

**University at Albany - State University of New York**  
**2005-06 University Senate**  
**Minutes of May 15, 2006**

**Present:** Abraham, J. P., Bartow, J. Berkowitz, J., Bessette, T., Birge, S., Blum, M., Bunnell, G., Burke, Chaiken, S., Chinnam, S., Collier, Dewar, D., Faerman, S., Friedman, S., Gibson, R., Hanifan, J., Horton, H., Hoyt, R., Idone, V., Israel, A., Jerison, M., Kranich, L., Lanford, Leonard, P., Levine, S., Lyons, A., MacDonald, McNutt, L., Merbler, C., Messner, S., Moore, G., Murphy, J., Ongiti, O., Pelosi, O., Pryse, M., Range, M., Redkey, E., Rodriguez, M., Savitt, J., Schell, L., Sherman, M., Shub, D., Stromer-Galley, J., Tenenbaum, S., Truchan, D., Wagner, D., Weaver, B., Wessman, J., Wulfert, E., Zitomer, R., Zonder, A.

**Guests:** Jacklet, J., Mahan, S., Spencer, M., Szelest, B.

**Minutes:** The Minutes of April 24, 2006 were approved.

**Chair's Report, presented by Steven F. Messner**

- **Vice President for Research Candidates:** Chair Messner reported that the Senate Executive Committee has had an opportunity to meet with each candidate. After all meetings, the group convened to discuss and evaluate the candidates. The evaluations have been transmitted in writing to the Search Committee.
- **Biology Lab Requirements:** At the last Senate meeting, the Senate defeated Bill No. 0506-22: Proposal to Reduce the Laboratory Requirements for the Biology Major and Minor, presented by UPC. After the vote to table, the Senate requested that the President and Provost be informed of the discussion held at the meeting. That did occur at the last Brown-bag lunch with the President and Provost. There were two Biology members present, Professor Shub and Professor Zitomer. President Hall appreciated the briefing and expressed his view that it would be a good idea to enhance communication between governance and Administration in situations like this matter. Since then, Chair Messner discussed the bill with Chair-elect Dewar, for action next year.

**Council Reports**

**Council on Academic Assessment (CAA), Malcolm Sherman, Chair.** No report.

**Council on Research (COR), Vincent Idone, Chair.** COR voted unanimously to accept the following policies: UAlbany Policy and Procedures on Misconduct in Research and Scholarship; Policy on Conflict of Interest (voted unanimously to accept the policy with one recommended change: the Conflict Review Committee composition should include at least five COR members); Revised Policy Regarding Distribution of Credit for Sponsored Projects Involving More Than Organizational Unit; and the Inclusion of "Exempt" Category in IRB Human Subjects Reviews. From the Committee on Centers, Institutes and Specialized Research Labs: A plan is being put into effect to evaluate a few centers for the upcoming year. The plan will integrate center/institute reviews with the on-going process of the academic departments. The Council Chair will continue to work with governance on the issue related to the inconsistency of wording between responsibilities of COR and UPC in the Senate Charter.

**Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments (CPCA), David Shub, Chair.** Chair David Shub reported that cases are not moving from the Provost's Office to CPCA as the Departments/Colleges are not getting the cases in on time. He indicated he is not sure if there will be a quorum of CPCA members over the summer to complete all assigned cases.

**Graduate Academic Council (GAC), Monica Rodriguez, Chair.** GAC has a bill on changes to the doctoral research tool to introduce. Other business discussed at past meetings included curricular changes to the MBA evening program from the School of Business.

**Governance Council (GOV), Diane Dewar, Chair.** The Governance Council met with guest, Professor Vince Idone, Chair of the Council on Research (COR), on April 26th. The discussion involved a proposal from COR to increase the efficiency of the review process for Centers and Institutes. The GOV Council is continuing its deliberation on any potential charter changes that would be necessary to streamline the review process. Other business included a review of the draft handbook for Senate Officers and Council Chairs.

**Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing (LISC), David Wagner, Chair.** LISC continues its review of the composition, purpose, and functioning of our committees (i.e., Library Acquisitions and IT Policy Review). LISC members are particularly concerned about the relation of these committees to the internal decision-making processes in the Libraries and in IT. The April meeting was postponed a couple of weeks to make sure that Dean of Libraries Frank D'Andraia and CIO Christine Haile will be able to attend the meeting. The members would like to develop a more efficient strategy for bringing actions to the Senate.

**Undergraduate Academic Council (UAC), Philippe Abraham, Chair.** The UAC is currently discussing:

- a) Revision of the Syllabus Requirement
- b) Revision of some of the prerequisites for courses in the Informatics minor
- c) Requirement for the upper level courses in the Italian major

**University Life Council (ULC), Joan N. Savitt, Chair.** At ULC's meeting of April 17, two pieces of legislation were passed: a resolution in favor of a family leave policy, and a bill in favor of mandatory health insurance for all matriculated students. ULC also heard a report that conversations with CDTA, about service to the East Campus earlier this year, resulted in improved service for students. ULC is not currently working on any additional issues expected to result in legislation for the 2005-06 academic year.

**University Planning and Policy Council (UPC), Carolyn MacDonald, Chair.** UPC met May 4 to review the proposal from ULC for regular staffing for recreational athletics and to consider action items from the student satisfaction survey. It will meet May 22 to review the latest draft of the SUNY MOU.

**Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility (CAFFECOR), Lawrence Snyder, Chair.** CAFFECOR met on March 30, with Bill Hedberg, Michael Jaromin, and Scott Birge, to discuss the drafting of an Administrative Addendum for University Senate Bill # 0304-25, "Campus Policy on Freedom of Expression." Michael Jaromin, Director of Student Activities, plans to draft such an addendum and have it ready for comments by CAFFECOR members.

**Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship (CERS), Richard Zitomer, Chair** CERS has prepared an amendment to the Misconduct Policy and Procedures to protect whistleblowers. This amendment is required to bring the Policy in compliance with federal guidelines for funded researchers. The Committee also has developed changes in the Policy and Procedures that would extend them to include upper University administrators, the Vice Presidents and the President. The current Policy and Procedures contain no clear mechanisms for dealing with Misconduct on this level. While an amendment has been drafted, the Committee decided not to bring it to the Senate until it was reviewed by the Vice President for Research and University Counsel. Committee members hope to complete that process this summer.

### **New Business:**

#### **SUNY-Wide Senator and At Large Election Results:**

- SUNY-Wide: R. Michael Range, Mathematics, elected to a three-year term.
- At Large Senators, each serving a two-year term:
  - o Full time Faculty: Reed Hoyt, Music, Jon Jacklet, Biology
  - o Professional Employees: Tom Bessette, ITS, John Murphy, Office of Student Success
  - o Part time Faculty: Eric Woods, Physics

#### **Election of Senate Officers:**

- **Senate Vice Chair:** A motion was made to elect Reed Hoyt by show of hands. The motion was seconded. Reed Hoyt was elected to the position of 2006-2007 Senate Vice Chair
- **Senate Secretary:** The Senate Secretary voting was conducted by paper ballot. Richard Collier, Undergraduate Studies was elected Senate Secretary.

**2006-2007 Tentative Council/Committee Slates:** Chair-Elect Dewar presented the proposed Council/Committee slates for next year. The slates passed unanimously, with one abstention.

#### **Characteristics of Strong Diversity Plans - presented by James Anderson, Vice President for Student Success and Vice Provost for Institutional Assessment and Diversity:**

Vice President Anderson explained what a Diversity Plan consists of and represents. He identified characteristics of University diversity plans presently operating at other institutions and gave examples of successful plan outcomes. He asked Senators to think seriously about supporting the University Commission on Diversity and Affirmative Action in developing this plan.

Chair Messner thanked VP Anderson for the presentation and asked Senators to email VP Anderson if they would like to volunteer to represent the Senate on the Commission.

#### **Senate Bills and Resolutions:**

**Bill No. 0506-23 - GAC: Proposed Changes to Doctoral Research Tool Policy:** The bill was introduced and passed unanimously.

**Bill No. 0506-24 - COR: Proposal for "Exempt" Category in IRB Human Subjects Review:** The bill was introduced and passed unanimously with one abstention.

**Bill No. 0506-25 - UAC, GAC: Standards for Academic Integrity:** The bill was introduced by Marjorie Pryse, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies. IVP Pryse went over the history of the bill explaining that the question of academic integrity came in to the Council; the Council instituted a Task Force which met spring, summer and fall of 2005. The Task Force submitted suggestions to the Provost. She reviewed the charges and content of the bill.

There was a “Friendly Amendment” from the floor to change the bill to read “faculty members WILL complete the Violation of Academic Integrity Report.” After discussion, there was a motion from the floor to change the wording in the bill, the motion was seconded and after further discussion, the amendment passed. The bill passed unanimously with one abstention.

**Bill No. 0506-26 - ULC: Proposal for Mandatory Health Insurance for All Matriculated Students.** The bill was discussed, there was a question on wording, specifically, on what the word “matriculated” actually means. There was a Friendly Amendment agreed upon by a show of hands to change the wording to “students enrolled in a degree program” rather than “for all matriculated students.” There was further discussion on adding additional costs to tuition, and whether or not Financial Aid would be involved. After lengthy discussion a Motion to table discussion until there is enough facts and more information available. The Motion to table passed with five oppositions. The Bill was tabled.

**Bill No. 0506-27 - CERS: Proposal to Amend Policy and Procedures on Misconduct.** The bill was introduced and passed unanimously.

**Resolution 0506-04 - ULC: Resolution for Position for Intramurals and Recreational Activities.** The bill was introduced by Chair of ULC, Savitt. There was lengthy discussion on this bill regarding, where the position should be located, i.e., Department of Athletics or under the VP for Student Success. Also a suggestion was made that there be an annual report to ULC using metrics to assess the new position. Members agreed with that suggestion. After further discussion, a Friendly Amendment stating that the location of the position be in the Athletics Department was introduced. The Amendment passed with two oppositions and one abstention. The Amended Resolution passed with two oppositions and four abstentions.

**Resolution 0506-05 - ULC: Resolution for a University at Albany Family Leave Policy.** The bill was introduced by Chair of ULC Savitt. There was discussion on the fact that the University is behind other institutions on this issue and that the President and Provost have both encouraged ULC to go forward with this resolution. After lengthy discussion, the Resolution passed unanimously.

End of Minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jayne VanDenburgh, Recorder