

## *University Senate Executive Committee*

Monday, November 30, 2015

2:45 PM

UNH 306

Cynthia Fox, Senate Chair

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Collins, Jim; Fabris, Daniele; Fox, Cynthia; Gulatee, Yenisel; Janiszewski, Caitlin; Jaromin, Michael; Little, Walter; Mamorella, David; Mower, James; Schmidt, John; Smith, Christy; Stefl-Mabry, Joette; Stellar, James; Warner, Lynn

**Guests:** Charles, Harvey; Wirkkula, Leanne

The meeting convened at 2:46 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF SEC MINUTES**

The minutes of November 2<sup>nd</sup> were approved, with 1 abstention.

### **Update on Center for International Education and Global Strategy—Harvey Charles, Dean and Vice Provost**

Under former Dean Ray Bromley, the center had a fairly traditional structure focused on, for instance, international student services, study abroad, and TESOL. Dean Charles' plan, he explained, would be to pursue comprehensive internationalization by adding a number of other dimensions to what currently exists, including global learning (curriculum), supporting faculty in international teaching and research opportunities, support for globally focused institutes at U Albany, a more robust communications agenda, international admissions and recruitment, and pursuing strategic international alliances. A central feature will be a focus on support the internationalization of the curriculum and providing additional support for faculty to do this work in terms of new international teaching and research opportunities. Dean Charles hopes to utilize the institution-wide strategic planning process that will be launched in January, 2016 to engage the campus community in a conversation about what needs to be done to transform the university into a global campus. SEC meeting participants then were invited to ask questions which included such topics as follows: past efforts to coordinate with other departments including Anthropology, Geology, Urban Planning and Political Science; current plans that would touch virtually all students; efforts and campus-wide conversations in support of enabling students to make it easier for them to study abroad; conducting workshops on how to make short-term faculty led programs accessible and affordable, and working with faculty so that students do not need to take an extra semester or year; legal protections and incentives for faculty and increased compensation to make it more competitive in comparison with the rest of the country. An SEC member noted that GOV can help form a committee to help make work easier and get faculty involved and aware. Discussions on curriculum changes are always in consultation with faculty, and faculty governance should be part of the process of vetting and reporting back to the Senate, as there has been concern that that set of procedures be respected in the past. Dean Charles agreed and stated that by collaborating with you and with your support, we can make these things happen.

## UNIVERSITY SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT –Cynthia Fox

### I. Informational

- a. Senate Bill 1415-07: PROPOSAL TO DEACTIVATE AND DISCONTINUE THE PUERTO RICAN STUDIES MAJOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LATIN AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN & U.S. LATINO STUDIES was approved by President Jones on October 21.
- b. Senate Bill 1516-01: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A MASTER OF SCIENCE (M.S.) PROGRAM IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY was approved by President Jones on November 19.
- c. On 11/19, Chair Fox received an email from Philip Eppard, Chair of the Department of Information Studies, asking if the Senate is aware of discussions in the administration about relocation of the Information Studies Department and the Information Science Ph.D. program from the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to other units in the university.
- d. Chair Fox received from Maritza Martinez, Assistant Dean/Director of EOP, a request for Senate involvement in the campaign to save the Perkins Loan Program

### II. Actions Taken

N/A

### III. Recommendations for actions

N/A

*After discussion of Professor Eppard's communication, a motion was made to invite Dean Boyer to a supplemental meeting of the SEC to discuss the minutes of April 27<sup>th</sup> and to elaborate on the plans for the Engineering College, with the following voting results: Approved 14; Opposed 0; Abstained 1*

*In the consideration of Maritza Martinez' request, Chair Fox determined that she herself as an individual, as well as and others individuals, could unofficially encourage people to be informed regarding the campaign, but that it would not be appropriate to use the Senate listserv to do so officially. This is in part due to the ICS policy, and in part due to a lobbying law. It was noted that the National GSA Association has a week of action, run 6 times per year, whereby GSA members may participate to help speak to legislators regarding such issues as student loan rates. Chair Fox indicated that questions could be sent to Sheila Seery of Government Relations, who had spoken with Ms. Martinez, regarding how the University and other SUNY campuses may be involved. It was also noted that the policy of reserving the listserv for the announcement of Senate run activities or diffusion of materials generated by the Senate also responds to a question that had been raised on the Senate floor as to whether the Senate could use the listserv to advertise worthy programs could benefit from more publicity.*

*The question of how SUNY-wide Senate is involved with campus admissions reports was also discussed, as stated under the Rights and Responsibility of Faculty. The reports on academic dismissals are provided to UAC by the Undergraduate Dean, and a fast facts profile is available on the Admissions website. There is a committee under CAAS that has not met in a couple of years, and a similar committee under GAC.*

*Chair Fox noted that the Senate Parliamentarian had pointed out a strategy that any meeting participant can call it into question if there is a chance that quorum will be lost. The Senate Chair can ask if there are any objections to the call. We can also put a time limit per person and can send a message when we have many agenda items up for a vote.*

## OTHER REPORTS

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

Report from the Fall Plenary University Faculty Senate at Buffalo State

Submitted by John Schmidt, UFS Senator – jschmidt@albany.edu.

**The theme of the Plenary was Diversity.** There was a workshop on Thursday before the actual meeting and an address by Carlos Medina, Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. He noted that although NY is probably the most diverse state, it is by many measures also the most segregated. This is background to the challenge for SUNY. Diversity is about numbers, but inclusion is about the experience of students, faculty and staff, making all feel welcome. He also noted that while black/Latino females are doing well in graduation rates at SUNY, black/Latino males are not doing so well, presenting a challenge. Another topic raised was that a Supreme Court decision in 2003 set a 25 year sunset for Affirmative Action laws, which might mean that they would disappear in 2025. This might present a problem in keeping minority percentages up, as the recent changes of this sort in the University of California system resulted in a drop of minorities to 2% of students.

One topic was the recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty:

Putting resources into posting openings

Restart searches if necessary

Surveying campus climate may be useful

Identify things that work and where they work or don't work.

How to train better mentors for new faculty hires

How faculty can talk comfortably about diversity issues and get students to participate.

Diversity of sexual orientation is perhaps the thorniest issue for SUNY to tackle. Some campuses have considered a questionnaire to be attached to admission materials, but these would require an opt-out, as many would prefer not to declare and would feel uncomfortable or unsure of the confidentiality of the data.

**SUNY Advocacy and the Budget Process.** The Chancellor reviewed the history of her attempts to get resources for SUNY. In 2010, she initially asked for something for SUNY units in every region of NY (Empowerment and Innovation Act) which failed in the legislature seemingly because it offered opponents too many targets to attack. Later there was the successful SUNY 2020, which included rational yearly tuition increases, an agreement by the state for maintenance of effort (MOE) and some capital funds. Later the Governor wanted public-private partnerships, so she added StartUpNY. Then she promoted a campaign of "Access + Completion = Success", which with the addition of "Inquiry and Engagement" became SUNY Excels; and also put forth the goal of increasing the number of degrees and certificates from 93,000 to 150,000. She noted that last year she asked for \$50M in new innovation funding, and got only a slice of that-- \$18M appropriated. The UFS President then pointed out that since the MOE by the state was interpreted in the current budget as constant dollars, there was a deficit of about \$70M due to increased costs (2% UUP contract increase, other union increases, and increases of physical plant operating costs). Thus, the \$18M did not begin to cover this hole and SUNY actually experienced a cut. There was a \$300/yr tuition increase (which amounts to around \$70M extra) but fully 25% of this had to go to closing the "TAP gap" (TAP funds per student are capped at levels below tuition, and SUNY is committed to

making up the difference for TAP students). Thus, more of our costs were shifted onto the backs of students, whose tuition now covers approximately 70% of costs to the state's 30%. Note that this ratio has reversed in the last decade.

The outlook for the coming budget is mixed. In June, the legislature passed a bill (with only one vote against) stating that MOE means the state would cover SUNY's cost increases, not just furnish constant dollars. This bill will be sent to the Governor by Dec. 31, but he is widely expected to veto it. If he does so, the legislature is unlikely to move to override the veto. The chancellor intends to ask for a comprehensive investment package for SUNY this coming year ("STAND with SUNY" campaign, amount unstated), and also to ask for the state to relinquish the setting of tuition levels to the SUNY Board of Trustees. Since it is a state legislature election year, they may be hesitant to raise tuition again this year, and the Chancellor feels that the chance for them to move away from the political burden of having to vote to raise tuition each year might be attractive to the legislators. The legislators seem to be more favorably disposed to fund SUNY, since the new Assembly Speaker is a Stony Brook (and EOP) alumnus, and one western NY legislator has called for 2016 to be designated the Year of Higher Education.

Provost's report on SUNY goals. Provost Alex Cartright listed a number of goals:

- ❖ Diversity is now included in all of the SUNY Excels performance categories.
- ❖ To increase research funding from approximately \$900M now to \$1.5B by 2025.
  - Expand workforce development, especially to serve high needs areas.
- ❖ Increase of 50% in Public Service Partnerships.
- ❖ Expansion of cultural and artistic scholarship.
- ❖ Now searching for two positions: Research Foundation President, Vice Chancellor of Research and Economic Development.
- ❖ Increase the number of degrees and certificates per year SUN-wide from 93,000 to 150,000 by 2025.

He expanded on this last goal. First he compared the percentage of the US population with post-secondary education (44%) to that of the other countries of the world. The US is 12<sup>th</sup>, well behind the leaders, Korea (66%) and Japan (58%) and many European countries. So there is room to improve, and SUNY could help fill the need. Next, he listed things that SUNY can do to increase the number of degrees and certificates by perfectly optimizing our processes. If there were no changes, the figures predict a slight drop in the number, since 23% of students per year get degrees or certificates.

93,000 now per year

21,000 more from increasing retention

12,000 more from adding new certificates or degrees

11,000 more from increasing enrollments to historical maximums

13,000 more from increasing degrees from online courses and programs.

150,000 new total

Since most online students take one or two courses at a time, the total number of online students at any one time would have to increase by 80,000. The problem is how to achieve these increases without having decreased quality, and while giving the students a sense of belonging and community and a connection to the faculty for student validation (especially online students).

Several questions arose in response to this presentation. First, would some of the increases in students in categories actually cannibalize students from other categories (eg online from traditional students)? How can we do this without reforming K-12 education, so that students arrive prepared? (SUNY spends some \$70M/year on remedial courses, and students perhaps \$90M in extra tuition). How can SUNY do all this without more resources? Shouldn't resources come first? A major driver of students feeling connected to their classes is small classes, and higher numbers of students mean larger classes, and higher student-faculty ratios.

**Experiential Learning.** As you may recall, the budget originally contained a mandate that all SUNY graduates have a course in experiential learning (internship, coop, service learning, laboratory work, etc), but after lobbying by the UFS President the final language was softened to give all students the opportunity, but let each campus decide what is appropriate for themselves. Local campuses would examine what courses already exist, what was feasible, and what they would require in this area. The following timeline covers these activities.

In Jan 2016, the list of existing courses is assembled and furnished to SUNY central.

In April 2016, each campus submits a plan for experiential learning.

By April 2017, each campus reports on feasibility and decides whether it will require experiential learning. Feasibility includes the impact on the Campus (faculty and students as well as resources and support staff necessary to carry out the requirement). Feasibility also includes the impact on the community—whether there are enough private sector companies and public organizations to furnish the positions, and whether there might be an impact in terms of displacing workers in the economy. These plans require consultation with Campus Governance, so I would ask that the SEC assign this task to UAC or an associated ad hoc committee to report on.

The UFS also had a report on **Service Learning** as one type of experiential learning. It involves giving course credit for volunteer work at different places in the community. For example, premeds often get SSW credit for their volunteer work at hospitals. More than 2/3 of SUNY campuses offer such service-learning opportunities already. The report offered four recommendations:

- 1) Individual campuses should take time to define service-learning for their campus and set criteria under which courses can be designed to include service-learning.
- 2) Disseminate information effectively on campus. The report yields a number of ways that faculty and students learn about this opportunity.
- 3) Assess the outcomes of service-learning, including have students write essays reflecting on the value of their service learning.
- 4) Provide incentives for service learning to increase the number of participating faculty and students (e.g. through tenure and promotion criteria, small grants and recognition awards).

A lengthy report on how these recommendations can be implemented is available.

**Faculty Consultation and Shared Governance.** The process of consultation with campus governance on input for such programs as SUNY EXCELS and the Performance Investment Fund has not always been followed in practice. The chancellor was asked “What will you do ensure that the campus presidents actively consult with faculty governance on these matters, which will define the future trajectories of our campuses and of SUNY?” Chancellor Zimpher stated that we have to get this right. She has repeatedly told the Presidents to include governance in these decisions. What more can she do? She asked us what she can do to encourage campus presidents to comply. It was suggested to her that SUNY forms be modified to require a sign off by the CGL prior to submission, or perhaps that they must be accompanied by a letter from the CGL outlining what the consultation process entailed.

**SUNY Med Centers and Hospitals.** The nightmare over LICH is now over with the sale of LICH. Henry Flax, the Medical Center representative asked the Chancellor what were the plans for the teaching hospitals and for their administration. The chancellor responded that SUNY’s number one commitment is to retain the essential clinical positions for the medical school. It had not yet been decided whether this would always take the form of SUNY operating teaching hospitals (situation at Stony Brook, Upstate and Downstate) or contracting with separate area hospitals for clinical positions (situation at UBuffalo). The problem of SUNY oversight of hospitals is likewise still undecided. The lack of expertise in this area on the SUNY Board of Trustees was a part of the problem with the LICH debacle.

**The following resolutions were passed by the UFS:**

\*Resolution requesting SUN-wide modification of policies pertaining to Family Medical Leave (FML), to give paid FML to retain valuable employees, to be able to stop the tenure clock without change of title or compensation, including modifying the Board of Trustee policies under “Title F Other Leaves”.

\*Resolution urging all campus governance bodies to perform a comprehensive review of all campus documents to determine that any statements on academic freedom are consonant with precepts of academic freedom and consistent with actions arising from the campus-wide discussions of academic freedom.

\*Resolution that the Board of Trustees change its policies so that the Vice-Pres/Sec of UFS will upon election no longer represent his/her own campus, but serve solely in this SUNY-wide position, since there are now many more duties associated with the position (similar to language now covering the President of UFS).

**Announcements of Meetings and Events:**

Chancellor’s Draft report on Social Media Responsibility—comments are due by 28 Oct, to be sent to Rosalind Rufer.

Service Learning course guidelines are available from UFS senators

Nov. 13 & 14 at Syracuse—a conference on Fostering Collaboration between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Professionals. Information available at <https://fs9.formsite.com/zetadon>

Feb 24, 2016 Undergrad Research Poster session at the Legislative Office Building in Albany to showcase UG Research at SUNY for legislators.

April 24, 2016 at Cobleskill—SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference featuring a wide scope of research and scholarship.

*It was noted that the January 2016 Experiential Learning Initiative requires due consultation, which the SEC tasked UAC with reviewing. On November 9<sup>th</sup> a message on behalf of Provost Cartwright indicated that he wants feedback by November 16<sup>th</sup> which gives us only a week, Senator Schmidt reported. He also noted that some universities are getting such information and requests and some are not. Chief of Staff Wirkkula added that the administration experiences the same thing, where the information comes inconsistently (sometimes the requests come to the President, Provost or a listserv), and we get a week or less for feedback. It is a challenge to stay on top of opportunities to give input, and we can do better. Senate Vice Chair / GOV Chair Jim Collins and Provost Stellar are trying to get a handle on what is going on.*

**GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Caitlyn Janiszewski, GSA Representative**

Nothing to report

*President Bob Beach had to resign, as he had warned he might, due to family issues. According to GSA bylaws, the Vice President automatically became the new President. Discussion continued on the incorporation of sustainability into the curriculum. GSA won the Regional Institution of the Year Award.*

**SA (Student Association) – Student Association Representative**

Nothing to report

*President Jemmott invites you to the World Within Reach Speaker Series featuring Venus Williams on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. with doors open at 4:30 p.m.*

**COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS:**

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

The CAA committees on General Education Assessment (GEAC) and Academic Program Review (APRC) are currently reviewing reports prepared for the 2014-15 academic year. CAA will likely begin voting to approve GEAC and APRC reports at its January meeting and continuing doing so at regular intervals throughout the semester as the committees present subsequent reports to the Council.

*The CAA committees are fully engaged in review and will be voting on and bringing reports in February.*

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

I. Informational

CAFFECOR met on 11/17/2015 and began discussions on the resolution on Academic Freedom passed at the SUNY Senate Plenary, October 22-24, 2015.

II. Reports of Actions

N/A

III. Recommendations for Actions

Chair Jewell will reach out to SUNY Senators, UA UUP President Bret Benjamin, UA UUP Vice President for Academics Barry Trachtenberg, the UA campus Webmaster, and other people to obtain information on such issues as: boilerplate language, sending pertinent documents to the faculty and then holding a faculty forum on Academic Freedom, and other matters. She will share this information with the rest of CAFFECOR and then more discussion will take place via email, and at the next CAFFECOR meeting, sometime in December.

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

Nothing to report

**COR (Council on Research) – Daniele Fabris, Chair**

Nothing to report

*Subcommittees are reviewing FRAP A submissions.*

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

On Nov 10, CPCA reviewed 1 promotion case.

On Nov 23, CPCA will review 1 promotion case.

*CPCA is reviewing cases and scheduling for next semester.*

**GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Ronald Toseland, Chair**

The GAC unanimously approved a proposal from the School of Education to establish a Graduate Certificate Program in TESOL Online. The certificate is designed to enable in-service teachers to fulfill a new NYS requirement for teaching English as a second language.

*GAC approved a certificate program but it went to another committee before a bill can be drafted.*

**GOV (Governance Council) – James Collins, Chair**

Nothing to report

*GOV would respond to the request to look at the UUP ombudsperson proposal before December 14<sup>th</sup>.*

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

Nothing to report

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

UAC met on 11/13 and discussed three items:

- Geography and Planning Program changes and Competency Plan
- CEHC Winter Simulation Course
- UG Bulletin language change to policy – tuition charges for students in combined bachelor's/master's programs

Both the competency plan and the simulation course will be returned to the respective department with questions and suggested edits.

UAC discussed the proposed changes to the UG Bulletin language in regard to the tuition charges for students in combined bachelor's/master's programs. UAC agreed that the changes made the policy easier to understand and were not actual alterations to the policy itself. UAC supported the changes/clarifications.

**ULC (University Life Council) – Michael Jaromin, Chair**

Nothing to report

*ULC will meet on December 14<sup>th</sup>.*

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

Nothing to report

*UPPC met on November 24<sup>th</sup>. There is need for additional clarification on the Campus Impact form. Two*



*subcommittees as follows will be reconstituted, a task that we ask be charged to GOV as per the Charter requirements: the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee, and the University Faculties Committee. The last membership of these committees was 2012 to 201. GOV Chair Collins would communicate with GOV members regarding this institutional history. UPPC conditionally approved a TESOL proposal pending minor modifications, after which it then goes to the Senate.*

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Policy on Institutional Policy Development**

Minor edits to the Policy were suggested. Chief of Staff Wirkkula clarified that the document refers to administrative policies and does not stop any of the Senate procedures required. A standard template for the drafting of policies will be posted on a website once one is made available. We will be calling out pending new policies in the daily campus e-mails. We want the campus engaged and weighing in on new policies as part of the vetting process. New policies will eventually go on the website.

### **SUNY Excels PIP submission and responses to the Senate comments on draft**

In reviewing the documents concern was voiced about addressing academic quality of education within the faculty domain and that things have not changed a lot, except in a few areas. It was thought this has a lot to do with classroom size. It would be good to have a conversation on how the numbers were generated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Report of the Graduate Stipend Committee**

Chair Fox asked that members read the contingent report carefully with the idea of asking questions on behalf of councils.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Elisa Lopez, Recorder