The 2014-15 year was a vibrant and active year for the University Senate, its councils and committees. As Senate Chair I wish to extend a heartfelt and sincere thank you to each Senator, Council and Committee member and support staff for your service during that critical time period. Your efforts, expertise and experience helped to sustain meaningful and cooperative discourse amongst the various University constituents.

During the 2014-15 year there was a deliberate collaborative effort on behalf of Campus Governance Leaders (CGLs) and the administration, to strengthen and institutionalize shared governance and “formal consultation” as defined by the Faculty Bylaws of the University at Albany through meaningful, open and cooperative dialogue. The Senate and the administration recognizes and respects the role of consultation, as addressed by the Chancellor’s Statement on Governance that reads, “…the governance arrangements within the university [must] be increasingly clarified and improved methods of consultation [must] be developed to reflect the need for effective governance based on widespread participation”\(^1\) The SUNY/CUNY joint statement on shared governance explains that systems of shared governance are the most dependable and effective structures to support sustainable and innovative colleges and universities\(^2\).

The need for widespread participation of the various campus constituents (faculty, professional staff and students) comes at a critical time at the University at Albany as we find ourselves actively engaged in the process of creating new colleges and programs including the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, as well as the deepening our affiliation with Albany Law School. Such opportunities open up exciting new areas of academic programing, scholarship and cross-disciplinary collaboration for faculty, professional staff and students. Fundamental to the success of each of these programs and initiatives will be the need for faculty “to diligently exercise their purview and primary responsibility for curriculum and academic standards” because the faculty’s “…disciplinary and teaching expertise are essential for determining the curriculum, developing appropriate pedagogical methods, and advancing knowledge” (Resolution G2: 2014-2015). Thus the collaborative working relationship established by the Senate and the Administration during the 2014-15 year serves as a solid foundation to continue

---

\(^1\) http://www.albany.edu/senate/handbook_section3.htm

the advancement of deliberative, consultative, and transparent shared governance processes.

In addition to legislation passed in the Senate during 2014-15 listed at the end of this report, the following information is worth noting:

- **On August 12, 2014** Dr. Timothy Mulcahy was named Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost. Mulcahy had served as vice president for research at the University of Minnesota for eight years before retiring as emeritus professor of biochemistry, molecular biology and biophysics.

- **On February 2, 2015,** Dr. James R. Stellar was named Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost replacing Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Timothy Mulcahy. Prior to joining the University at Albany, Stellar had served at Queens College of the City University of New York (CUNY) as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and then as Vice President for Academic Innovation and Experiential Education.

- **Bylaws Amendment 1415-01**  
  **Voting for Ex Officio Members of the University Senate** Approved by the Voting Faculty, April 8, 2015  
  This legislation proved to be one of the most debated issues of the 2014-15 year. Although the administration had voiced support for such legislation, passage required that at least 30% of the Voting Faculty cast a ballot, and of those casting a ballot, passage of the amendment would necessitate a two-thirds majority to vote in favor of it. The Bylaws Amendment passed, however of equal importance is the active participation and engagement of the Voting Faculty. As mentioned earlier in this document “effective governance” must be based upon widespread participation between governance bodies and their constituencies.  
  It is also worth noting that the last successful passage of a Bylaws Amendment was on October 27, 2003, when the Voting Faculty approved a Bylaws Amendment for Part Time Representation.

There were many new programs and initiatives launched during the 2014-15 year and they are reflected in the legislation listed below:

**2013-2014 Senate Legislation**

**Bill 1415-01**  
**Graduate Certificate Program in Adolescent Special Education for Content Teachers**  
Approved by the Senate, December 1, 2014;  
Approved by President Jones, January 26, 2015
Bill 1415-02
Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering
Approved by the Senate, March 9, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, March 11, 2015

Bill 1415-03
Graduate Certificate Program in Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, and 
Cyber Security
Approved by the Senate, April 27, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 4, 2015

Bill 1415-04
Deactivate and Discontinue the Puerto Rican Studies Major in the Department of Latin 
American & U.S. Latino Studies
Tabled by the Senate, May 11, 2015

Bill 1415-05
Discontinue and Deregister Graduate Programs in Geology
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 15, 2015

Bill 1415-06
Name Change for the College of Computing and Information
Approved by the Senate, April 27, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 4, 2015

Bill 1415-07
Advanced Graduate Certificate Program in Adolescent Special Education for Childhood 
Special Educators
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 15, 2015

Bill 1415-08
Undergraduate Minor in Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and 
Cybersecurity
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 15, 2015

Bill 1415-09
Bachelor of Science in Human Development
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015;
Approved by President Jones, May 15, 2015
2014-15 Charter Amendments

Charter Amendment 1415-01A
Charter Amendment RE: Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation
Approved by the Senate, October 20, 2014

Charter Amendment 1415-02A
Charter Amendment RE: Voting for Ex Officio Members of University Senate Councils and Committees
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015

2014-2015 Bylaws Amendment

Bylaws Amendment 1415-01
Voting for Ex Officio Members of the University Senate
Approved by the Voting Faculty, April 8, 2015

2014-2015 Resolution

Resolution 1415-01R
Approved by the Senate, May 11, 2015