CAS Faculty Council Meeting  
09/16/09  
AS 122  
3:30pm

In attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Carl Bon Tempo, Pinka Chatterji, Rachel Cohon, Keith Earle, Teresa Ebert, Susanna Fessler, Samantha Friedman, Annis Golden, Charles Hartman, Janna Harton, Bill Kidd, Vivien Ng, Martha Rozett, Timothy Sergay, Jason Shepard, Janet Sussman, Jogindar Uppal, Christine Wagner, Sho Ya Wang, Edelgard Wulfert

Not in attendance: James Collins, Jose Cruz, Heekyong Hahn, Kir Kuiken, Andrei Lapenas, Max Lifschitz, Christian Olsen, Bill Pyszczymuka, Oscar Williams

1) Approval of Minutes for 06/05/09 Council Meeting

The minutes for the May 6, 2009 meeting were not available for approval.

2) Chair’s report:

There was no report from the chair, however, Susanna Fessler asked for introductions from those in attendance. There was no senate report for this meeting.

3) Dean’s Report

Positive: The dean reported that she will reinstate the travel awards. However, the provost expects a mid-year budget cut and it is possible that some repurposing of funds will be necessary at that time.

CAS has prepared an H1N1 response for a medical emergency. BLS seems to be a useful resource for communicating with students in the event that the campus must be shut down on account of a flu outbreak.

FRAP grant announcements have gone out. For FRAP grants and travel awards, the dean stressed that the CAS Council’s Development Committee should give particular consideration to the needs of junior faculty.

No new faculty hires are envisioned at this time. If the budget situation does not improve, more cuts may be necessary.

The O’Leary professorship is an option for faculty who consider retirement but would like to keep engaged with the College. Another way that can help ease the transition into retirement is for faculty to teach one course per semester or per year, a policy that was established by Dean Wick-Pelletier and that Dean Wulfert will honor.

4) Committee Reports
Vice Chair Christine Wagner says that only the academic programs and academic planning committee have met.

The chair clarified the role of the CAS council. The CAS council provides valuable input to the dean to address the academic life of CAS.

5) Subcommittee Assignments

Vice Chair Christine Wagner states that all committees except nominating are in compliance with bylaws. Some committees need to select chairs. In particular, academic programs needs a chair who is also a counselor.

The chair stated that it’s not fair to junior faculty to have committee chair responsibilities.

The chair distributed descriptions of committee responsibilities. One possible mechanism for filling CAS committee assignments is to appoint a non-counselor. This would probably require amending the by-laws and is not an attractive option.

6) Other Business

Bill Kidd requested a counselor for T&P to serve as co-chair who could be chair the following year. Max Lifshitz will serve on T&P according to the dean.

Chris Wagner nominates Janna Harton of LLC for Academic Programs. Election will be by e-mail.

Jogindar Uppal is willing to serve on the nominating committee.

The nominating committee needs a non-counselor as a member.

Committees without chairs need to meet to pick chairs.

Motion to adjourn moved and seconded.
CAS Faculty Council Meeting
11/04/09
AS 122
3:30pm

In attendance: Carl Bon Tempo, Pinka Chatterji, Rachel Cohon, Keith Earle, Susanna Fessler, Annis Golden, Janna Harton, Bill Kidd, Vivien Ng, Timothy Sergay, Janet Sussman, Christine Wagner, Sho Ya Wang, James Collins, Max Lifchitz, Christian Olsen, Bill Pyszczymuka, Edelgard Wulfert

Not in attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Jose Cruz, Teresa Ebert, Samantha Friedman, Heekyong Hahn, Charles Hartman, Kir Kuiken, Andrei Lapenas, Martha Rozett, Jason Shepard, Jogindar Uppal, Oscar Williams

1) Approval of Minutes for 10/14/09 Council Meeting

The minutes were approved with minor changes.

2) Chair’s report:

- The next Faculty Council meeting is the Full Faculty meeting on December 2 at University Hall 110.
- SIRF reporting will be transitioning to an electronic format this semester. Departments have the choice of opting out of electronic SIRS, but they are required to have their own evaluative methods in place of it. It was noted that this new format should be taken into account by the Tenure and Promotion committee when evaluating SIRF numbers of candidates whose teaching record spans both the paper and electronic systems. Also mentioned was that Institutional Research has made it possible for departments to include questions of their own on the electronic forms. All students will receive an e-mail on November 23rd, asking them to log on to MyUA to complete course evaluations. They will have until Reading Day to do so. Many faculty expressed concern about this transition to electronic evaluations, especially over anticipated lower participation rate compared to in-class evaluations.
- Winter Commencement will be held Sunday, December 7th in the SEFCU arena. The chair encouraged faculty and staff to volunteer for this event.

Senate report (by the chair of F.C., in lieu of the vice-chair, who could not attend the Senate meeting):

- The First Year Experience Taskforce has published their findings, but there is no conclusive legislation in the Senate in response to the report. The report is available online at http://www.albany.edu/ir/FYE_TF_Final_Report.pdf Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) – there will be a visit to campus in March. As a lead up to that, an almost-final draft of the university report is now available on the wiki. Faculty/staff are encouraged to
review the portions pertinent to their unit(s) and provide feedback. There will be two sessions at which faculty may provide live feedback:

- Monday, November 23rd, 3:30-5:00pm, Campus Center 375
- Tuesday, November 24th, 10:00-11:30am, Campus Center Assembly Hall. The strategic planning process is still at the design stage. The Provost is currently composing various subcommittees.

3) Dean’s Report

- The College dinner was well-attended and Bonnie Steinbock’s talk was well-received.
- Window replacement for Fine Arts, Earth Sciences, Arts & Sciences buildings to start over the summer of 2010 with multiple teams working, but work continuing into the fall semester. Windows in the Dean’s office area will be replaced during the fall semester to have more faculty offices done during the summer and therefore to minimize faculty downtime/disturbance.
- The Dean will devote the next Chair’s Council meeting to an “exercise in reinvestment”. She will ask Chairs to assist in developing principles by which to prioritize the reinvestment in lines in the College, should resources become available in 2010/11.
- The Dean recommended to send a reminder to the faculty about the Full Faculty Meeting on December 2nd.

4) Committee Reports

Nominating – Nothing to report.

Tenure and Promotion – 8 files (of mandatory cases?) have been submitted to the Dean’s office.

Faculty Development – 13 FRAP applications to process to be submitted to the Dean by Nov. 11.

Academic Planning – Chair Annis Golden is in contact with Steve Galime about travel award material. This will then be discussed amongst the Academic Planning Committee.

Academic Program – There have been 23 files received and processed to date, with several still pending.

Academic Support – No report.

5) Old/New Business

The Chair has suggested that revision of the bylaws or the creation of a charter may help evenly distribute the work of the current committees. A few suggestions to go about these changes came up including forming an ad hoc committee or having the executive committee collect information from current and past chairs to discuss issues they may have had or changes that they would recommend. The chair hopes that this will progress by mid-spring semester to allow time for the revision of bylaws/creation of charter. The chair requested that current committee chairs contact the past chairs individually and begin to compose proposed changes.
Motion to adjourn moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes submitted by B. Pyszczymuka
CAS Faculty Council Meeting
10/14/09
AS 122
3:30pm

In attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Carl Bon Tempo, Pinka Chatterji, Rachel Cohon, Jose Cruz, Teresa Ebert, Susanna Fessler, Samantha Friedman, Annis Golden, Charles Hartman, Janna Harton, Bill Kidd, Max Lifschitz, Vivien Ng, Martha Rozett, Timothy Sergay, Jason Shepard, Janet Sussman, Christine Wagner, Sho Ya Wang, Edelgard Wulfert

Not in attendance: James Collins, Keith Earle, Heekyong Hahn, Kir Kuiken, Andrei Lapenas, Christian Olsen, Bill Pyszczymuka, Oscar Williams, Jogindar Uppal

1) Approval of Minutes for 5/6/09 and 9/16/09 Council Meetings

The minutes were approved with minor changes.

2) Chair’s report

- The fall faculty meeting will be 10/15/09 2:30 pm, Campus Center Ballroom.
- UAlbany does not know yet the impact of the governor’s recent budget cut.
- The 10/10/09 UAlbany Day events went well with good attendance at the open house, despite it being an SAT test date.
- FRAP applications are due Friday.
- The annual CAS Dinner will be 10/27/09 at the Italian American Community.
- Conference Support Award requests are due 10/28/09.
- Journal Support Award requests with letter of support from Dept. Chair due 10/28/09 (AS-217, original plus 5 copies)
- CAS Conference Travel requests are due 11/16/09.
- Senate approved an undergraduate ombudsman office last year which will be put in place this year. The office will assist students in navigating the university’s sometimes difficult bureaucracy. Council members should share with colleagues, particularly undergrad advisors that this office is available to help them.

3) Dean’s Report

- The dean thanked all who participated in making the UAlbany Day open house successful. Community Day presentations by our faculty also were a success.
- The dean thanked faculty for their research efforts. Last year CAS faculty submitted grant applications for a total of $93M and CAS faculty received awards in total costs of $12M. Grant activity benefits all faculty, including those in disciplines that do not typically receive external funding, because faculty support such as FRAP and conference awards are paid for by indirect costs from grants.
- The Council members were encouraged to share information on all awards and honors, particularly those garnered by faculty in the Arts and Humanities, with the dean’s office. While Humanities and Arts faculty may not attract large monetary awards, they are able to attract highly competitive and prestigious fellowships, and such recognitions and prestigious awards attest to the quality of scholarship of our CAS faculty.
• The dean was happy to report that Summer Session revenues are being returned to departments at 70% again this year, after the return had to be reduced to 30% last year due to budget cuts.
• The dean encouraged the council to nominate colleagues for Excellence Awards. Those who wish to self nominate may contact the dean for support.
• The council was encouraged to attend the Faculty Dinner. Philosophy Professor Bonnie Steinbeck will be speaking on bioethics and “Designer Babies.”
• Each year CAS has had a reception in the Art Museum to welcome new faculty. Unfortunately, this year with only 3 new faculty, no such reception was possible; therefore the dean took the faculty members and their chairs to a welcome lunch at Creo’s.
• The Governor of NY announced another state budget cut of $500M, of which the cut to the SUNY system may amount to $90M and, according to President Philip, the cut to UAlbany may be $6M. It is unclear at this time whether the Legislator will agree with the Governor and these cuts will be realized.

  About 19.9% of the total AllFunds budget of UAlbany ($462M in 2007/08) consists of state funds. As approximately 85% of the state budget is used for salaries, but the governor stated that cuts cannot be realized from the salary portion of the budget, a cut of $6M will drastically cut into the operating budget.
• The dean has heard from many sources about bookstore problems. She has done some research on this and shared findings with the provost and the president. As the Barnes & Noble contract expires soon, a committee has been established that will evaluate bids for the contract. A council member recommended that faculty be proactive in checking on their book orders during intercession and draw the bookstore personnel’s attention to the fact if insufficient books have been ordered.

4) Committee Reports

Nominating
Chair Chris Wagner shared that subcommittees are now established and chaired and she thanked everyone for their help in completing this process. The Nominating Committee needs additional counselors and noncounselors who must have been at the university at least 5 years. The council was asked for nominations.

Tenure and Promotion
Chair Bill Kidd reported the committee’s first meeting will meet next Monday. The number of cases to be considered in Fall: Assistant to Associate+Tenure=5 mandatory, and 4 early, and 5 Associate to Full promotion; in Spring: Assistant to Associate+Tenure=mandatory 2.

Faculty Development
Co-chair Samantha Friedman reported the committee will meet 10/22/09. Historically the committee reviews FRAP and Conference and Journal requests, as well as travel funds.

Academic Planning
Chair Annis Golden reported that the committee will, as last year, manage allocation of travel funds to help redistribute the workload from Faculty Development.

Academic Programs
Chair Janna Harton reported 17 proposals have been received to date, 13 were approved, 4 are pending.

Academic Support
Chair Elizabeth Popp Berman reported the committee has not met as there is no business.

5) Old Business

None.

6) New Business

The chair suggested that if there is time this year the Council explore reviewing and updating the by-laws. One item that has come up for discussion is whether noncounselors, if necessary, could be appointed to chair a committee for the year. The senate created a charter to the by-laws to address a similar issue several years ago. A charter could enable the council to make amendments without requiring a vote of the full faculty. The full faculty would be required initially to approve the charter. The chair suggested the Faculty Council Executive Committee draft changes and distribute to committees as appropriate. Committees could review these and return to an upcoming Council meeting with comment and debate. Council members were asked to email suggested changes (using track changes) to Susanna Fessler. By-laws may be found at http://www.albany.edu/cas/docs/CASBylaws2005.pdf.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

CAS Faculty Council Meeting
(Annual Full Faculty Meeting)
12/02/09
University Hall 110
3:30pm

Councilors In attendance: Carl Bon Tempo, Rachel Cohon, Jose Cruz, Keith Earle, Susanna Fessler, Annis Golden, Charles Hartman, Janna Harton, Bill Kidd, Vivien Ng, Timothy Sergay, Christine Wagner, Sho Ya Wang, Max Lifchitz, Christian Olsen, Martha Rozett, Bill Pyszczymuka, Oscar Williams, Samantha Friedman, Edelgard Wulfert

Councilors not in attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Pinka Chatterji, Teresa Ebert, Heekyoung Hahn, Kir Kuiken, Andrei Lapenas, Jason Shepard, Jogindar Uppal, Janet Sussman

Non-Councilors in attendance: Leslie Halpern, Helen Strother, Timothy Wormwood, Paul Farrell, Dave Tieman, Maria Moon, Li Niu, Laura Wilder, Richard Zitomer, Paul Agris, Anthony DeBlasi, Nancy Denton, Michael Range, Larry Kranich, John Jones, Gerald Zahavi, Mike Messitt, Timothy Sergay, Elizabeth Gaffiney, Jim Large, Nancy Roberts, Richard Lachmann, Nancy Newman, Marjorie Price, Dan White, Paul Toscano, Elaine Bailey, Reed Hoyt, Steve North, Adrian Masters, Gary Kleppel, Carolyn MacDonald, Daniel Goodwin, Xiaonong Zhang, Teri Harrison, Kathy Gersowitz, Gwen Moore, Steve Galime, Greg Stevens, Deb Privott

1) Approval of Minutes for 11/04/09 Council Meeting

The minutes were approved with minor changes.

2) Chair’s report:

- Chair Susanna Fessler opened the meeting thanking those who are serving on faculty council and encouraging those in attendance and their colleagues at the full meeting to also serve on the Council next year.
- The Chair also announced that the general agenda item for the Council to work on would likely be revising the Council bylaws in order to balance committee workload.

3) Dean’s Report

- Dean Edelgard Wulfert reported that the 2008-2009 budget had been reduced by approximately $2.35 million; however, no additional budget cuts are foreseen for the rest of the academic year. Also those that were anticipated in the past were exaggerated resulting in softer blows when the cuts did come.
- Approximately 24 faculty lines, 6 clerical, and 4 staff positions have been lost in the College. Over the last year there have been 5 hires – most of which had been in search since 2007.
- The Dean at the Chair’s Council is hoping to continue exercises in College reinvestment. She thanked the active Chairs for their participation.
- Starting the summer of 2010 Paul Agris will be leading a newly formed Institute for RNA Sciences. IRNAST will be joined by Danielle Fabris, Li Niu, John Welch, and about 30
other researchers in the Capital District to create a long-term interdisciplinary research site. This will hopefully increase the funding profile of the University, and promote economic development in the Region.

- Funding and award applications were up considerably from the previous year thanks to the hardworking faculty.
- Larry Schell’s group in CEMHD has brought in a $6.8 million 5-year center grant.
- Two faculty members, Lynne Tillman and Lydia Davis, have books listed in the Top 20 Books of the Millennium.
- 11 Assistant professors have been promoted to associate professors; 5 Associate professors have been promoted to full professors.
- There is a new CAS website, and the Dean welcomes any worthwhile news or ideas to be sent to the Dean’s office.
- This year marks the 40th year of the Africana Studies department (already celebrated with a dinner and awards ceremony); 50th year of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences department; and the 100th year since the first dramatic performance in the Theatre.

4) Committee Reports

(Each committee gave a brief description of its charge and then reported their business, if any.)

Nominating – The committee chair, Christine Wagner, reported that the committee populated the Faculty Council and its subcommittees, and is currently seeking ways to promote wider participation in Faulty Council.

Tenure and Promotion – The committee chair, Bill Kidd, reported that there were 16 case files in total for 2009-10. As of 12/2, the committee had met on 5 cases. Meetings on 3 additional cases were scheduled to occur prior to the intersession break.

Academic Planning – Chair Annis Golden has had no new business. Consequently, Academic Planning has been assisting Faculty Development with evaluating applications for travel awards.

Academic Programs – There have been 32 course action forms received to date 28 of those have been forwarded to the Dean’s office. In addition, the committee considered the dean’s request to deactivate the Globalization Major (see New Business below).

Academic Support – Committee chair Elizabeth Popp-Berman had no new business to report.

5) Old/New Business

The Academic Programs Committee was asked earlier to consider deactivating the Globalization combined major/minor. Although the committee had approved the deactivation, in the interest of transparency and open communication in the college the dean asked that the issue be put on the agenda. First, the chair of faculty programs and the dean made introductory remarks. The Dean explained that when the Globalization major was first established, it had been part of the Compact Planning process under President Hall. Unfortunately, the lines and other resources that were to be dedicated to Globalization did not materialize in the end. Consequently, it became
difficult to service the students who had chosen that major in such a way that would have them graduating in a timely fashion. The dean emphasized that deactivation of the major does not mean that the program will cease to exist; rather a deactivation would give an ad hoc committee from the College time to restructure the program in a way that is more viable in the current environment of course offerings, teaching faculty, and other related resources. Among the structural issues are the combination of the major/minor (as opposed to a single major and minor that exist independently) and the lack of a “home” department for the program. Many faculty commented on the importance of the major, and expressed their concerns that the program not be “deactivated” permanently.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by B. Pyszczymuka
CAS Faculty Council Meeting
02/03/10
AS 122
3:30pm

In attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Carl Bon Tempo, Pinka Chatterji, Tom Cohen, Rachel Cohon, Jose Cruz, Keith Earle, Teresa Ebert, Susanna Fessler, Samantha Friedman, Charles Hartman, Bill Kidd, Max Lifchitz, Vivien Ng, Martha Rozett, Timothy Sergay, Jason Shepard, Janet Sussman, Jogindar Uppal, Christine Wagner, Sho Ya Wang, Christian Olsen, Bill Pyszczymuka, Edelgard Wulfert

Not in attendance: James Collins, Annis Golden, Heekyoung Hahn, Janna Harton, Andrei Lapenas, Oscar Williams

Guest: Helen Strother

1) Approval of Minutes for 12/02/09 Council Meeting

The minutes were approved with minor changes.

2) Chair’s report:

- The Chair opened with some recent news:
  - Majorie Pryse has announced that she would step down as Dean of Graduate Studies.
  - John Pipkin was appointed Associate Dean in the College.

- The Chair then presented information on UAlbany Advocacy Day (Feb. 8) asking the Council to spread the word to register and attend the event as it concerned major legislation. This legislation, the 2010 Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act, would affect the University in several ways: it would permit differential tuition, tuition policy changes, investment of tuition, fees, and other monies back into the campuses, and changes to Education Law. While Advocacy Day is not to solely promote this legislation, attendance at the event would show strong support of UAlbany at a time of tuition increases and state aid decreases. In addition, we would be advocating for more freedoms to create and use monies in order to become self-sufficient.

The Chair shared some data from a presentation given by Vince Delio from the President’s Office concerning the noticeable erosion of state funding to the University. Because many councilors had specific questions about the Empowerment and Innovation act, it was agreed that the Chair would try to invite Vince Delio to address in detail any concerns of this legislation at the next Faculty Council meeting. The one-page information sheet from the President’s office is appended to these minutes.

- On January 20, 2010, the SUNY Board of Trustees passed a resolution amending the December 15, 1998 Resolution 98-241 that established a General Education Requirement for
every SUNY baccalaureate recipient. It is important to understand what this new amendment to the original requirement does and what it does not do. In short, the ONLY change in the general education of the past decade is that colleges can now create general education programs of at least 30 credits (no change) distributed among at least seven of the original ten content areas, which now must include both mathematics and basic communication. (The "seven of ten" is the change.)

There is no change in the courses that have been approved for general education in each of the ten categories, nor is there any current change in any other mandates relating to the SUNY general education requirement.

SUNY Interim Provost David Lavallee has issued the following information about the changes:

1. The only change from current practice this amendment addresses is a greater flexibility in fulfilling the SUNY general education requirement. Faculty can design general education programs with more than one course in an area without adding total credit if they wish to do so.

2. This amendment does not require four-year (or two-year) colleges to alter their existing general education programs.

3. Four-year colleges can still have additional general education requirements over and above the SUNY mandated minimum requirements. As long as transfer students are given credit for the approved general education course they successfully completed in a particular area, they can be required to take the additional coursework in that same subject area. Of course, we need to be mindful that the number of requirements should not violate the Board mandate that students with an A.A. or A.S. degree who transfer into a parallel program should be able to graduate in an additional two years of full-time study.

4. Chief academic officers, with the recommendation of faculty, will have greater flexibility in waiving specific area general education requirements if a student has a total of 30 credits in seven areas.

5. Students who transfer to campuses that waive additional general education requirements for A.A. or A.S. degree holders will now be more likely to have met their full SUNY-wide requirement and proceed more readily to graduation.

The Faculty Council chair noted that the UA Senate Executive Committee has met to discuss the changes, and was currently deciding how the changes would be addressed on the UA campus.

3) Dean's Report

- The Dean announced that the Town Hall meetings at which members of the Strategic Planning Committee presented data they collected on issues such as social and economic trends, research, institutional strengths and weaknesses, etc. have been successful in
involving the larger university community and eliciting feedback from attendees. More such meetings are planned.

- The Dean reported that at the Chairs Council the issue of classroom decorum was discussed because during the past semester some incidents, primarily in the larger classes, were reported. The recent memo sent by Associate VP for Student Success, John Murphy, addressed this issue and recommended that incidents be brought to the attention of Assistant VP of Student Success, Clarence McNeill.

Council members discussed how best to address inappropriate student behavior in the classroom. It was suggested that the issue might be addressed in the syllabus and Professor Lifchitz volunteered to send one of his syllabi to the Council Chair as it contains language that addresses this. The issue will be discussed further at the next Council meeting.

- As an update on the Globalization major, the Dean reported that the major will be housed in Geography and Planning, and that she has appointed a faculty committee, chaired by Professor Christine Bose and comprised mainly of faculty who were involved in the initial creation of the major. The Dean charged the committee with restructuring and simplifying the major. The committee is making good progress and it is expected that the revised curriculum will be shepherded through faculty governance in the current semester to ensure that the streamlined major is approved and can be offered in fall 2010.

4) Committee Reports

Nominating – Currently working on obtaining Senators and Faculty council memberships.

Tenure and Promotion – 9 of 16 files have been submitted to the Dean’s office.

Faculty Development – A reminder that FRAP B applications are due February 24, 2010.

Academic Planning – Nothing to report.

Academic Program – Nothing to report.

Academic Support – Nothing to report.

5) Old Business

None.

6) New Business

Helen Strother of CAS Computing Services was in attendance looking for the Council’s assistance in approaching faculty requests that are above and beyond the normal scope of
operations, particularly in regards to research network drive quotas. The task was delegated to
the Academic Support committee for further review.

Motion to adjourn moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Minutes submitted by B. Pyszczymuka
THE 2010 PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT & INNOVATION ACT

WHAT'S IN THE BILL

**Tuition Policy and Financing**
- Allows for differential tuition by campus and program;
- SUNY Board must adopt tuition policy that is fair, equitable and responsible and that includes guidelines for across the board tuition adjustments, differential tuition and enrollment planning;
- Invests all tuition, fees and other self-generated revenues in SUNY campuses, students and faculty; and
- Repeals Education Law §355(8-b), enacted in 2009 (i.e., eliminates 90-10, 80-20, 70-30 splits).

**Land Use, Public Private Partnerships and Construction Fund**
- Authorizes the SUNY Board to accept gifts of real property;
- Authorizes SUNY to undertake land leases without special legislation for projects not in conflict with campus missions, subject to approval by a newly chartered State University Asset Maximization Review Board;
- Authorizes SUNY to enter joint ventures and public private partnerships, subject to approval by the State University Asset Maximization Review Board;
- Requires land leases include: MWBE, prevailing wage, union worker rights protection, and project labor agreements;
- Allows the State University Construction Fund to use expanded delivery methods, including design/build and construction manager at risk;
- Eliminates burdensome and duplicative State Comptroller/Attorney General pre-approval of Construction Fund contracts;

**Procurement and Operational Efficiencies**
- Eliminates burdensome and duplicative State Comptroller/Attorney General pre-approval of SUNY, CUNY and their Construction Funds contracts;
- Broadens SUNY access to the Office of General Services centralized contracts for goods and services; and
- Streamlines approval for residential halls built by SUNY alumni associations.
- Provides protection from liability for students participating in clinical internships related to their field of study;
- Aligns SUNY and CUNY to the eight year master planning process applicable to the independent colleges and universities in NYS.
CAS Faculty Council Meeting
May 5, 2010
AS 122
3:30pm

In attendance: Elizabeth Popp Berman, Carl Bon Tempo, Pinka Chatterji, Rachel Cohon, Keith Earle, Susanna Fessler, Samantha Friedman, Annis Golden, Elana Gordis, Charles Hartman, Janna Harton, Bill Kidd, Max Lifchitz, Vivien Ng, Martha Rozett, Tim Sergay, Jason Shepard, Janet Sussman, Christine Wagner, Edelgard Wulfert, Sho Ya Wang

Not in attendance: Tom Cohen, James Collins, Jose Cruz, Teresa Ebert, Heekyoung Hahn (on leave), Andrei Lapenas, Chris Olsen, Jayanti Pande, Bill Pysczynmuka, Jogindar Uppal, Ing-Nang Wang, Oscar Williams, Jing Zhang.

1) Approval of Minutes for 4/14/10 Council Meeting:

The minutes were approved without changes.

2) Chair’s Report:

- Senate elections are in progress. Voting is available through MyUAlbany. The Senate is a body that also needs non-senate members to help serve on committees. There are advantages to serving on senate and faculty council.

- Dissertation Awards: 15 dissertations were submitted, 8 were recommended for awards. Committee members were Patricia E Chu, Max Lifchitz, John T Schmidt, Sylvia G Roch, Gregory Stevens. The Council Chair thanked serving members.

3) Senate Report:

- No senate report, as the senate has not met since the last Council Meeting.

4) Dean’s Report:

- CAS Dissertation Awards: Eight Ph.D. plus one MFA.
- Outcome of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting: all the elements are currently in place for the University’s strategic plan. Current discussions are centered on refinements in wording and prioritization of actions. Committee chairs and Provost will meet with the President to present the plan in the not too distant future.
- CAS Council of Chairs meeting the previous Wednesday: The Dean gave Department Chairs comprehensive academic program data and financial information and requested that they work in homogenous groups (sciences, social sciences, humanities, arts) to develop principles by which the College might deal with the draconian budget cuts and the looming possibility of needing to close programs. These general principles were then shared with the entire group (e.g., examining enrollment trends over time to identify weak programs), and there was a good deal of concordance among Chairs. Aside from these principles, the Chairs
identified as possibilities for economizing (a) giving up phone lines (keeping a minimum of four lines per department) because the College is spending $300+K in phone lines per year; and (b) implementing across-the-board cuts on departmental operating budgets. The Dean then requested that each Chair individually and completely confidentially provide recommendations about additional cuts involving programs if this were to become necessary. The Dean stated that it was not yet certain as to what the actual cuts will be.

- The Dean noted that Governor Paterson has also mentioned the implementation of furloughs. A question was raised by the Faculty Council as to whether a distinction would be made between professional staff and faculty. The Dean said she didn’t know, but pointed out that since faculty are not paid during the summer, it would seem implausible that a furlough could affect faculty in any meaningful way.

- A question was raised by the Faculty Council regarding the possibility of faculty retrenchment. The Dean answered that it depends on the depth of the budget cuts. She said that there are union-related issues that would need to be carefully considered. She also mentioned that a university would need to abolish entire programs if retrenchment were to occur; it cannot target selected individual faculty.

- A question was raised by the Faculty Council regarding an early retirement incentive. The Dean answered that a possibility of a state incentive for early retirement might occur. She also noted that the university has offered ways for faculty to ease into retirement, albeit without a special incentive, since there is not enough money available for monetary incentives. This is through O’Leary Professorships for eligible faculty and through other possible phased retirement approaches. If there were a large number of faculty who retired, it is possible that jobs might be saved.

- A question was raised by the Faculty Council regarding elimination of programs versus encouraging faculty givebacks to meet needs. The Dean said that faculty givebacks have been discussed among faculty and a group of Chairs who meet regularly. She explained that givebacks cannot be mandated, they must be voluntary, and that the administration cannot make any such recommendation. She stated that the Union does not support faculty givebacks a Faculty Council member stated that the Union had administered a survey and found that there is not much support for faculty givebacks. The Dean added that she did not have any further information available about the possibility of job losses at this time. She said the budget situation is depressing, but that job losses would obviously be a last resort.

- A question was raised by the Faculty Council regarding whether there has been any discussion of administrative givebacks and will there be retrenchment of administrators. The Dean suggested that in terms of management confidential (M/C) administrators, contrary to popular belief, their number has not significantly increased: As of 10 years ago there were 75 M/C administrators; this past year there were 72. She said that M/C have not received raises during the past three years, whereas faculty and professionals have received union-negotiated regular salary increases. The Dean said she does not have the whole picture but that professional lines have increased significantly, not only on this campus but in general. She said that some faculty question as to whether units other than academic units could be reduced (for example, some faculty wonder whether we need athletics). These are not questions that are easy to address.

5) Committee Reports:
Nominating – The Nominating Committee Chair reported that all CAS openings in the University Senate have been filled. Three departments will not have Senators. All CAS Faculty Council positions have been filled. The Nominating Committee Chair thanked those who have served on Council subcommittees, thanked Bill Pyszczymuka and Keith Earle for serving as Recorders. The Council Vice-Chair thanked the Chair, Susanna Fessler, for her service.

Tenure and Promotion- All 16 cases for tenure and promotion were completed. There are no more cases to consider.

Faculty Development - Nothing new

Academic Planning - Nothing new

Academic Programs – There were 98 Course Action Forms processed during the academic year.

Academic Support – The committee met with Helen to formulate policies regarding CAS Computing.

6) Old Business:

- ITS initiative on email, calendaring and other cyber-collaboration needs on campus. 500 Mbytes are now available on email. Meg Fryling of ITS gave a presentation on Developed Messaging and Collaborations involving e-mail, calendaring, and Wiki’s. ITS’ goals are to support existing services, improve services, to see where there are gaps, and communicate with vendors and peer institutions. In the fall Meg will present information and make recommendations. A Faculty Council member stated that s/he is pleased with new email allotment. A brainstorming session followed with input from several attendees:
  - A Council member requested a better spam filter as current filters don’t seem to work. In addition, there is a problem with low storage ceilings due to deficiencies in using share drives caused by difficulties with VPN from home. S/he also noted that batch archiving is a cumbersome solution. Another Council member added that 64-bit computing systems are incompatible with VPN and asked if there is there a VPN client for Unix? Would people be willing to use shares via VPN if connectivity were less of an issue?
  - A council member asked a question about attachments. No way to delete attachments on internet version of Outlook.
  - A Council member addressed an inability to send large attachments via squirrel mail. Large data sets will still be an issue.
  - A Council member asked about VPN for Ubuntu.
  - A Council member mentioned that there are publicly available large shares (temporary). Might be easier than reorganizing mail system.
  - A Council member asked about PDworks and Wikis? Meg from ITS stated that e-mail or documents may not be secure.
  - Meg gave her e-mail address for anyone with additional questions/suggestions.

7) New Business:
Election of the Vice-Chair and Recorder for Next Year:

- Recorder: Janna Harton has volunteered to serve as Recorder and was approved by acclamation.
- There is one nomination for Vice-Chair of CAS Faculty Council. Annis Golden has agreed to be nominated. Annis was elected by secret ballot.
- Subcommittee assignments were discussed by the Vice-Chair/Chair of the Nominating Committee. Some edits were made to the subcommittee rosters based on discussion. The roster of Tenure and Promotion Committee will be handled later in consultation with the Dean’s Office. Chairs of respective committees will be elected in the fall by vote of the committees.

Motion to adjourn moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:34.

The Dean thanked the CAS Faculty Council for their service.

Minutes submitted by K. Earle.