justice, Earth and Atmospheric Science, and Psychology programs. In addition, the Committee plans to review and comment on assessment procedures. (2) CAA's Committee on General Education Assessment (Chair: Seth Chaiken) is currently working on the 2006-07 assessment survey summaries. (3) A response to the report from the outside reviewers of Project Renaissance has been received in the Assessment Office and will be reviewed. (4) The General Education survey is completed.

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

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Eric Lifshin, Chair. CPCA continues to meet regularly and process cases.

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Laurence Kranich, Chair. Nothing to report. The next meeting of GAC is on April 17th.

GOV (Governance Council) – John Delano, Chair. The Governance Council met twice since the last Senate meeting on March 10. Since that meeting, the Dean of Graduate Studies, Marjorie Pryse, has kindly provided a summary of the remarks that she made concerning the proposed amendment to the Senate Charter for the creation of IRCAP, a new review committee for academic proposals originating from non-academic units at the institution. Those comments, and those stated at the March 10 Senate meeting by Vice Provost Sue Faerman, will be the principal agenda item at the upcoming meeting of the Governance Council on Friday, April 4. During that meeting, the Governance Council will consider possible revisions to the proposed amendment. The Governance Council decided at its April 11th meeting that the IRPAC amendment should proceed to the Senate on April 14th but that friendly amendments will be introduced. Copies of the proposal with the friendly amendments will be available at the meeting and distributed via email Monday morning. Since all of the changes to the original amendment were performed by members of the Governance Council (i.e., originator of the original amendment), these revisions were interpreted as being "friendly". The Governance Council has also been in consultation with Interim Provost Phillips in its continuing consideration of Freshman Year Experience issues.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Lawrence Raffalovich, Chair. Several issues have dominated our agenda: (1) LISC continues to discuss the Libraries budget. The budget has been flat for several years as expenses have continued to increase. As a consequence, the University Libraries have reduced paper and electronic subscriptions, as well as monographs. UAlbany Libraries are now near the bottom of the national rankings. (2) We agreed that the proposed Charter revision (that the IT Committee be chaired by the CIO) should be re-introduced; (3) We are discussing the proposal "electronic mail as an official means of communication", passed unanimously by the Senate last year but not signed by the former OIC.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – Karin Reinhold-Larsson, Chair. UAC unanimously approved the change of name from "Minor in International Perspectives" to "Minor in International Studies", bringing the minor's name in alignment with similar program nationwide. The proposal from the Honors College changing the requirements for the Honors College program from 6 honors courses to: "18 credits in honors courses with a maximum of 4 credits in 1 credit honors courses" was approved by UAC. The SEC examined this proposal earlier in the Fall semester. The new version incorporates the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Senate limiting the number of 1 credit courses allowed. UAC unanimously approved the creation of an "Individual Concentration" within the BS in Business Administration major. This is needed to regularize curricular integration for students in the Pre-professional BS/MBA, heretofore handled by the granting of individual student program exceptions. 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 unanimously approved the deactivation of the Asian Studies Major. For the past three years there have been no majors in this area. UAC is currently studying the Writing Proposal from the Provost's Task Force on Undergraduate Writing Instruction, and the CNSE proposal.

ULC (University Life Council) – Joan Savitt, Chair. ULC met on March 17. Three main areas were discussed: (1) student concerns about CDTA buses not stopping to pick up students in locations where UA buses do [this appears to have been resolved now]; (2) UA's new BRisk group and its subgroups, all dealing with responses to urgent situations on campus. BRisk is chaired by John Murphy, who also is a member of ULC, and therefore can serve as an unofficial conduit between BRisk and the council; and (3) smoking on campus, in particular, in the vicinity of doorways. While the members of ULC would be delighted to see an overall reduction in smoking on campus, it is not clear at this point that revisions to policies which are currently not enforced will improve the situation. ULC met April 7, continuing its discussion of health issues. ULC members determined that Senate Bill 9596-05 provides sufficient protection for non-smokers entering buildings and working in indoor areas but do not believe that the policy is properly enforced, despite the existence of many no smoking signs. ULC recommend (1) that UA identify designated smoking areas on campus, (b) that blast emails be sent every semester reminding the entire campus community of the rules, (3) that RAs be instructed to add information about where smoking is permitted to their discussions of alcohol use, and then enforce these rules, and (d) that there be maps produced showing where the permitted areas are located.

UPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Diane Dewar, Chair. UPC has not had any business this semester. The name change for Graduate Studies has been put on hold for UPC, due to work still being done in the Provost's office on this. UPC also has not received anything from UAC or GAC officially for review.

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Sanjay Goel, Chair. CAFFECOR is currently in the process of investigating the impact of academic performance-enhancing drugs on academic freedom and community responsibility. On March 14, 2008, Dolores Cimini, Director of Middle Earth Counseling Center, gave a presentation to the group which highlighted usage patterns, demographics, and health effects of using drugs such as Adderall, Concerta, and Ritalin to give a better understanding of the issue. She also discussed what is currently being done at the University at Albany to assess and deal with students who seem to be abusing drugs and alcohol, in general - behavior which is found to have similar usage patterns. Sally D'Alessandro, Associate Director of Conflict Resolution and Civic Responsibility was also present to offer her perspective in terms of

the legal restrictions and disciplinary actions pertaining to un-prescribed use of such drugs at the University. While CAFFECOR believes that enforcing legal use is not easy, it should not preclude the University from taking a position on the issue and alerting the University community to its existence. The Committee does plan to have future meetings with individuals from the University Police Department and/or the Disabled Student Services center to gain a better understanding of the situation before recommending future steps.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Zai Liang, Chair

Following a meeting with the Interim President in February, CERS has formed an Ad Hoc Committee whose charge is to discuss/propose potential changes in misconduct policies and procedures. After some delay, the Ad Hoc Committee plans to have its first meeting on April 21.

Old Business:

IRCAP Charter Amendment: Governance Council Chair John Delano recapped the introduction of the Amendment, and noted that the Governance Council received several comments from Dean Faerman and Dean Pryse at the last meeting, that yet have to be included in the final proposal. Therefore, the Governance Council removed it from the Agenda at this meeting for further revisions. It will be brought to the Senate meeting in May.

New Business:

Senate Bill 0708-10: Proposed Revision of Requirements to Graduate from the Honors College. The bill was introduced by UAC Chair, Karin Reinhold-Larsson. It was approved with one opposition.

Senate Bill 0708-14: Financial Analyst Honors Program. The bill was introduced by David Smith of the School of Business. It was unanimously approved.

Senate Bill 0708-15: Amendment to the Deregistration Policy for Failure to Attend. The bill was introduced by UAC Karin Reinhold-Larsson. It was approved with two oppositions.

Senate Bill 0708-18: Individual Concentration within B.S. Business Administration Major. The bill was introduced by UAC Chair, Karin Reinhold-Larsson. It was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jayne VanDenburgh, Recorder