

**Senate Secretary Christian Poehlmann  
Reports Submitted for March 20, 2017 SEC meeting:**

**CHAIR'S REPORT – James Collins**

**I. Informational**

1. On February 28, Campus Governance Leaders (Chair Collins, Vice Chair Reinhold, Immediate Past Chair Fox) discussed the following with the Provost and Chief of Staff:
  - a. updates on administrative evaluation;
  - b. improvements to the Senate Website;
  - c. potential changes in relations between Wadsworth Lab, CNSE and UA;
  - d. Senate efforts to encourage diversity and inclusion;
  - e. annual budget planning for Senate events.

The next CGL meeting is on March 22.

2. In response to emails from Dean Wulfert on February 17 and 18 about difficulties locating Council information on the Senate web page, Chair Collins reviewed the Senate web page on March 3 and 7, and found considerable variation in Council and Committee records.
3. On March 2 and 10, GAC Chair Fossett communicated with Chair Collins about GAC's proposal to gather information from various administrative units for information on the size, origin, and financial, economic and intellectual contributions of international students, faculty, and staff to UAlbany.
4. On March 4 and 6, Chair Collins received communications from CPCA Chair Louise-Anne McNutt, Immediate Past Chair Cynthia Fox, and Parliamentarian Ron Vero about issues involved in redesigning CPCA's workload.
5. On March 7, Chair Collins had a conference call with University Council Chair Michael Castellana about insuring Senate input to the Presidential Search process.

**II. Actions taken**

- a. None

**III. Recommendations for actions**

In order to provide an accessible record of Senate Council and Committee activities, the SEC should develop feasible expectations and guidelines for Chair's to submit monthly reports and maintain up-to-date contact information, membership rosters, agendas and minutes on the Senate web page.

**OTHER REPORTS**

**UFS (University Faculty Senate) – Diane Hamilton, Walter Little & Latonia Spencer, SUNY Senators**

- The next SUNY University Faculty Senate Plenary will take place from April 20 to 22 at the SUNY Canton Campus. Members of the University at Albany community who would like to communicate with the UFS are invited to contact one of their state representatives. They are also encouraged to contact the UFS Standing Committee chairs and visit websites (<http://system.suny.edu/facultysenate/committees/>), which address and formulate various policies that impact our campuses.

**GSA (Graduate Student Association) – Saben Durio, GSA President**

- Nothing reported

**SA (Student Association) – Felix Abreu, Student Association President**

- Nothing reported

**COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CHAIRS' REPORTS:**

**CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) – Alifair Skebe, Chair**

- Nothing reported

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

- Nothing reported

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

- Nothing to report

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

- Nothing reported

**CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Louise-Anne McNutt, Chair**

- Nothing to report

**GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – James Fossett, Chair**

- At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 10, GAC approved the establishment of joint BA/Masters of International Affairs" degrees for the departments of political science and public administration and policy.

These joint programs allow outstanding undergraduates to double count graduate courses towards both BA and Masters degrees and thus complete their education in a reduced period of time. GAC also took action on two student petitions.

### **GOV (Governance Council) – Karin Reinhold, Chair**

Mar 6<sup>th</sup>: I met with Joe Brennan, Jen Carron and Jessica McWade from a research consulting company to talk about the Identity Forum. There will be 2 Identity Fora on April 18: uptown campus at 11am and down town campus at 3pm to talk about the discoveries from the surveys and to start the process of designing who do we want to be.

On Mar 6<sup>th</sup>, the preliminary list of nominees for Senators-At-large was announced with a request and instructions for additional nominations. Also the request to participate in University Governance was sent to the university community and emeriti. Both requests were to be sent to part-time faculty as well. The part-time listserv was used for the first time. It was found that it was not working but IT was able to fix the problem on Mar 9<sup>th</sup> and now part time faculty are able to participate in this process.

March 7<sup>th</sup>: I met with Bruce and JD and their support team to talk about the website.

- They'll be working with the archivist Gregory Wiedeman who's implementing a searchable archive system.
- New structure emphasizing Shared Governance and its different components. Initial description of rights and responsibilities from the website but Gov can inform more content on the Shared Governance website.
- Deans are encouraged to put the College or School bylaws on their website.
- Dept. chairs are encouraged to put their department's bylaws on their website.
- Council staff members will put agendas and minutes on the council's website.
- Proposal to stream Senate meetings. Gov is charged with looking into quorum issues. Maybe implementing 2-way videoconferencing can be consider for quorum and vote.

Timeline: by May – have basic structure of new design. Work on document

repository during summer. By Sept. have a finished product.

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> Gov meeting

Governance approved an amendment to the bylaws granting voting rights to part time faculty to vote on their own representative. Also it considered whether to designate 2 of the open at-large seats for contingent faculty (full-time). It was decided that, at this moment, this is not necessary but that a recommendation to encourage full-time contingent faculty to run for these seats should be added to the Governance procedures in the Senate handbook. This conversation lead to the consideration of what constitutes quorum for Senate meetings. Since we use i-clickers to count quorum, in practice we only count voting members of the Senate. It was therefore approved that quorum should be the majority not of membership but of voting senators.

A discussion of the Senate website followed. Chair Reinhold was charged with requesting technical support for Senate meetings to have meeting flow more smoothly and reduce the glitches with voting procedures. Video recordings of Senate meetings was approved provided that there is AV support to handle the recordings at the meetings. Language to add to charter or bylaws regarding video recording of Senate meetings would be sent by e-mail for a vote.

Actions:

- Approved amendment to bylaws giving voting rights to part-time faculty to vote part-time representative.
- Approved amendment to bylaws on quorum.
- Approved this year's apportionment of senators by college or school.
- Approved video recording of Senate meetings provided that there is AV support for them.

Recommendations:

- Request technical support for Senate meetings to handle voting during meetings.
- Request support for videotaping Senate meetings and posting them on the Senate website within one week of the meeting.
- When the new website is implemented and the Senate bylaws become online-pages, each instance of the word Faculty should be hyperlinked to its definition. Same with Voting Faculty, Teaching Faculty, Professional Faculty. Qualified academic rank.

- Items to add to the Governance Procedures:
  - In January, request a list of part time faculty. Sort it by department or units, and request department chairs or unit chairs to nominate part time for the part time at large. Similarly, request list of faculty and professionals by department or unit.
  - Encourage full-time contingent faculty to run for open at-large senate seats.

Mar 13<sup>th</sup> Maritza Martinez was added to the list of nominees for Open At-Large Senators after a successful petition to add her name with 29 signatures.

**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**

- Nothing reported

**ULC (University Life Council) – Ekow King, Chair**

- Nothing reported

**UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Cynthia Fox, Chair**

**I. Informational**

- a. The Council heard reports from the Interim Provost, the Vice President for Finance and Administration, the Facilities Committee, and the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee and considered program proposals from Rockefeller College and from the Center for International Education and Global Strategy.
- b. Vice President for Communications and Marketing has requested a special meeting with UPPC to discuss results of the recent Branding Survey. UPPC may also need an additional meeting with the Registrar to discuss and approve the 2018-2019 academic calendar.
- c. The recent Presidential Conversation on the role of the Arts and Humanities in a public research university was discussed as part of the Chair’s report.

**II. Actions Taken**

- a. The Council voted unanimously to approve proposals for two BA/MA programs :
  - i. BA in political Science/ MA in International Affairs
  - ii. BA in Public Policy/MA in International Affairs
- b. The Council voted unanimously to endorse a proposal for the Global Science and Engineering Program that would create a dual degree in STEM/LANGUAGE. Completed over five years, the program would include a mandatory one semester study/one semester internship abroad.
- c. Chair Fox has circulated the recently released final report of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences' Commission on Language Learning : [\*America's Languages: Investing in Language Learning for the 21st Century.\*](#)

### **III. Recommendations**

- a. None at this time