October 2021 UAC Report

**UAC Meeting 10/21/21**

- UAC had a discussion about the Senate operations. Below is a summary of concerns shared with SEC in an email sent on 10/21/21:

    1. The minimalist information being recorded as minutes in Senate meetings. We understand that there is a lack of staff support and it was raised that the Charter calls for staff support designated by the President's office (see below).
    2. But at a minimum, losing the context of the discussion around the votes that are being taken is very troubling. This came up a few times with various examples. For instance, UAC & UGE have been engaged in a multi-year re-registration process. Being able to recreate what was done (or not), when, why and how has been crucial to this effort. Just logging votes would not have helped this effort or something like without the surrounding context. This is just one instance of recreating history but this happens all the time. *Added to this report for clarity:* The President and Provost's reports contain relevant context and much of that is lost when we focus on recording votes only.
    3. Along these lines, UAC members also felt that abstentions are an important part of the process and should be recorded.
    4. Non senators have no way of knowing how to join the meetings. Can we please post the zoom link on the website since we do have the upcoming agendas now posted?
    5. Quorum & polls... There was also question if we maintain quorum once we are lagging beyond our 2ⁿᵈ hour. With zoom, we've discussed that is difficult to know who is a senator. Another concern is that when we vote with zoom polls, we then see the percentage of votes, not the numbers. Some of us may have the experience of teaching on zoom and it looks like you have a full class, only to find out later that someone turned it on and walked away. I'm sure senators would *never* do such a thing (esp at dinnertime when a meeting has gone beyond time), but 100% support could mean that 2 people who vote both supported it. It doesn't mean a quorum supported it.
    6. Agenda and related materials. There was concern that sending out the agenda and materials the day before or day of is not enough time to ensure senators can review the materials and discuss with constituents. I think the bylaws says that materials are supposed to go out at least 1 week in advance.
    7. Council reports. There is concern that the full senate is not able to review and then react to council reports when either shared late, after a meeting or verbally and on the spot. As council chairs, we're asked to submit written reports but then they are not always shared back to the larger senate. *Added for this report to clarify:* Lots of things happen in Councils that are not voted on in Senate, but senators and their constituents should be made aware of.

- Dr. Caplan presented a proposal from School of Business to make changes to the Accounting and Business Administration majors. Changes include: (1) change the Admissions Core classes for both majors, thereby increasing the number of courses offered within the School (2) add requirements for a 1 credit survey course and a 1 credit

upper level communication course to Business Administration, (4) add a wealth management concentration to the Business Administration major, to include five new courses, and (5) change admissions and retention standards, especially for transfers.

This was approved unanimously and referred to UPPC for review of the wealth management concentration.

**UAC meeting 10/26/21 held with Curriculum and Honors Committee (Chair Goodall did not attend for a possible conflict of interest)**
UAC heard a proposal from Dr. Berg of the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity for a new minor in cybersecurity.

This was approved unanimously and referred to SEC for advancement to the Senate floor.

**UAC review of ENG 210/310**

UAC reviewed electronically a proposal to convert ENG 210 to 310 coming from the College of Arts and Sciences to better reflect the rigors of the course and to comply with SED reregistration requirements. An email vote was conducted and the proposal was approved.