
Guests: None

Minutes of the September 20, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Chairs Report

Professor Lyons engaged in a brief discussion of UPPC charge in response to a question – the council’s charge is to evaluate resource implications of new or altered academic programs and degrees.

Provosts Report

CNSE Separation Update

Provost Phillips reported that the most recent update to the process was issued mid-September in a new MOU defining working groups. The Provost has not received official confirmation of the composition of the working groups. However, she has spoken to the Interim SUNY Provost and expects to begin conversations shortly. There are several potential scenarios, each of which come with very different implications for UAlbany.

A council member commented that a recent report from Chair of the SUNY Senate says exactly the same thing. Another member remarked that faculty members have 4 basic questions, (with Provost’s Phillips’ responses in italics):

1) Where will CNSE students sleep/eat?

   Presumably CNSE students will be “sleeping” in our residence halls and “eating” in the various campus facilities, but we would need to figure out where to put the new UAlbany students that would be admitted to replace the number of CNSE students. Dining will not be as much of a problem. Both meals and housing run through DIFR, and are paid directly by the student.

2) What will they use for gym facilities?

   Budgeting around state resources will prove more difficult, e.g. gym access is funded by state resources, not by student fees. We would need to figure out what it will cost for that student to use our facilities and infrastructure.
3) What libraries will they use or will they create their own?

*Library access is relatively easy from a student point of view, harder from faculty point of view. By way of example, a student from St. Rose, registering for a UAlbany course, has library access. However, St. Rose faculty member would not. Materials in our libraries that serve CNSE are on the more expensive end of the continuum—we can cost out student access, but we are unsure of how to handle access for CNSE faculty. There may also be publisher issues about use of materials by institution A under institution B’s license.*

4) What will happen to Physics lines that had been invested in Physics that went to Nano?

*Over the past 10 or so years, there have been investments and reallocations all over the campus. There were faculty who left Physics to go to CNSE, and there have also been new hires in Physics. It is not likely that we’d try to wind back to 10 years ago for Physics, or for any of the investments and reallocations, but rather would need to plan to go forward from here.*

A council member pointed out that a disproportionate number of students in Honors College are Nano students. If those seats are vacated, how do we attract and retain qualified honors students? The Provost responded that the scholarship funding would remain with UAlbany, and that while UAlbany would not have CNSE to attract students, we’d have more room for the best prepared students in other areas.

As far as tuition dollars, there is currently an arrangement that 40% of undergrad tuition for Nano students goes to CNSE. The question is about what happens to the 60% of tuition that we currently do get for those students. We need to cost out all of the services that those students would use on the UAlbany side.

The discussion migrated to moving forward with programs in allied health programs, computer engineering that will strengthen our position in the marketplace, and resources that we do have to grow the University.

A council member asked about 2020 funding. The special capital / out of state tuition benefit program was only available to the four SUNY centers initially, and all campuses received funding. The second round was open to all campuses, but the Provost was not sure what institutions received funding. Doctoral institutions are not eligible to participate in the third round. For all of SUNY and certainly for us, tuition growth without a corresponding reduction in state support was the best 2020 benefit. The capital initiative funding is also good for us, but it comes with lots of complexity.
**Startup New York Update**

Provost Phillips distributed a handout showing our thoughts on working out stakeholders in UAlbany’s Startup New York plan development. The rules of engagement for our plan center on compatibility with our academic/research mission. The process of developing our plan must be inclusive and consultative. Once the plan is created, then we need to think about how to make decisions about individual companies who want to come to campus, how we can we triage requests coming to the President and expedite review of their applications. A planning group will come together in about two weeks. A council member asked if other campuses are doing this. Vince Delio is working on outreach to other campuses to find out what they are doing so we can learn from them and not duplicate effort. Dr. Phillips reported that she saw a first draft of the state regulations this week. She welcomed suggestions and comments from the council and asked that they be submitted by November 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Stern