

2011-2012 University Senate

**Monday, April 30, 2012
2:45 pm, CC Assembly Hall**

Susanna Fessler, Chair

AGENDA

Present: J. Philippe Abraham, Aymen Assuwiyan, Robert Bangert-Drowns, Steve Beditz, Lee Bickmore, Joshua Bolin, Christine Bouchard, Pedro Cabán, Raysa Capellan, James Castracane, Thomas Devlin, Bruce Dieffenbach, Peter Duchessi, Diana Dumesnil, Carmen Duncan, Sue Faerman, Susanna Fessler, Richard Fogarty, Cynthia Fox, Jennifer Greiman, Timothy Groves, Hal Gueutal, Yenisel Gulatee, Jean Guyon, Jane Kadish, Donald Keenan, Daniel Keyser, Alice Krause, Vincent LaBella, William Lanford, Danielle Leonard, David Wills, Eric Lifshin, Andi Lyons, JoAnne Malatesta, Adrian Masters, Candace Merbler, Carla Meskill, Bruce Miroff, John Murphy, Toni Naccarato, Nancy Newman, Lawrence Raffalovich, Arthur Rushforth, Bruce Saddler, John Schmidt, Holly Sims, Leonard Slade, Jr., Lorre Smith, Joette Stefl-Mabry, Tim Stephen, Christine Wagner, Daniel White, Kevin Williams, David Wills, Ryan Witte, Alissa Worden

Guests: Bob Andrea, Jon Bartow, Bret Benjamin, Natasha Cooper, Sue Freed, Jennifer Goodall, Elana Gordis, Teri Harrison, Trudi Jacobson, Linda Krzykowski, Carolyn MacDonald, Lee McElroy, Denise McKeon, Tamra Minor, Aran Mull, Michael Range, Joan Savitt, Benjamin Weaver, Kathie Winchester, Lauren Zimmerman

The meeting convened at 2:49 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of April 2 was made and seconded. The minutes were approved as written with the following voting results: Approved: 45; Opposed: 2; Abstained: 0

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—STEVE BEDITZ

Interim Vice President for Finance and Business, Steve Beditz, delivered the following report on behalf of President Philip:

- On April 28 the University Alumni Association held its Excellence Awards Gala and honored Donna Scanlon for her achievements in the field of reading education.
- On April 27, the College of Computing and Information held its spring research conference. Special emphasis was given to student research dealing with information policy and government information.
- The papers of the late David Baldus became part of the permanent collection of the University's National Death Penalty Archive. The papers were donated at an event on April 30 in the Standish Room.
- A campus wide community engagement forum was held on April 20. The event, Community-Engaged Scholarship in Research Universities featured an address by Dr. KerryAnn O'Meara from the University of Maryland and was followed by a panel discussion.
- Campus Cleanup Day was held on April 24 with over 500 faculty, staff and students participating.

- President Philip signed a Commitment to Sustainable Practices document as part of the Earth and Wellness Day events on April 18. The commitment pledges to include sustainability in our curriculum.
- The University broke ground for the new sports complex on April 24. The update will include a recreational turf field and will enhance the football field. Repairs will be made to the track and field area which will allow UAlbany's team to compete on its home turf for the first time in 15 years.
- The Relay for Life was held on April 14-15 with over 1,500 participants and raised over \$75,000.
- The President's Excellence Awards were held on April 13.
- Ten UAlbany students were recently honored as recipients of the Chancellor's Award for Excellence.
- The SEED program was recently named a recipient of the 2012 Tribeca Disruptive Innovation Award. The program is a collaborative effort between the School of Business and SEFCU which promotes loans to small businesses.
- Commencement exercises will be held the weekend of May 19-20. Judge Judy Sheindlin will deliver the address at the undergraduate ceremony on Sunday. Thomas Constantine will deliver the address at the graduate ceremony on Saturday.

SENATE CHAIR'S REPORT – SUSANNA FESSLER

Due to extended debate on the Gen Ed bill, all other agenda items from 4/2/12 have been postponed and will be on the 4/30/12 Senate Agenda.

The Presidential Search Committee held a second "listening session" at 11am on 3/20/12 in the Husted Amphitheater on the Downtown Campus. Attendance was low. Members of the University Community were invited to share their comments and views on the Presidential Search with members of the Search Committee. The comments were broad and touched on the characteristics and experiences to be sought in a new President, issues relating to budget program reductions undertaken last fall, the importance of weighing fiscal matters with academic priorities, and the reputation of the institution when compared with the other SUNY University Centers. The advertisements have been placed and four have been posted. A Presidential Profile is in the process of being prepared and will be posted on the Presidential Search website. The Search Committee is scheduled to meet once in May and again in June, with preliminary candidate interviews to be scheduled in late June or early July.

Chair Fessler reported on a discussion that took place at the last SEC meeting concerning procedures at senate meetings for senators and guests. She referred to the FAQ sheet that was available at the sign in table. The document will also be posted on the Senate website.

Today is the penultimate Senate meeting before the final meeting on May 14. Chair Fessler said some council members will be finishing their terms and will be replaced by new members in the fall. She asked outgoing members to encourage incoming members to attend the last Senate meeting on May 14 so they will have an idea of how meetings are conducted. Chair Fessler also announced that the final SEC meeting will be held on May 2 and will be an opportunity to submit last minute business.

Senator Wills asked if the SEC considered having people sign up to speak on issues being presented at Senate meetings. Chair Fessler responded that it did but did not reach a conclusion on the matter.

Jennifer Greiman asked if there was any precedent for conducting an orientation for new Senators. Chair Fessler responded that orientations have been conducted in recent years and have been aimed at new senators and the functions of the councils. Chair Fessler held an orientation last fall for council chairs who would serve on the SEC. The focus of the meeting was on the councils and parliamentary procedure. She said there is no rule about holding such meetings but the SEC is working on ways to educate people involved in Senate activities.

OTHER REPORTS

UFS (University Faculty Senator's Report) –Daniel D. White, J. Philippe Abraham & Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik, SUNY Senators

The SUNY Senators attended the University Faculty Senate spring Plenary in Geneseo on April 20-21, 2012. A full report will be forthcoming. The SUNY Faculty Senate/Research Foundation for SUNY Sustainability Research Workshop (<http://www.esf.edu/outreach/pd/2012/sunysenate/>) is scheduled for May 17-18 in Syracuse. Please share this link with interested colleagues and constituents.

Call for nominations to the Faculty Senate Standing Committees for 2012-13:

There are several vacancies that will need to be filled on the various committees.

If you are not currently on a Standing Committee and would like to be considered for one, please complete the nomination form here: [2012 Standing Committee Nomination Form \(http://fs9.formsite.com/zetadonut/form476649644/index.html\)](http://fs9.formsite.com/zetadonut/form476649644/index.html).

Senator White added there will be more information regarding several resolutions that were passed at the spring plenary meeting. He said he would be glad to have a discussion when the report is submitted.

GSO (Graduate Student Organization) – Heidi Nicholls, GSO Representative

The GSO held their elections and have sent out the notices of the incoming Executive Board, University Council Representative, and Lead Senator. As the year is coming to a close events such as volleyball, international movie nights, and picnics are being held in addition to the end of the year President's Gala (again to be a cruise on the Hudson River). The constitutional review board was unable to solicit sufficient feedback to productively prepare amendments for the most recent election, but hope to be able to do so for the May Assembly Meeting. Beyond offering printing and activities to wrap up the year, the GSO continues to interview office managers for this summer and fall in addition to the current Executive Board preparing position folders for the changeover. Our next assembly meeting will be held on May 4th at the Alumni House.

SA (Student Association) – Bryant Barksdale, Student Association President Designee

SA Chairman Arthur Rushforth reported on behalf of Bryant Barksdale. The Student Association met last week and discussed a resolution concerning the new general education policy that was passed. Although the issue was highly debated there was agreement for not approving the process of developing the policy. The SA would like to see more student involvement the next time such process takes place.

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS

CAA (Council on Academic Assessment) - Adrian Masters, Chair

At its meeting on 28th March the CAA approved the Program Review Committee's report on the Public Administration program review. *Chair Masters reported the council met on April 25 and ratified the report on the assessment of the general education requirement of Regions Beyond Europe. A recommendation was made to the Provost that department post student learning objectives on their web pages.*

CAFFECOR (Committee on Academic Freedom, Freedom of Expression, and Community Responsibility) – Aran Mull, Chair

The committee met on March 12th to review the revised Responsible Use of Information Technology policy and continued work on the committee's policy for managing complaints brought to the committee.

Chair Mull reported he was able to find a document from 1973 outlining procedure for CAFFECOR to handle a complaint. The document will be posted on CAFFECOR's web page.

CERS (Committee on Ethics in Research and Scholarship) – Carolyn MacDonald, Chair

CERS is still hoping to bring policy bill to the Senate.

COR (Council on Research) – James Castracane, Chair

COR met on March 29th and considered multiple agenda items. The Benevolent Award sub-committee presented its recommendations on the submitted applications. Nine applications were reviewed and ranked. Seven applications totaling \$3,393 were recommended for award and forwarded to the VPR office.

The guidelines for the proposed new Early Career Achievement Award were discussed by the Researchers Liaison sub-committee. Revisions will be made based on this discussion and final wording will be presented at the next COR meeting.

Concerns were raised about the impact of the Facilities Master Plan on the UAlbany research/teaching activities and it was decided to reach out to the Office of Campus Planning to have a representative attend the next COR meeting to provide a presentation and participate in the discussion.

CPCA (Council on Promotions and Continuing Appointments) – Christine Wagner, Chair

CPCA has now completed the review of 26 cases this year. Three additional cases will be reviewed at the next meeting on April 27, 2012. *Chair Wagner reported three more cases were reviewed last Friday.*

GAC (Graduate Academic Council) – Tim Groves, Chair

The GAC met April 4. An appeal case with recommendation was presented by the Chair of the CAAS Shadi Shahedipour-Sandvik. The GAC made a determination by vote after discussion. Separately, Diana Mancini presented her review of the self-assessment by the Psychology department. The GAC voted to accept the report. Separately, Dean Kevin Williams informed the GAC of the Strategic Plan Implementation of Graduate Education objective #1 regarding investment decisions and program evaluation. The report was discussed.

The GAC presently has one proposed curriculum change in discussion, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies. The GAC has no pending appeal cases or bills for the Senate.

GOV (Governance Council) – Andi Lyons, Chair

The Governance Council last met on April 16, as reported in the SEC meeting. The Council briefly discussed and approved the preliminary membership for the President's Task Force to Address the Feasibility of Creating a Smoke-Free Environment, as requested by ULC, with the recommendation to add representatives from Residential Life and Student Success. GOV is still awaiting representative/s from UPPC to finish populating the committee to address Resolution 1112-05R, Resolution to Determine Offerings in European Languages & Classical Studies in Accordance with UAlbany's Mission and Strategic Plan.

The rest of the GOV meeting was devoted to continuing discussion of documents addressing Resolution 1112-03R, Resolution to Investigate Violations of Governance Procedures in the Matter of the 2010 Program Deactivations. GOV debated differing viewpoints on what constitutes a "violation," and discussed how the final report might be drafted for submission to the Senate. Other GOV work has been postponed until after this task force work is completed, which is continuing through email. We have scheduled a special meeting devoted to this topic on April 30, in an attempt to complete the assignment. The next regular GOV meeting is scheduled for May 7.

Chair Lyons reported the GOV met today and discussed the composition for the establishment of a subcommittee to address issues outlined in Resolution 1112-05R which is now complete. Chair Lyons will send a poll to the committee for an agreeable time when they can convene. GOV also discussed a timeline for the election of a part time senate seat that will soon be vacated. The election will be held in the fall. Chair Lyons said she was hopeful that the report to address Resolution 1112-03R will be completed and presented at the May 14 Senate meeting.

Senator Wills inquired about the likelihood of the report being completed on Resolution 1112-03R. Chair Lyons responded that today's meeting brought everyone to a point of mutual agreement on many of the key points. Senator Wills made a motion that the report be submitted electronically for consideration before the May 14 meeting. Chair Lyons said GOV will meet again on May 7 and it was her hope that a final consensus would be obtained at that time. Senator Wills amended his motion that the report be submitted electronically to the Senate by May 11. Chair Fessler asked for Senator Wills' motion to be seconded and it was seconded. The motion was approved by a vote with the following voting results: Approved: 38; Opposed: 9; Abstained: 3. Senator Wills commented that the subcommittee to address Resolution 1112-05R was supposed to have met and reported back to the Senate by April 15. Chair Lyons discussed the different obstacles in constituting the membership. Senator Wills expressed concern about the faculty member with relevant expertise and that he is the only representative from a language program. Chair Lyons said the person who was approached about serving in that capacity declined and at that point GOV felt it would be best to go ahead and convene the group.

LISC (Council on Libraries, Information Systems, and Computing) – Nancy Newman, Chair

LISC met on April 2 with Susanna Fessler to discuss the advisability of sending the revised "Responsible Use of IT" Policy to the Senate. It was agreed that such a policy falls under the purview of LISC and should be forwarded to the Senate as a Bill when the revisions are completed. The IT Committee will meet again about the Policy after receiving input from CAFFECOR and University Counsel. Mary Casserly reported that the Library is beginning to fill vacant positions and that the first stage of renovations (as part of the UA campus plan) is advancing.

UAC (Undergraduate Academic Council) – JoAnne Malatesta, Chair

Chair Malatesta reported that five more bills will be presented to the SEC when it meets on May 2.

ULC (University Life Council) – Yenisel Gulatee, Chair

ULC has no new developments to report. The meeting on April 12th was cancelled.

Chair Gulatee reported the council met on April 22 and worked on populating the smoking policy task force.

UPPC (University Planning and Policy Council) – Eric Lifshin, Chair

UPPC met on Friday April 20 and approved the following actions:

1. Transmission of the Letter of Intent on the Masters of International Affairs from Rockefeller College to SUNY.
2. The Masters of Liberal Studies Program since no campus impact on resources was indicated.
3. David Wills will represent UPPC on the European Language and Classical Studies Committee being established by GOV. This was done by secret ballot following a discussion on the implications.

Athletics Report to the University Senate, Teri Harrison, NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative

Chair Fessler introduced Teri Harrison who is responsible for assuring that the institution maintains proper balance between athletics and academics.

Professor Harrison thanked the Senate for providing her the opportunity to give her report. She said her position is approved by and reports directly to the president. Every NCAA institution has a FAR representative to assure balance, provide advice to the president and assure integrity. Professor Harrison has been making her report on an annual basis for the past six to seven years. This year, in addition to her report today to the Senate, she and Vice President for Athletics Lee McElroy reported to UPPC. The report informs the university community how our student athletes are performing both academically and athletically. The report is compiled by the Department of Athletics and she compiles data with the assistance of Institutional Research. The data compares student athletes with the general student population in their academic performances.

This year the University admitted 146 new student athletes as freshman and transfer students. Approximately 35 of those students are from out of state which is significant as the university's agenda focuses on recruiting more out of state students.

The comparisons in Professor Harrison's report include data on major concentrations in the different schools and colleges. This information demonstrates that student athletes are populating every major and is roughly comparable to the general student population. The report also provides comparison of GPAs for spring and fall of 2011. The data was for the most part compared to the UAlbany average and found that 52% of student athletes obtained a GPA of 3.0 or better. The women generally outperformed men.

Professor Harrison discussed the federal graduation rate which is used by most NCAA institutions. These statistics are problematic in that they do not account for transfer students. UAlbany's rate for student athletes is 75%. She reviewed the progress report which tracks the academic achievements of student athletes. Each student is required to satisfy a certain level of academic requirements such as passing a certain number of credit hours and making progress towards earning a degree.

SA Chairman Arthur Rushforth asked if the study hours that student athletes engage in are with the team or if it varied from team to team. Professor Harrison said they were required to put in study hours with the team during the freshman year but it is not required after the first year. Mr. Rushforth and Professor Harrison engaged in a discussion concerning the space used for study hours which, according to Professor Harrison, takes place in PE Building on the 3rd floor in a small suite of offices and space reserved for wrestling and dance. Mr. Rushforth said the space in the PE Building is also intended for student groups and each year there is an issue concerning lack of space for student groups to meet. He added that the wrestling room was originally intended for Student Association student groups and asked why the student athlete study groups were not able to take place in the library. Professor Harrison appreciated his comments and said there is awareness about the situation. She asked Vice President McElroy to address the issue further. Mr. McElroy said his area works closely with Recreation to make space available. His department works cooperatively with other groups to provide space for both academics as well as recreational purposes. He added that use of the library for student athletes is not always feasible when a study group consists of 30-40 students and the time of day the groups meet can also be an issue.

Professor Harrison returned to her discussion regarding the progress reports. Any student athlete with a GPA below 2.5 is closely monitored and coaches are instructed to reach out to faculty to further monitor these situations. In summary, Professor Harrison said student athletes' academic interests reflect those of the general student population. They are successful in both competing and meeting their graduation requirements. She thanked the Senate for the time to allow her to make her report. The report will be posted on the Senate website.

Approval of Proposed Council and Standing Committee Memberships for 2012-2013:

GOV Chair Lyons, and Chair of the Committee on Council Nominations (CCN), informed the Senate the CCN met on April 20 and compiled the initial slate of Senate councils for 2012-2013. Since the initial slate was formed there have been some changes. Secretary Leonard provided the details of the changes which resulted in changes on CAA and COR. Secretary Leonard said the next step after approving the memberships is to send polls to all members of each council to arrange a meeting time for the purpose of electing the chair. The polls will be sent and meetings will take place between now and the end of the semester.

GOV Chair Lyons asked for a motion to approve the memberships. A motion was made and seconded and approved with the following voting results: Approved: 45; Opposed: 4; Abstained: 3

Election of Senate Vice-Chair for 2012-2013 and Secretary for 2012-2014:

Chair Fessler referred to the message sent on April 23 from Secretary Leonard which described the process for making nominations from the floor and conducting the elections. Chair Fessler asked if there were any further questions about the process and there were none. She said according to the Bylaws and the Charter, the election is conducted by ballot. A call was put out for nominees with a deadline of April 20 which resulted in one nomination for senate secretary, Yenisel Gulatee, and no nominations for vice chair. Chair Fessler asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor for senate secretary and there were none. She then asked if there were any nominations from the floor for vice chair and two nominations were made. Senator Slade nominated Professor Christine Wagner. He listed her many accomplishments and service. Chair Fessler asked Professor Wagner if she were willing to serve if elected and Professor Wagner said she was. Senator Groves nominated Senator Daniel D. White from CNSE and cited his history and service to governance. Chair Fessler asked Senator White if he would be willing to serve if elected and he said he would. There were no further nominations. Chair Fessler said each nominee would be afforded two minutes to speak although it was not necessary for Ms. Gulatee to do so since she was the only nominee. Each of the three nominees provided statements.

Ms. Gulatee thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak. She said she arrived in the United States from Cuba before the American intervention in Panama. She attended school and completed her education in Florida. She also studies at McGill University where she earned a certificate in French and received her master's in political science. She thanked the Senate for putting its confidence in her. Ms. Gulatee agreed to serve because she believes the Senate plays an integral role in the University to provide inclusiveness and transparency.

Professor Wagner thanked the Senate for the opportunity to speak. She is a professor in the Psychology Department and joined the faculty in 2001. Professor Wagner briefly described her research on **effects of the maternal/fetal interaction on neural development in premature infants. Her research is funded by the NIH and the March of Dimes. Professor Wagner is a recipient of both the President's and Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Teaching. She has co-developed a new disciplinary minor in neuroscience at the undergraduate level. She said her university service includes being Chair of the Arts and Sciences Faculty Council and she currently serves on the strategic plan implementation group. Professor Wagner is serving her second year on the Senate and is currently the chair of CPCA and serves on the SEC. She described her leadership style as one in which she strives to be a representative to the highest degree possible.**

Dr. White described his many years of services on both the University Senate and the University Faculty Senate. He has served on the SEC and has been the UAlbany representative to the wider SUNY system. He previously served on and chaired LISC and now chairs the faculty council at CNSE. He is an adjunct professor in anthropology. Dr. White is the recipient of the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching, Part-Time. He described his work as administrative but continues to conduct research. He serves the faculty and students in CNSE.

At the conclusion of the nominees' statements, the ballots were distributed and the election was conducted. Chair Fessler asked if there were any objections from the floor for a unanimous vote for senate secretary. There were none and Yenisel Gulatee won the election by acclamation.

Approval of Changes to Council Memberships:

Secretary Leonard said announced one change in the 2011-12 membership in which Senator Cabán had stepped down from CAFFECOR and was placed on GAC on April 4. A vote was taken to approve the change with the following voting results: Approved: 36; Opposed: 7; Abstained: 2

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following bills and proposals from UAC were introduced by UAC Chair Malatesta.

Senate Bill 1112-17 Curriculum Changes to the Informatics Major:

Chair Malatesta said the proposal would complete the move of the degree from the Department of Information Studies to the Department of Informatics which was approved by the Provost in August of 2010. The change recognizes the nature of informatics which is changing quickly. There was no debate concerning the bill and it was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 45; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 2

Senate Bill 1112-18 Revisions to the Policy on Double Majoring:

The proposal results from Senate Bill 1112-12 Curriculum Revisions in East Asian Studies (EAS). The policy on double majoring creates specific guidelines for students to complete 48 credits of non-overlapping credits between majors and minors. The intent is to establish a university wide policy for the 48 credit minimum and departments can request restriction on double majoring across programs. Chair Malatesta responded to questions about the proposal. She said the 48 credits could be divided in a number of ways. For students declaring a second major, they need to complete some amount of original work and meet an original knowledge base in the major or a minimum in the minor. Senator Fogarty and UAC members said the proposal allows programs to determine which majors are distinct enough to count as double majors.

Senator Wills expressed concern for students who have already engaged in work for their majors and how the effective date would affect those students. He made a friendly amendment to change the language on the cover sheet of the bill to indicate that it would become effective for students matriculating in the fall 2012 semester.

At this point, a motion was made to extend the meeting time for an additional 15 minutes. Chair Fessler suggested extending the meeting for a full half hour to 4:45 pm. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote with the following results: Approved: 39; Opposed: 12; Abstained: 0.

Senator Fox inquired if there was a feeling of how many majors are so closely related that there was a need to develop such a rule. Chair Malatesta said a number of scenarios were considered. Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Sue Faerman said the original bill came from EAS and the department wanted to prohibit students from

majoring in EAS and Japanese or Chinese Studies. The EAS department asked if the recommendation could be for their department only but UAC believed it should become a campus wide policy.

GOV Chair Lyons referred to Senator Wills' friendly amendment and how to grandfather in students who have not declared their major at this point. Senator Wills moved that the proposal indicate it would take effect for students matriculating in fall 2013. Senator White asked how this would affect students in EAS next year. Chair Fessler said she believed there were no more than three students in the areas where EAS is trying to prevent double majoring from happening, and that EAS realized the rule would be grandfathered in, based on a student's Bulletin year. Thus, it would not adversely affect current students. A motion was made to approve the bill with Senator Wills' friendly amendment. The motion was seconded and the bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 45; Opposed: 3; Abstained: 0.

Senator Cabán moved to extend the meeting to 4:50 pm to allow for Senator Greiman's amendment to be introduced. The motion was seconded and approved by a vote with the following voting results: Approved: 33; Opposed: 15; Abstained: 0.

Results of Election for Vice Chair:

Chair Fessler announced the results of the election for vice chair. Christine Wagner was elected vice chair for 2012-2013.

Senate Bill 1112-12 EAS 2011 Curriculum Revision

The bill has been pending for quite some time due to the issues addressed in the double majoring proposal. The other components of this bill include listing courses as requirements that have previously been added to the bulletin and to change the level of upper level courses. These changes would become effective in 2012 and not 2011 as noted on the bill's original cover page. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill. The bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 39; Opposed: 3; Abstained: 2

Senate Bill 1112-19 Revisions to the Biology BS Program

The Department of Biological Sciences has submitted substantial changes to the major which includes increasing the math requirement. Of more significance is the change in the biology lab courses from the freshman year to the sophomore years. UAC was concerned with the number of grade requirements of C or better but since those requirements are already in place they do not have to be changed. The proposal increases the core requirements, creating a foundation for students to take courses from the major areas. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill. The bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 40; Opposed: 0; Abstained: 2

Senate Bill 1112-20 Changes to the Policy on Internships (UNI390) and Creation of Sophomore Level Internship Option (UNI290)

The proposal calls for changes to university wide internships. UAC recommended the creation of UNI290 to allow sophomores to participate in an internship which may be taken for 1-4 credits. The bill also proposes that both full time and part time faculty members be allowed to supervise an internship. A number of part time faculty have applied to supervise over the years and have been denied. With the approval of the department chair they would be allowed to do so under the bill. The bill changes the current GPA requirement for participation from 2.5 to 2.0. UAC agreed this would be a viable way for students to meet requirements of community experience. The bill also allows for internships to occur on campus. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill. The bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 28; Opposed: 9; Abstained: 1

Senate Bill 1112-21 Curriculum Changes in the Department of Music

The significant changes provided by the proposal include changes in the general description of the department in the bulletin as well as changes to several course descriptions. Other changes include changes in music history courses and suspension of the electronic music concentration. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill. The bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 38; Opposed: 1; Abstained: 1

Senate Bill 1112-23 Degree Requirements for Major in Accounting

The bill is a modification to Senate Bill 1112-05 passed last fall. The modification calls for deletion of computer science courses and provides additional courses for the second finance requirement. The changes follow the accreditation sequence required for CPA licensing. The School of Business has also requested that the bill be made retroactive for students who matriculated in fall 2009. This would allow more options for students but does not require any changes in what they have already completed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the bill. The bill was approved with the following voting results: Approved: 38; Opposed: 2; Abstained: 0

Senate Bill 1112-22 Policy & Procedures on Misconduct in Research & Scholarship

CERS Chair MacDonald introduced the bill which has been in the pipeline for a long time. The bill was passed last March but was not signed by the President. It now has new rewording. According to the 2007 policy, an inquiry would be initiated if either the VPR or CERS chair felt it was warranted. The new language calls for consultation between the University Counsel, CERS Chair and the Vice President for Research (VPR) to determine if an allegation warrants and inquiry. The final decision would be made by the VPR. The change comes from the administration's concern that this should be an administrative decision since the University could be sued as a result of such a decision, and the chair of CERS does not have fiduciary responsibility in this case. Chair MacDonald asked if there were any comments.

Professor Michael Range from the Mathematics Department spoke and urged his colleagues to vote against the bill. He acknowledged the extensive work done on the revision and said he was aware of the work on the policy from his own experience serving on CERS and having chaired CERS while the revisions were being discussed. He also served on an ad hoc committee that recommended the framework that established CERS to the Senate.

Professor Range referred to the substantive change in the policy relating to the initiation of an inquiry after an allegation has been brought forward. He said this change was a major change for the faculty. As required by the 2007 policy, and as retained in last spring's revisions, if either the RIO (VPR) OR the CERS chair believe that the allegations warrant an Inquiry, then the RIO will initiate such an Inquiry. Only if both the RIO and CERS chair agree that an Inquiry is not warranted, then no Inquiry will take place and the case is dismissed. This was and is a most important provision of the 2007 policy. The purpose was and is to ensure that a representative of the faculty (the CERS chair) has to agree not to conduct an Inquiry. A decision to dismiss an allegation should not just be left in the hands of a representative of the administration.

Professor Range pointed out the interests of the University are well protected under the 2007 policy because the president makes the final decision to approve authorization that an investigation goes forward after receiving a recommendation of the Inquiry Committee to proceed with an investigation. The inquiry itself is mainly an internal matter. Only the opening of an investigation needs to be reported to appropriate external parties. Professor Range said passing these revisions would be a loss of a safeguard and setback for the Senate and faculty. Professor Range said he believed the university would be better off with the 2007 policy. He said the latest changes go too far. He suggested an alternative: CERS and the Senate could hold back the bill before them and submit to the new president the version of the revision approved by the Senate last spring.

At this point with the time being 4:50 pm and the last meeting extension having expired, Senator Greiman spoke and asked either for an extension of the meeting. She also asked for confirmation that her amendment to Senate Bill 1112-15 be given a place of priority at the next Senate meeting. Chair Fessler, in consultation with the Parliamentarian, confirmed that it would fall under “Unfinished Business” on the agenda, and thus would be addressed before any “New Business” at the next meeting. Chair Fessler asked for a motion to extend the meeting. The motion was made and seconded but not approved in the resulting vote: Approved: 16; Opposed: 19; Abstained: 1.

Chair Fessler said Senator Greiman’s amendment would be placed under Unfinished Business on the agenda for May 14.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Gail Cameron, Recorder