CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2013
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122

In Attendance: Elise Andaya, Marlene Belfort, Bret Benjamin, Ariel Caticha, Sheila Curran Bernard, Fan Pen Chen, Nicholas Creary, Joanna Dreby (Recorder), Michael Ford, Lisa Fuller, Robert Gluck, Fernando Leiva, Matthew Matsaganis, Jim Mower, Karin Reinhold, Maksim Royzen, Julio Torres, Edelgard Wulfert, Baris Yoruk.

Not in attendance: Liming Zhou.

1. Approval of Minutes from 5/08/13 Council Meeting

Minutes from the 5-08-2013 meeting were approved.

2. Chair’s Report

Introductions:

The new and continuing council members introduced themselves.

Faculty Council Primer:

The chair, Jim Mower, explained the role of the CAS Faculty Council. The group’s main role is in an advisory capacity to the Dean. This work of the CAS Council is outlined in the CAS by-laws. Traditionally, the faculty council has also drafted letters to the administration. There are six standing committees of the CAS Council.

The Academic Planning Committee advises the Dean on long-range academic policy and recently has been responsible for making travel award recommendations.

The Academic Programs Committee provides the Dean with recommendations on course and program changes, reviewing the course action forms submitted by different departments. Although in the past the work has been at times onerous, much of the work is now done on-line and the Council has worked to streamline these processes to make it more manageable.

The Academic Support Committee works with the library on acquisitions. Recently the committee has supported the efforts of the Academic Programs Committee.

The Faculty Development Committee provides advice and consultation to the Dean on issues affecting faculty development. This involves reviewing and making recommendations for FRAP awards.

The Nominating Committee recommends appointments to standing committees.

The Tenure and Promotion Committee reviews all recommendations from Departments for promotion and/or continuing appointment and acts on them.
Announcements:

1. This year quite a number of the councilors are Assistant Professors and therefore cannot chair and or convene the subcommittees of the Council. Although non-councilors might be able to step in, the by-laws do not allow for non-councilors to chair these committees. This is something that the Council will need to take up this year.

2. The Faculty Council and the University Senate are two governing bodies that work together. As a legislative body, the Senate has the right to pass legislation that affects the university curriculum. So if a new program is suggested, the Senate must approve of it. For all administrative decisions, the Senate only acts in an advisory capacity to the President. CAS has 21 members of the university senate. At times one or two departments are not represented, but efforts are made to ensure that departments are represented. At times there is an at-large member who is elected to the Senate. The ballots will be out soon.

3. Senate Report

The Senate met in May. At the time there was not a quorum to pass a proposed cap on minors in departments.

4. Dean’s Report

The Dean made a few announcements on university developments.

1) **Start-up New York.** This is an initiative of the Governor to foster public-private research partnerships between companies and universities in the state of New York. Companies will get a tax break if they locate next to the university and develop research partnerships with university programs. The university is in the process of identifying possible partnerships.

   A councilor asked if they have any plan to connect with venture capitalists. The Dean explained that this may be part of the plan in some cases; it varies on a case-by-case basis.

2) **Online teaching and learning initiative.** The Provost and her staff presented about online education at the chairs’ retreat. The university currently seeks to identify faculty and departments interested in offering online courses or entire programs or parts of programs that can be offered online. A task force of faculty members will continue to examine possibilities.

   A councilor reported that she participated as instructor of record in a research project conducted by another university comparing the effectiveness of providing a statistics course online versus in person. The project found no significant differences in terms of student learning outcomes.

   Online instruction is an emerging trend, also for SUNY. The Chancellor spearheads an initiative, Open SUNY, by which eventually 25+ percent of courses across the SUNY system will be offered online over the next 5 years for learners system-wide. At UAlbany, many courses and several graduate programs are offered online. As this trend continues, interested CAS faculty will develop more online courses to participate in Open SUNY, particularly in regards to Gen Ed (CAS provides 90 percent of the University’s general education instruction).
3) **CAS strategic planning initiative.** Chairs are currently assembling data-based information on their departments and develop mini strategic plans. The individual proposals will provide the basis for a CAS strategic plan. The council will be involved in this process and provide input to help suggest future directions for the College.

A councilor suggested that it may be difficult for departments to develop strategic plans, and for CAS to do so, without knowing what the vision and priorities of President Jones are for Arts & Sciences.

The Dean reported that the President visited both the Dean for a briefing as well as the Chairs Council. He understands the important contributions of CAS to the University’s instructional and research program and has publically expressed support for CAS.

4) **Hiring.** CAS hired 25 new faculty members this year, 16 of which were funded via the 2020 mechanism. Last year, the CAS council evaluated and ranked the 2020 proposals, and a number of these proposals were successful, as is evident from the significant number of lines allocated to CAS. All funded proposals met one of both of the University’s priorities for the 2020 goal, i.e., attracting new students and/or increasing external funding. These goals will also be priorities for future hiring.

A councilor asked about the Research Foundation’s structural deficit and how it impacts us.

The Dean explained that any deficit reduces the University’s investment power. The more external grants faculty generate, the better. Of special interest are federal grants with a full overhead rate because grants with little or no overhead adversely affect us since the SUNY RF share is calculated over total, not direct cost, but paid for by the University’s indirect cost share. The Dean also explained that of the indirect cost coming to the University, the generating entity receives 10%; 2% stay with the Dean and 8% go to the department.

5) **CAS’s 20th anniversary.** CAS was founded in 1993. The Dean asked CAS faculty council members to participate in a committee that generates ideas for a modest celebration in the spring semester.

6) **Inaugural activities –**The Dean invited council members to participate in at least some of the many events that take place during the inaugural week leading up to the President’s installation and to bring along friends and colleagues.

5. **Committee Reports**

- **Nominating:** Conducted nominations for the at-large councilors.
- **Tenure and Promotion:** None.
- **Faculty Development:** None.
- **Academic Planning:** None.
- **Academic Programs:** None.
- **Academic Support:** None.

The Chair asks that each committee send to him via email a report of the activities for the past month before the next meeting.
6. Old Business
NONE

7. New Business
NONE

The meeting adjourned at 4:40.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
DRAFT CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2013
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122

In Attendance: Elise Andaya, Marlene Belfort, Bret Benjamin, Sheila Curran Bernard, Ariel Caticha, Fan Pen Chen, Nicholas Creary, Joanna Dreby (Recorder), Michael Ford, Robert Gluck, Fernando Leiva, Jim Mower, Karin Reinhold, Julio Torres, Michael Werner, Edelgard Wulfert, Baris Yoruk, Liming Zhou and Lisa Fuller

Not in attendance: Matthew Matsaganis, Maksim Royzen

1. Approval of Minutes from 9/18/13 Council Meeting

Minutes from the 9-18-2013 meeting were approved.

2. Chair’s Report

Jim Mower made the following announcements:

1) Discover Graduate School Fair 2013 is 10/9/13, 3-6:00 p.m., SEFCU Arena
(http://www.albany.edu/discovergradschool/ )

2) CAS Dean’s Award for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Nominations due 10/9/13
(to John Monfasani, AS-217). Details e-mailed to full-time faculty on 9/6/13.

3) Homecoming/Family/Reunion Weekend is October 18-20, 2013
(http://www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming13.php)

4) Eleventh Annual College Faculty Dinner is 10/22/13 (6:00 p.m., Italian-American
Community Center)

5) Full CAS Faculty Meeting is 12/4/13 (3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m., CC Assembly Hall)

6) Course Action Forms and Curricular Proposals are due no later than 2/28/14. Please
submit program related proposals before the last day of classes in the fall semester
(12/10/13). Bear in mind scheduling registration dates when specifying the effective
semester for proposals. E-mail proposals to Cindy Endres at cendres@albany.edu

7) UAlbany Conference Support Award requests with letter of support from Dept. Chair due
10/11/13(AS 217, original plus 5 copies) http://www.albany.edu/osp/assets/2013-14_Conference_Support_Award_Application.pdf

8) UAlbany Journal Support Award requests with letter of support from Dept. Chair due
10/11/13(AS-217, original plus 5 copies) http://www.albany.edu/osp/assets/2013-14_Journal_Support_Award_Application.pdf

9) Sabbatical reports due in CAS Dean’s office by 11/1/13 for sabbaticals taken in spring 2013
or full academic year (fall 2012-spring 2013). Faculty member should send via e-mail to
Steve Galime at sgalime@albany.edu with copy to Department Chair and support staff member.

10) CAS Conference Travel Fund Program applications due 11/12/13 (AS-217, original plus 3 copies) [http://www.albany.edu/cas/information_for_faculty_and_staff.php](http://www.albany.edu/cas/information_for_faculty_and_staff.php)

11) Open House for Prospective Students is Saturday, 10/19/13 (send name of department representative to Jay Oddi at joddi@albany.edu by 10/4/13)

3. Senate Report

Karin Reinhold made the following report:

The Senate held its first meeting of the year on September 30. It was an organizational meeting setting up procedures for the year ahead. New members who are chairs of Councils but not senators were voted in and a charter amendment on the dissolution of CAFFECoR was discussed. The charter amendment will be voted on 10/21/13.

4. Dean’s Report

Dean Edelgard Wulfert made the following announcements.

1) The installation ceremony for the new president was held this past Saturday. His address–posted on the university website–lays out his vision for our campus community. In the address he highlighted four key priority areas.
   a. *Expanding the portfolio of degree granting programs*, i.e. those that will attract new students or students we have not currently had on campus.
   b. *Attracting Out-of-state and International students*.
   c. *Increasing Community Engagement*. The University will continue to pursue ways to get faculty and students more engaged in our immediate local community, as well as broader communities within the state (i.e. New York) and nationally.
   d. *Growing University Resources*. This will be a two-pronged strategy that seeks funded research and gifts. Faculty members are in a good position to help the Development Office to secure gifts, establish connections, etc.

2) As in past years, the Dean has appointed a committee with four professors at the distinguished rank who will review the sabbatical requests and make recommendations. Sabbatical leaves serve the purpose of enhancing the faculty member’s value to the university by increasing the research portfolio, improving scholarly or teaching skills, etc. All sabbatical proposals must specify what scholarly pursuits the faculty member will undertake while on leave. All proposals will receive written feedback.

A councilor asked what percent of sabbatical requests have been denied in the past.

The Dean clarified that last year there were approximately 22 requests; the committee recommended against three, but one faculty member was encouraged to amend the proposal, after which it went forward with a positive recommendation. Of the 22 requests, two were ultimately denied.
A councilor member asked if budgetary concerns will affect the number of sabbatical requests approved.

The Dean clarified that all recommendations are based strictly on academic criteria.

3) The Dean reminded faculty to get procurement cards for travel that involves booking flights.

A councilor asked if the CAS travel awards will be funded this year through state money or indirect cost return from the research foundation.

As the source of funding changes from year to year, the Dean was unsure about this year’s funding source, but was going to find out. [The Dean later informed the Council that this year’s travel award will be funded with ICR; no p-cards are needed.]

4) The committee organizing the CAS 20th Anniversary celebration still needs volunteers from among the council members.

5) The annual CAS Faculty dinner will be held on October 22, 2013. The Dean encouraged council members to attend.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinheld):

Nominations at large were sought.

Tenure and Promotion (from Marie Rabideau):

The T&P Committee will meet for the first time on Friday, Oct. 11th, for orientation including the Dean’s charge. We won’t meet again until November.

The Dean added that the president wants to accelerate the timeline starting with next year to have all tenure and promotion cases finalized by commencement. The deadline for mandatory tenure cases to be forwarded to the Dean’s office may get moved up by two weeks.

A councilor asked for clarification on whether or not this will affect faculty workload expectations, particularly over the summer months. The Dean stated that this change will not affect individual faculty members; however, the T&P Committee may have to meet more frequently or add members to deal with the volume of cases in a shorter time period.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The Faculty Development Committee has no activity yet. The first meeting will be tomorrow, 10/10/13.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

We have no new business to report on the Academic Planning Committee.
Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):

The Academic Programs Committee has initiated the review process of course action proposals. Proposals are being e-mailed to members of the APC on Wednesdays and are also be located in a shared folder. Proposals are being reviewed and voted upon on a weekly basis and recorded on a spreadsheet in the shared drive. The chairs of the committee also met with a group in the Dean's office to discuss how the new General Education requirements will be handled by this committee and other committees of the CAS Council.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):

No business to report as of yet. Academic support offers to help academic programs and can do so when advised.

6. Old Business

NONE

7. New Business

1) Last year there was some duplication of work with the Academic Support Committee can and the General Education Competency plan approvals. Each Department can either create a new course to meet these or explain how an existing course meets these requirements. CAS council does not need to approve changes to existing courses to meet this requirement because the Gen Ed committee has their own committee that will do this. However, CAS will review new courses proposals.

Councilor members expressed concern that some proposals cross over and are not clear cut. Jim Mower will send her a note asking for clarification. We will hear more about the General Education competencies at the November meeting.

A councilor asked if the General Education committee is governed by faculty or university administrators.

It was clarified that the General Education committee is a sub-committee of the (UAC), a committee of the University Senate.

2) Jim Mower asked for comments about amending the bylaws to facilitate committee work. Currently all committee chairs must be councilors. However, since we have a lot of assistant professors this year on the CAS council this isn’t possible. He opened discussion on whether or not we should amend the bylaws to allow non-councilors to chair committees of the CAS council.

A councilor asked if there is anything in the bylaws asking that departments appoint councilors who are associate or full professors. Currently there is not.

A councilor recommended that department chairs can be encouraged to appoint more senior faculty to the CAS council. Another councilor suggested that this request might best come from the Dean.
A councilor suggested that CAS council can request that alternates be appointed to help deal with this issue.

A councilor recommended against any requirements. As departments are composed of different ratios of senior and junior faculty members, which fluctuate over time, they may not be able to meet this request.

A councilor asked if committees do not really need a councilor to be a chair. Jim Mower suggested a potential problem in allowing non-councilors to be chairs is that the Chair of CAS Council could potentially appoint chairs supporting his or her view on a controversial decision.

CAS Council will continue to discuss this matter.

3) A councilor asked that a discussion of the ‘monetarization’ of academic programs be put on the CAS Council agenda for this year. This is something that seems to be affecting, and frustrating, many faculty members. Jim Mower asked that the councilor bring forth a proposal for discussion on this topic to the next meeting.

4) A councilor asked that a discussion of faculty governance over online learning be put on the CAS Council agenda for this year. This is something that the administration undoubtedly will pursue and the faculty should have a say in the academic aspects of such a transition. Jim Mower asked that the councilor bring forth a proposal for discussion on this topic to the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2013
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122

In Attendance: Marlene Belfort, Bret Benjamin, Sheila Curran Bernard, Ariel Caticha, Joanna Dreby, Michael Ford, Robert Gluck, Colin Henck, Jim Mower, Karin Reinhold, Julio Torres, Michael Werner, Edelgard Wulfert, Baris Yoruk, Liming Zhou

Not in attendance: Elise Andaya, Fan Pen Chen, Nicholas Creary, Fernando Leiva, Matthew Matsaganis, Maksim Royzen

1. Approval of Minutes from 10/9/13 Council Meeting

Minutes from the 10-09-2013 meeting were approved.

2. Chair’s Report

Jim Mower reported that there was no Chair’s Council meeting last week. However, at the Chair’s Council Meeting on Diversity the previous week, there was much conversation on ‘inclusive excellence,’ definitions of diversity and behaviors on campus that lead to inclusiveness or exclusiveness.

Jim Mower also made the following announcements:

1) Department, faculty and/or student highlights for December Senate Meeting due 11/25/13 (to Jay Oddi at joddi@albany.edu)

2) Full CAS Faculty Meeting is 12/4/13 from 3-5:00 p.m., Assembly Hall

3) Course Action Forms and Curricular Proposals are due no later than 2/28/14. Please submit program related proposals before the last day of classes in the fall semester (12/10/13). Bear in mind scheduling registration dates when specifying the effective semester for proposals. Email proposals to Cindy Endres at cendres@albany.edu.

4) Intersession Energy Savings Initiative (Limited Operations Period 12/20/13-1/1/14; Energy Conservation Period 1/2/14-1/16/14)

5) Thank you to all who participated in the October 19 Open House for Prospective Students.

6) Commencement is December 8, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. in the SEFCU Arena. Marching faculty should register by clicking the "Commencement Participation Faculty Sign-up" button in the middle of the page at http://www.albany.edu/commencement/faculty.php. Registration through the website is necessary and you will receive updates via email on assembly time, location, and other details the week prior to Commencement. Please also let your commencement coordinator/assistant to chair/department secretary know of your participation. Further information is available at: http://www.albany.edu/commencement/

3. Senate Report
Karin Reinhold reported that the meeting was short and there is nothing new to report.

However, at the previous meeting there was a proposal to dissolve the committee CAFFECoR (a committee that deals with issues of academic freedom) because the committee has not done work for years. The vote to dissolve the committee needed to be passed by 2/3 vote and ultimately it was not passed. The committee stands.

4. Dean’s Report

Dean Edelgard Wulfert reported the following:

1) The Chairs meeting last week was cancelled due to the meeting of the chairs with the diversity consultant, Jay Goosby, the previous week. That meeting was dedicated to developing specific action steps to advance the agenda of diversity and inclusion.

2) At the Deans Council Meeting the Provost announced that the President, with input from the Senate, formed a committee that will work on the logistics of an amicable separation of UAlbany and CNSE.

3) The Drescher Award (pre-tenure research leave for women and minorities) has been re-instated in the new labor contract. An announcement will appear shortly about the award.

A councilor clarified that the deadline for a Drescher award granted in the spring is December 2nd. The award will be back in full for fall 2014. Individual development awards (for conferences and research) will also be available later this year. The Drescher is a SUNY system-wide award, whereas the individual development award is a campus initiative.

A councilor asked about the establishment of the Confucius Institute funded in part by the Chinese government and concerns about possible infringements on academic freedom and freedom of expression.

The Dean clarified that the C.I. is an academic center housed in CAS; the initiative will include faculty and student exchanges. The Chinese government will have no input regarding the Institute’s academic pursuits; the Institute Director is a UAlbany faculty member and UAlbany.

The creation of the Institute has been vetted by the Faculty Senate’s Council on Research.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinheld):

Nothing new to report.

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):

Ariel Caticha is the new chair of the committee. The T&P Committee has been busy. They have the following cases to review this academic year: 11 Mandatory Fall Cases (we will have met on 7 of them by the end of the semester; have met on 3 thus far), 1 Early Case, 2 Promotion to Full Cases, and 1 Mandatory Spring Case. The committee currently has 12 faculty members, however we will lose one in the spring as she is taking on the role of interim chair (and Chairs are not allowed to serve).
Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The Faculty Development Committee finished reviewing 15 FRAP-A proposals last month.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

The committee will be meeting soon to review the CAS Travel Grants shortly. The committee anticipates around the same number to review as last year (around 70 applications).

Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):

A light stream of applications has come through.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):

Have no business to report as of yet. Academic support offers to help academic programs and can do so when advised.

6. Old Business

1) Kathy Gersowitz from the Dean’s office spoke on Course Action Forms for course proposals with General Education content.

- By December 1st competency plans are due from the individual majors. All the necessary documents can be found on the CAS website.
- The Academic Programs Committee (APC) of the CAS Council will review Course Action forms associated with the competency plans. However, APC does not need to look over the material if there are no changes to the course content; in this case the plan will go right to the UAC to ensure that it meets the new general education requirements.
- At this point, they expect a light workload as it appears that most departments will be able to meet competency plans with existing course content. In this case, the APC might not have a lot of work associated with the new competency plans.
- APC will continue to review all newly developed courses, however, associated with the new competency plans. APC should forward to UAC any proposals that do not have a course action form attached. APC will still need to see and approve any new courses.
- Of course, there may be some borderline cases. In this event, UAC and APC can consult.
- Marlene Belfort asked for those plans with Course Action forms to be flagged to ease the process.

A Councilor asked what happens if a competency plan is denied. Kathy Gersowitz answered that the whole plan would go back to the department. In other words, the course action form will not go ahead if the general education competency is not met.

A Councilor asked whether if while reviewing the proposals there appears to be a red flag in terms of the general education competencies, the committee should flag it. Kathy Gersowitz requested that they do so.
A Councilor asked whether or not discussion has come up about the tensions of the timeline of the completion of general education courses. In the old system, students generally meet general education requirements during the first two years, however changes that push requirements into the majors makes it unlikely that students will meet their general education competencies in the first two years. Kathy Gersowitz suggested that this may need to come up in conversation with Leslie Halpern, Associate Dean of Gen Ed.

2) Kathy Gersowitz addressed the restraints of current by-laws

- From the administrative perspective there has been some talk about revising the by-laws since they are from 2005.
- The tension over filling the committees is noted, since non-councilors are prohibited from being chairs of committees and so many assistant professors are CAS councilors.
- Kathy Gersowitz is not aware of any reason for this restriction.
- Tenure and promotion aside, Kathy Gersowitz does not see any problem with appointing someone as a councilor-at-large for a short time period to serve as a chair. This may be one way of dealing with the issue without revising the by-laws.
- Modifying bylaws can be tricky.

A Councilor asked if staffing issues have been resolved this year. They have been.

A Councilor asked if there are any patterns to the rotations. There are not at this time since Councilors typically come on and off all the time.

A Councilor asked how the bylaws are sanctioned. Any charter changes must be done via a vote of the entire CAS voting faculty. A two-thirds majority vote becomes of recommendation to the Dean.

The Dean’s office currently does not have time to invest into revising the by-laws this year, but supports looking over this issue during the summer of 2014 with a group of past and future chairs.

A Councilor recommended tabling the conversation until the summer when this committee can be formed.

7. New Business

1) The UUP Albany chapter will host a forum on Monday December 2 from 4:30 – 6:30 PM to discuss Open SUNY and on-line education. The issue of on-line education came up during the past CAS council meeting as a concern of the faculty.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes  
December 4, 2013  
3:00 p.m., Campus Center, Assembly Hall

**In Attendance:** Elise Andaya, Marlene Belfort, Sheila Curran Bernard, Ariel Caticha, Fan Pen Chen, Joanna Dreby, Michael Ford, Lisa Fuller, Robert Gluck, Colin Henck, Matthew Matsaganis, Jim Mower, Karin Reinhold, Edelgard Wulfert, Baris Yoruk

**Not in attendance:** Bret Benjamin, Nicholas Creary, Fernando Leiva, Maksim Royzen, Julio Torres, Michael Werner, Liming Zhou

1. **Approval of Minutes from 11/20/13 Council Meeting**

Minutes from the 11-20-2013 meeting were approved.

2. **Chair’s Report**

Jim Mower did not have any announcements since the last meeting.

3. **Senate Report**

Karin Reinhold reported that there has not been a meeting since the last CAS Council meeting, so there is nothing new to report.

4. **Dean’s Report**

Calendar year 2013 highlights.

1) **Academic Year 2013-2014** is the 20th **anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences.** The Dean has convened a committee to organize a lecture and reception in the spring to commemorate.

2) A **Strategic Planning Process** is underway. Proposals from departments have been received and the current task is to review them and identify themes across departments, especially those that align with the university strategic plan. The Dean will put together a committee to review these proposals and advise the Dean in developing a plan for the next three to five years.

3) **Hiring.** Twenty-five new faculty members joined CAS in the fall of 2013. Of the 25 lines, 4 came through the diversity program, 5 were funded by CAS, and 16 were 20/20 lines. CAS received another 16 lines for the second round of the 20/20 initiatives (searches are currently underway). At this point it is unclear if the 20/20 initiatives will continue in their current form for a third round.

4) **Start-Up New York Initiative.** The state has offered a 10-year tax incentive for new businesses developed in partnership with the university. The purpose is to foster research and development in concert with the university’s academic mission and to attract new businesses to the state.

5) **Online Teaching.** There has been much talk about online teaching initiatives with some concerns expressed over academic freedom and property rights over the courses. Conversations over these issues will continue. The Dean reported that many departments already currently teach on-line courses during the winter and summer sessions, and some offer online courses during the semester. In addition,
several schools offer entire graduate degree programs online (e.g., SPH, SOE). SUNY Central is encouraging online teaching because there is student demand for these courses. However, the Dean assured that there is no mandate for online courses for faculty members who do not want to do it.

6) CAS events  (A) June 11th was the official launch of the RNA Institute housed in the Life Sciences Building. (B) December 4, 2013 (today) was the inauguration of the Confucius Institute.

7) The new E-Tech building. The architects and a planning group have been working with the science department chairs to develop a plan regarding which departments or programs may move into the new building. At this point, only Tech Transfer, DAES and ASRC will definitely be occupants. Discussions continue and nothing else has yet been finalized.

8) Faculty Accomplishments for 2013 (Below are highlights only. Please report to the Dean’s Office faculty accomplishments on a regular basis).

- Professor James Collins, Department of Anthropology, received a Fulbright teaching & research fellowship in Cape Town for his project “After Apartheid & Jim Crow: A framework for examining language diversity, civil rights and social inequalities in contemporary South Africa and the United States.”
- Professor Lydia Davis, Department of English, won one of the most prestigious awards in all of literature, the Man Booker International Prize for fiction ($93,000).
- Professor Phyllis Galembo, Department of Art & Art History: Eight large-scale color prints from her Ghana series were included in the 55th Venice Biennale (Nov. 2013), one of the most significant exhibitions in the contemporary art world (with over 475,000 visitors).
- Professor Charles Hartman, Department of East Asian Studies, spent Spring 2013 at Princeton, NJ, at the Institute for Advanced Study, one of the world’s leading centers for theoretical research and intellectual inquiry. He advanced his forthcoming book on the history and historiography of the Chinese Song dynasty (960-1279).
- Professor Daniel Keyser, Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, received from the American Meteorological Society (AMS) the Edward N. Lorenz Teaching Excellence Award (to be presented at annual meeting in Feb. 2014).
- Professor Jeanette Altarriba, Department of Psychology and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, was elected Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science.
- Associate Professor Pinka Chatterji, Department of Economics, and her co-author Sara Markowitz (Emory University) received the Sixth Adam Smith Award in Mental Health Policy and Economics for best paper (Family Leave After Childbirth and the Mental Health of New Mothers).
- Associate Professor Patrick Nold, Department of History, won the Rome Prize from the NEH, one of the most prestigious fellowship awards in the humanities. He is spending one year at the Academy in Rome to advance his research on 14th century intellectual history with a focus on Pope John XXII (1316-1334).

9) Future Accomplishments for 2014

- There has been a drop in external funding applications among CAS faculty. The Dean has been working with individual departments and hopes that this trend will be reversed in 2014.
There will be continued meetings to work on improving student satisfaction as per the survey results last year.

A Faculty Satisfaction Survey (COACHE) had been administered in 2011. The results had not been released because several peer institution’s data were collected the following year. The results are now available and will be shared via the Provost’s Office during the current academic year.

Arts & Sciences departments are encouraged to take a more systematic approach to nominating deserving faculty for excellence awards and distinguished professorships.

10. Questions, Comments, Concerns:

A Councilor asked when CAS Council will be asked to help advise on the CAS Strategic Planning. The Dean reported that most likely after the winter break.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinhold):

Nothing new to report.

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):

Ariel Caticha reported that the committee has met and voted on five mandatory cases thus far this semester and will complete another two cases later this week. There will be four remaining mandatory cases to review in January and four other cases (1 early case, 2 promotion to full and 1 mandatory spring case) to review during the rest of the spring semester.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The Faculty Development Committee has nothing new to report.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

The Academic Planning Committee has received the CAS travel award applications and will meet next week to make decisions. Notifications should be emailed soon.

Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):

The Academic Programs Committee has no new business to report.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):

The Academic Support Committee has no new business to report.

6. Old Business
No old business to discuss.

7. New Business

No new business to address.

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes  
February 12, 2014  
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122

**In Attendance:** Elise Andaya; Marlene Belfort; Ariel Caticha; Nicholas Creary; Joanna Dreby; Michael Ford; Lisa Fuller; Robert Gluck; Colin Henck; Matthew Matsaganis; Jim Mower; Karin Reinhold; Julio Torres; Michel Werner; Dan S. White; Edelgard Wulfert; Baris Yoruk; Liming Zhou

**Not in attendance:** Bret Benjamin; Fan Pan Chen; Fernando Leiva; Maksim Royzen

1. **Approval of Minutes from 12/4/13 Council Meeting**

Minutes from the 12-4-2013 meeting were approved.

2. **Chair’s Report**

Jim Mower gave the following announcements

- Conference Support Award application materials due to Department Chairs by 2/7/14 for the spring round of competition. (Departmental Chairs should submit ranked applications to Dean’s Office by 2/14/14.)
  (For more details: http://www.albany.edu/osp/assets/ConferenceSupport2013.pdf)
- CAS Conference Travel Fund Program applications due 2/18/14 (AS-217, original plus 3 copies)
  [http://www.albany.edu/cas/assets/13-14_Travel_Award_Program_Application.doc](http://www.albany.edu/cas/assets/13-14_Travel_Award_Program_Application.doc)
- Course Action Forms and Curricular Proposals are due no later than 3/3/14. Bear in mind scheduling registration dates when specifying the effective semester for proposals. E-mail proposals to Cindy Endres at cendres@albany.edu.
- FRAP B Applications due 3/7/14 (AS-217, original plus 10 copies)
  (For more details: http://www.albany.edu/FRAP_Application_for_Award_Period_2013-15.pdf)
- Nominations for President's Award for Undergraduate Research are due 3/14/14 (send ranked nominations to Jay Oddi, joddii@albany.edu)
- Sabbatical reports for Fall 2013 are due 3/15/14 (faculty should send via email to Steve Galime at sgalime@albany.edu with copy to Department Chair and Assistant to Chair/Department Secretary)
- CAS Authors and Artists Reception is 4/1/14 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the Standish Room (invitations to be sent soon)

3. **Senate Report**

Karin Reinhold gave the following report from the Senate Meeting of December 9, 2013.

Below are excerpts from the President’s report and University Faculty Senator’s (UFS) report:

**Confucius Institute:** President Jones referred to the inauguration of the Confucius Institute which he said will poise UAlbany to have a significant impact in the community.
Start Up New York: President Jones reported the campus has been aggressively engaged in pulling together the campus plan for Start-Up New York. From the UFS report: There are many questions regarding this plan:

- How does the plan align with the academic mission of the campus?
- What is in it for the campus? Will there be economic benefits from the arrangement that can enhance the academic mission? Will there be internship or co-op opportunities for students that will enhance their experiential education? Will there be opportunities for faculty to enhance their research through interactions with the companies?
  - It's implied that any offering of jobs to students would meet the “academic mission” provision, but it was noted that this hardly seems to actually support the academic mission of an institution.
- Insist that the faculty need to be consulted on the nature of this alignment before the plan is finalized, not simply informed of the result, if it is to be meaningful and gain faculty support.
- Insist that consultation needs to be done with elected faculty leadership. i.e. The University Senate.

President Jones referred to the four stakes in the ground that he spoke of in his inaugural address to the university. The process of creating structures around those stakes has begun with the creation of councils and work teams around each stake which will expand our portfolio of degree programs, increase out of state and international student enrollment, focus on community engagement and increase resources to accomplish these initiatives.

Note: These are the four stakes:
1. Expanding our portfolio of degree-granting programs (ex. Computer and network engineering, data analytics, biomedical engineering, allied health science)
2. Recruiting more out-of-state and international students
3. Broadening our role as a University engaged in the community
4. Growing our resources to fulfill our ambition

Open SUNY:

Open SUNY initiative had a roll out in January. The UFS is establishing an Ad Hoc Committee on Open SUNY. This group will report to the Senate on emerging issues related to Open SUNY, and thus will complement the Provost’s Advisory Committee on Open SUNY. The significance of the Open SUNY initiative, its potential for both good and bad outcomes, and the aggressive timetable all converged to demand a separate UFS committee.

Note: For more information, visit the Open SUNY webpage: [http://commons.suny.edu/opensuny/](http://commons.suny.edu/opensuny/)

SUNY signed a contract with Coursera over the summer to use their platform for MOOCs, should campuses and faculty wish, and this has given Stony Brook the opportunity to offer a MOOC this fall, with credit restricted to matriculated SB students. SUNY has yet to work out a mechanism for approval, oversight, credit, transfer, use of other institutions’ MOOC offerings, campus versus System control, etc. But MOOCs are only one part of the initiative. Prior Learning Assessment, expansion of online courses and online degrees, cross-registration of courses to allow students from one campus to seamlessly take an online course from another—these are just a few of the other elements.

Seamless Transfer/ Student Mobility:
Seamless Transfer is now in the implementation stage and is essentially a campus governance issue. This year, campuses are expected to review their programs (majors, transfer information) to align with the seamless transfer requirements, with preliminary reports due by the end of January. This clearly should involve considerable faculty input, all the way down to the department level.

**New Business:**

There were two bills for approval:

- **Bill 1314-01: Proposal to Create a Bachelor of Science Degree in Informatics (UAC)**
  This bill transforms a faculty initiated interdisciplinary program into a registered major from a BA to a BS.

- **Bill 1314-02: Proposal for Undergraduate Academic Programs Leading to the B.S. in Digital Forensics (UAC)**
  This bill creates a new major for digital forensics in the School of Business. The new program would offer the opportunity to grant degrees in high needs areas of a burgeoning field.

Both bills were approved.

Karin gave the following report for the February meeting of the Senate:

The Senate discussed the de-partnering of the College of Nanoscience (CNSE) and the University at Albany. Current SUNY students will be given a choice of transferring to CNSE.

**4. New Business**

Christine Wagner, the Chair of the University Senate, visited to explain the relationship of CAS Faculty Council to the University Senate.

Christine described the structure of the University Senate, which includes faculty and professionals, unlike at some universities which just have a faculty senate. There are Ex Officio members as well as Senators-at-Large, including an open category (4), professional (4) and part-time (2). There also are Senators representing units across the university, 23 of which will come from the College of Arts & Sciences in the upcoming year. Previously CAS had 21 seats, but with the departure of CNSE CAS gains two seat. Seats are assigned according to the number of teaching faculty in each unit.

The Senate also has councils and committees. Faculty members do not have to be a senator to sit on one of these committees. The senate has a website that lists the different councils and committees of the senate, including a charter description of the responsibility of each committee. Many of these councils or committees also have sub-committees that need volunteers. Christine encouraged all CAS Council members to consider participating in one of these committees. All Senators must serve on one of the Senate Council or Committees.

The CAS Council makes recommendations for nominations to the Senate every year. CAS council will need to identify 10 new senators for fall 2014. Before April, CAS needs to identify these names.
5. Dean’s Report

1) The 20/20 lines have been suspended. The lines may be allocated to new programs. No decisions on these lines have yet been made.

2) In April, the Consultant on diversity issues will be back on campus. This time she will work primarily with administrators and chairs. She will be meeting with the President’s Executive Committee and the Chairs Council.

3) The proposal to integrate the departments of Music and Theatre will be communicated to the University Senate at the next meeting. As the Theatre major had been discontinued and it would not be efficient to have a separate department for a minor, the faculty have agreed to merge and become a united Department of Music and Theatre.

4) At the Dean’s Council Meeting, the University Police visited to discuss emergency preparedness. The UAlbany police website is a significant resource and has posted information about how to respond to a student in crisis and other types of emergency. A representative of the police department will visit individual departments as requested to discuss these issues. The Dean encouraged councilors and their departments to use the CAS office as a resource if any concerns arise. This issue is being taken very seriously.

5) The Associate Provost for On-line Education will work in the provost office and with faculty interested in getting involved in on-line education. There has been some money offered to faculty interested in developing these courses. No faculty member or department is obligated to move to on-line education; however the Chancellor wants SUNY to put a program online that will meet all the general education requirements. The Dean advises departments and faculty members to consider online education and related formats such as blended courses as one of many forms of delivering instruction and to be prepared for developments that are occurring across higher education.

A councilor asked if the money offered to develop on-line courses is a one time option or will be continually offered. At this point it is not an on-going program.

A councilor asked about the integrity of exams in on-line courses. This is an issue under discussion. Some suggested solutions have been using writing assignments instead of multiple choice questions, more detailed homework assignments, and blended courses.

A councilor asked about intellectual property rights. This issue has not been fully settled yet. At this point, instructors still own the intellectual property rights of their material. However, this might be changing.

A councilor asked about the course enrollment caps. Currently, on-line courses are capped at 25 students. However, there is interest in allowing courses with larger caps and ITS is working on how to manage this.

A councilor expressed the concern that if most general education courses are offered on-line, it will be difficult for some departments to recruit majors, since most often recruitment occurs in a classroom setting.
The Dean reported that under consideration is the idea of capping the number of online courses a student can take towards a major. She also reported that there is great interest in offering entire certificate or graduate programs online (such as a Master’s in Public Health) and recommended that departments consider this option if it is feasible.

A councilor asked if there has been a SUNY wide survey of students about how many current students want on-line courses and what type of courses they want to pursue on-line. It would be good to have empirical data on student interest rather than assume that there is a high demand for on-line courses. There has not been any SUNY wide or UAlbany wide survey on this topic. However, Karin Reinhold reported that of one of her courses of 300 students, only 50 to 60 students wanted to participate on-line. This suggests there is a niche interested in online courses that should be taken seriously, but that it is not necessarily the majority of UAlbany students.

6. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinhold):

The nominating committee is looking for a replacement for a Senator who resigned. They hope to have someone soon.

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):

11 Fall 2013 Mandatory Cases:
* The TPC has met and voted on 9 cases; 7 cases have been delivered to the CPCA Committee (Provost's Office) with another two expected to be delivered by the end of this week.
  * The TPC has met on two additional cases and elected to "pause" them. Additional information was requested from the departments. The TPC is expected to reconvene for further discussion and vote in late March.

1 Early Case
  * The TPC is scheduled to meet on 2/20/14 to review this case.

1 Promotion to Full Professor Case (second case pushed to 2014-15 per department)
  * TPC meeting TBA (looking at last week in February)

1 Spring Mandatory Case
  * Case due in CAS Office on March 1st. Committee meeting TBA.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The Faculty Development Committee has nothing new to report.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

The Academic Planning Committee received 64 applications requesting $62,604.01 for travel funding, and dispersed $40,000 to 61 faculty and academic staff members (three were non-compliant and/or submitted insufficient information). The deadline for Spring and Summer travel is Tuesday, February
18. The Committee acknowledges with gratitude Liz Lauenstein's expertise and efforts in facilitating the process.

Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):

The Academic Programs Committee has been approving on average 2 applications (CAFs) a week. There have been a few gen ed considerations, but they have been working with Leslie Halpern on this. The committee has nothing extraordinary beyond this to report.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):

*The Academic Support Committee has no new business to report.

7. Old Business

No old business to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes  
April 9, 2014  
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122

**In Attendance:** Elise Andaya; Marlene Belfort; Ariel Caticha; Fan Pan Chen; Joanna Dreby; Michael Ford; Robert Gluck; Colin Henck; Jim Mower; Karin Reinhold; Julio Torres; Michel Werner; Dan S. White; Edelgard Wulfert; Baris Yoruk; Liming Zhou

**Not in attendance:** Bret Benjamin; Nicholas Creary; Lisa Fuller; Fernando Leiva; Matthew Matsaganis; Maksim Royzen

1. **Approval of Minutes from 2/12/14 Council Meeting**

Minutes from the 2-12-2014 meeting were approved.

2. **Chair’s Report**

Jim Mower gave the following announcements:

1) The Facilities Office has scheduled update/information sessions regarding current capital projects work through next year (staging and phasing for the Campus Center Expansion project, current planning for the new ETEC building, finalizing the tower/fountain project and updates on residence tower improvements).
   - Tuesday, April 15, 12 noon–1:00 p.m., Campus Center Assembly Hall
   - Wednesday, April 16, 12 noon–1 p.m., Campus Center Assembly Hall
   - Tuesday, April 22, 12 noon–1 p.m., Husted Amphitheater, Downtown Campus

2) CAS Ice Cream Social is Tuesday, 5/20/14, 2:30-4:00 p.m., Campus Center West Lounge (invitations forthcoming)

3) Faculty/Staff Participation Requested:
   - **Campus Clean-Up Day** is Thursday, 4/24/14. Please volunteer by signing up at: www.albany.edu/cleanup/signup. (Rain date is Monday, 4/28/14.)
   - **Commencement Weekend** is 5/17-5/18/14. Participating faculty must sign up at: 
   - Volunteering Individuals must sign up at: http://apps.albany.edu/volunteer/?ID=47.
   - Graduate Ceremony Rehearsal is Wednesday, 5/7/14, 10:00 a.m. in the CC Assembly Hall.
   - The Undergraduate Ceremony Volunteer Rehearsal is Wednesday, 5/7/14, 11:00 a.m. in the CC Assembly Hall.

3. **Senate Report**

Karin Reinhold gave the following report:

March 10th was a short meeting with the following highlights: 1) a bill for a new Master’s Degree Program in International Affairs was approved, 2) the Senate Chair reported that a proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate Program in International Health and Human Rights had been approve by GAC
and was under review in UPPC; and 3) the Senate Chair has received a proposal for a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Major in Bio-Instrumentation.

A report from a University Faculty Senator on the 166th Plenary Winter Meeting included issues that will impact SUNY. Below are excerpts for the report to the Senate:

A. Teacher Educator Preparation Programs: There was a new resolution on admissions standards for teacher education programs but it was not acceptable to the Faculty Senate. The implications of the edTPA initiative (the new exam for graduating education majors before they can be certified to teach) on students and our curriculum are also among the UFS’ concerns.

B. Start Up New York: Campuses have now submitted their campus plans for Start UP New York. The role of campus governance in determining if companies sufficiently meet the academic mission requirement is not clear and is of great concern to the UFS.

C. Open SUNY: The Chancellor identified 8 programs from 6 campuses as “Open SUNY +” degrees that will pilot centralized 24/7 student (and instructor) support, tutoring, and advising. She announced two virtual groups that will be of particular importance to faculty: Center for Online Teaching Excellence (http://commons.suny.edu/facultycenter/) and Open SUNY Scale-Up Lab. The former has already attracted more than 500 faculty interested in sharing expertise in online education. The position of the UFS is that Open SUNY offers opportunity for faculty and students to leverage online education in better ways, but we’ll need to be vigilant to maintain control over quality and curriculum for our campuses. Visit http://open.suny.edu/ for further information.

D. Seamless Transfer/ Student Mobility: The full Senate endorsed at the Plenary, in essence, the basic position of the Faculty Council of Community Colleges regarding SUNY Central setting de facto curricula via the seamless transfer paths. It was resolved that the deadline for full implementation of minor and major revisions in the Memorandum to Presidents on Seamless Transfer Requirements be extended to be effective for students entering in the Fall semester, 2015, in order to ensure that the revisions to programs incorporate all changes made to the transfer paths. In order to accommodate the process, the deadlines for submitting the first Program Status Inventory and waiver requests will be extended to March 31, 2014.

E. LICH and SUNY Downstate: The issue, which is of major concern to the UFS and all campuses, is the potential financial impact of the divestment of LICH on the SUNY System as a whole. At present, even if SUNY were to exit the operation of the Long Island College Hospital within 60 days, the potential liabilities exceed $500 million. Somewhat less than half of this can be offset by a sale of the LICH properties, but SUNY would still be left with potential liabilities of at least $300 million. Some of this debt could “go away,” but some percentage of it will have to be covered by SUNY which will decrease funding available to campuses.

Other Resolutions: The “Resolution on the Status of the New York State College of Ceramics” expresses concern to the Chancellor and BoT over the identity of Ceramics within the Alfred University community and asks for a study of that relationship.

The “Resolution requesting participation of Alfred University and Cornell University in the process of recognizing SUNY faculty for distinguished achievement” asks that the Chancellor invite the Alfred and Cornell Presidents to participate in making SUNY faculty members at their respective institutions
eligible for the honorific distinction of distinguished faculty under the existing SUNY review and recommendation processes.

The above issues were all the chancellor’s initiatives for 2013 that are still being implemented. For 2014 she announced only one new initiative for the SUNY System. It is called “SUNY Works,” and seeks to increase internships (paid or unpaid) and co-ops for our majors. Such work experience not only would augment their education with practical experience, but also establish valuable contacts for employment after graduation. This initiative requires funds for additional professional staff who handle the placement of students, etc. It is our understanding that thus far, those funds have come from a grant from the Lumina Foundation. Sustaining this effort long term will require more funding.

At the April 7th meeting the Provost Report including information on the summer retreat and new university programs in computer engineering, environmental engineering, biomedical engineering, Social welfare, education and public health.

Also of note is the need to identify and make more visible Engaged learning opportunities that are already in place at SUNY Albany.

There will be a review of international experience and research at SUNY Albany.

A team continues to work on the separation of CNSE.

For 20/20 hires there were a total of 158 new hires, 152 if which were for full-time positions. Two-thirds of the 20/20 hires were new full-time faculty positions.

A proposed amendment to change the composition of CPCA passed. The change adds one additional representative from the teaching faculty.

A proposal for a new certificate international health and human rights passed.

4. Dean’s Report

Dean Edelgard Wulfert reported the following:

CAS Departments will conduct a brief Student Satisfaction survey with their majors with a few questions from the University’s SOS and some individual questions contributed by the respective departments. This will allow departments to compare their results against those of the SOS or the NSSE. SUNY Albany students often express less satisfaction compared to the other three University Centers on such surveys; however, these surveys have very low response rates, which raises doubts about their validity. The idea is for faculty to discuss the results obtained with their majors within the department and to develop a plan to improve student satisfaction, if indicated.

The President intends to meet with the faculty from all schools and colleges across the university. He will meet with as many departments as possible in the current semester and in the fall. The stated purpose of these visits is to meet and interact with the faculty.

A councilor asked about the college strategic plan. The Deans’ office will work on the departmental plans to abstract general themes over the summer, which will then be distributed to the Chair’s Council and the Faculty Council in the fall.
A councilor asked for some details about the new hires. Of the 152 2020 faculty lines that to date have been awarded by the Provost, ~100 are tenure track lines and 48, about half, will be coming to the College of Arts and Sciences. This is proportionately somewhat lower than CAS faculty’s contributions to the university’s teaching mission (CAS houses ~55% of the university’s TTr faculty and conducts ~65% of all instructional activities). At this point, there is no new 20/20 initiative planned. It is likely that the remaining so-called 2020 lines will be invested into new initiatives, with a focus on engineering and allied health programs. CAS has a strong representation in the allied health initiative and the Dean expects for some lines to be allocated to CAS programs.

A councilor asked if the university plans to create an engineering school. The Dean stated that this is not the plan at the beginning because the engineering programs will likely be interdisciplinary with lines remaining in their respective departments. However, she did not rule out the possibility at some future point in time.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinhold):

Eight CAS senators end their term this semester. The will be replaced as follows:

- Anthropology: Lawrence Schell (2014) is replaced by Veronica Perez Rodriguez
- Art: Leona Christie (2014) is replaced by Mike Werner
- Biological Sciences: Caro-Beth Stewart (2014) is replaced by George Robinson
- Chemistry: Evgeny Dikarev (2014) is replaced by Jayanti Pande
- East Asian Studies Anthony DeBlasi: (2014) is replaced by Sue Fessler
- History: Richard Fogarty (2014) is replaced by Kendra Smith-Howard
- Languages, Literatures and Cultures: Cynthia Fox (Spring 2013-14) will continue for another 2 year term.
- Latin American, Caribbean, and US Latino Studies: Fernando Leiva
- Geography and Planning: John Pipkin is replaced by Youqin Huang, Associate Professor
- Africana Studies: Slade will continue for the next two years

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):

The committee had 15 cases and finished 14. The 1 outstanding case was never received. The work for the academic year is complete.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The Faculty Development Committee reviewed 18 FRAP-B proposals submitted to CAS in 2014 and had two panel meetings to finalize the review summary. The final report was submitted to Dean Wulfert on April 1.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

(not in attendance)
The Academic Planning Committee met with Liz Lauenstein. It received 21 applications for travel funds requesting in excess of $23,000 and recommended to the Dean that a distribution of the $12,000 available to 17 people. This was not an easy process, but it was fair and transparent. If anyone gets complaints from some of the people who didn't receive any funding, the committee chair can address any of their concerns. Liz was amazingly helpful with the process.

**Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):**

The committee continues to receive 1 or 2 applications per week. There is nothing extraordinary beyond this to report.

**Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):**

The Committee has no new business to report.

6. **Old Business**

No old business to discuss.

7. **New Business**

Jim Mower explained the need for a Vice Chair for the 2014-15 Council. He explained there is a lot of support from the Dean’s office for the Vice Chair especially in filling the committees and that administratively it is not overwhelming. Please contact Jim Mower if you are interested.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby
CAS Faculty Council Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2014
3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences, Room 122


Not in attendance: Elise Andaya, Nicholas Creary, Fernando Leiva, Maksim Royzen, Julio Torres

1. Approval of Minutes from 4/9/14 Council Meeting

Minutes from the 4-9-2014 meeting were approved.

2. Chair’s Report

Jim Mower gave the following announcements:

The CAS Ice Cream Social is Tuesday, 5/20/14, 2:30-4:00 p.m., Campus Center West Lounge (invitations forthcoming)


3. Senate Report

Karin Reinhold gave the following report from the Senate Meeting April 28, 2014:

This meeting was more of an organizational meeting. The senate approved the proposed Council and Standing Committee Memberships for 2014-2015, as well as the Senate Secretary and the Senate Vice-Chair for next year. Cynthia Fox will be the new Vice Chair.

The Senate also passed the following:

a) A proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate Program in Teaching Composition.
b) A proposal to establish a Faculty-Initiated Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Major in Bio-Instrumentation.
c) A Charter Amendment changing the charge of CAFFECoR; introduced by GOV.

4. Dean’s Report

Dean Edelgard Wulfert reported the following:

The Dean emphasized that it is so important for faculty to participate in commencement if they can and encouraged faculty to do so.

A council member requested a follow up email about the ice cream social so that people can RSVP. The Dean will have that done.
The merger between CNSE and SUNY-IT was approved by the Board of Trustees in March. The students who are being admitted in the fall semester 2014 will be admitted under UAlbany and will be able to decide if they want their degree by UAlbany or SUNY-IT. Faculty at CNSE through a decree by the board of trustees will likely be shifted from UAlbany to CNSE. There are five areas that UALBANY will still provide for CNSE students, including things like athletics and housing. Many of these things are paid for out of student fees. In the immediate future UALBANY will still be providing the general education courses for CNSE students.

A councilor asked if there will be a name change. The Dean reported that it is likely that there will be a name change but nothing has been announced yet.

There has been a concern that the position of “Assistant to the Chair” does not accurately reflect the work in that position. In some departments these positions are responsible for budgets and course scheduling. Through discussions with departments the new title for the position has been decided. It will be “Administrative Manager.”

The Dean thanked everyone for their service on the council.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinheld):

So far they committee has not been able to identify a vice-chair for next year. The search continues. In addition, there are three seats for faculty at large and one in the professional rank that need to be filled. Please forward any suggestions to Karin as soon as possible.

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):

The committee completed 14 cases this year. There is one more case that will be reviewed on Friday morning.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):

The committee had nothing new to report.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):

The committee had nothing new to report.

Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):

The committee had nothing new to report.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):

The committee had nothing new to report.

6. Old Business
Nominations for Vice-Chair, 2014-2015: There is a need to identify a vice-chair. The problem is the council is heavily weighted towards assistant professors, which means the pool is low. There will likely be more emails over the summer about this topic.

7. New Business

Nominations for Recorder, 2014-2015: There is a need to identify a recorder. Please send nominations via email to Karin Reinheld.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby