

**University at Albany, State University of New York
Governance Council**

Monday, February 2, 2009

Michael Range, Chair

Minutes

Present: Erin Bell, Ray Bromley, Nan Carroll, Ed Cupoli, Nicholas Fahrenkopf, John Monfasani, Theresa Pardo, Michael Range, John Schmidt

The meeting convened at 11:34 am.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the December 8, 2008 meeting were approved as written.

CHAIR'S REPORT BY MICHAEL RANGE

Chair Range reported that at the December 15, 2008 Senate meeting, the CNSE Resolution that had been formulated by the Executive Committee was unanimously approved. He referred GOV members to the Senate web site where the resolution could be viewed in its entirety. He stated that this is a good resolution on a complicated matter. It is now on record that faculty appointments and changes in curriculum originating from CNSE will continue to be part of UAlbany and come under final campus review by the University's President.

Budget Advisory Group:

Chair Range informed the group that at the December 9 Senate Executive Committee meeting, he had expressed concern about the delay in putting together the BAG after GOV had made its recommendations to the SEC. Chair Range received information that the group was finalized and had started its work in mid-January. Ed Cupoli, who serves on the BAG, stated that the process is good but it is difficult doing the detailed things in a short period of time. Chair Range said the membership is public information and should be available on the UA's web page.

Status of Amendments:

The amendment regarding *ex officios* chairing committees and councils was forwarded to the SEC and went through the thirty day notice period. At the December 15 Senate meeting, the amendment was voted on and approved without any opposing votes, but with a few abstentions.

Also at the December 15 meeting, the amendment regarding graduate courses was introduced and a vote is expected at the February 9 Senate meeting. Chair Range discussed the resulting changes in Section X.4.6.2.1, changing "proposed" to "approved" and asked GOV members to consider accepting this as a friendly amendment. GOV was in agreement to accept the friendly amendment.

Chair Range thanked everyone for their hard work and accomplishments during the fall semester.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vacancy on MSCHE Institutional Resources Subcommittee:

Brian Gabriels in the College of Computing Information has resigned from his position on the subcommittee. This leaves Richard Zitomer as the remaining recommendation previously made by GOV. There was a discussion about a replacement and the type of expertise and background a replacement should have. GOV was in agreement that the person to be recommended should be a senior faculty member who can address concerns of the subcommittee, and should have some overlap with the Budget Advisory Group. A motion was made that a recommendation would be submitted. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Proposed Amendment re: Consultation

Chair Range reported on the discussion of the December 9 SEC meeting. SEC members continued to express uneasiness with the language of “adhering strictly to these principles” and the majority of SEC members were in agreement to strike that portion of the amendment. After some discussion, GOV members also agreed to strike that portion of the amendment.

SEC members had shown support for some of the language in the rationale, but then proposed language to read “Such transience may result in failure”. GOV members discussed that such transience “has” resulted in failure and voted to approve the language in the original draft. They also voted and approved to give Chair Range the authority to accept changing the wording back if SEC rejects “has” over “may” in order to move the amendment forward.

There was a discussion regarding the draft report listing the bulleted items supporting the rationale for the amendment. Some members expressed discomfort with the next to last bullet item, specifically the portion in parenthesis listing positions regarding specific interim positions and whether or not this type of detail should be included. A motion was made to eliminate the portion in parenthesis and to submit the written report to SEC. The motion was seconded and approved.

IRCAP Amendment:

Chair Range had introduced this to members of the Council at the December 8, 2008 meeting. When it was first introduced during Spring 2008, the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education had expressed their concerns about the amendment and GOV decided to hold off on a vote to develop suggestions which would address those concerns. Chair Range distributed an e-mail of August 21, 2008 from Marjorie Pryse, Dean of Graduate Studies, to then GOV Chair John Delano, which outlined some of her concerns relating to the graduate level component. No response had been received from the Vice Provost. Chair Range stated that if the amendment regarding graduate courses is approved at the upcoming Senate meeting, the IRCAP amendment may no longer be relevant to graduate courses and programs. A discussion ensued on how to proceed with the amendment. There is no pressure to immediately resolve the matter, as there are other factors which may have bearing on the amendment, such as the forthcoming report from the FYE task force. However, GOV members felt that some work

could be accomplished on the language in the proposal to remove references to graduate courses. Nan Carroll and Erin Bell agreed to work on the draft.

Apparent Conflict of Interest:

There was a discussion about what committee the particular issue might be directed to, such as a standing ethics committee. Chair Range will inquire with CAFFECOR to see if that committee might handle the issue. He expressed the need to have something structural on the record when these issues arise, such as whether certain parties should recuse themselves from a discussion when necessary. This is the type of thing that was mentioned at the beginning of the fall semester in comments made by Senate Chair Delano at the first Senate meeting. The issue is not one to be handled lightly and many details will need to be worked out.

The meeting adjourned at 1:11 pm.

Recorded and Submitted by
Gail Cameron