

UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES
January 18, 2017
Maxwell Auditorium, 4:00 pm

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm and began with a new year's welcome to the Senate members. The first order of business was a call to accept the minutes from the December 7th Senate meeting, as amended. A motion from the floor asked for some technical corrections. The Chair asked for approval of the minutes with the aforementioned technical corrections. The minutes were approved with amendments.

The second item of business concerns DACA students and other potentially vulnerable students at the University. The Chair read the Agenda Committee resolution to the Senate body. The resolution was distributed to the Senate membership prior to the meeting. Following review of the resolution, the Chair asked for discussion from the floor.

Senator Guillermo Guasp-Perez asked to make two points. The senator noted that even though he agrees with the resolution, and its importance, the GSO calls on the administration to address the issue prior to the start of the semester, by the end of the week if at all possible. The senator's second point regarding Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner's announcement that she was declaring Syracuse a sanctuary city and the announcement's impact on the campus. Senator Guasp-Perez asked how the administration to address how the Department of Public Safety (DPS) will respond in the cases where federal agents come to campus to investigate DACA students. What instructions will be given to DPS without going against federal law? Will DPS prevent law enforcement from entering campus?

Another senator noted that the Agenda Committee resolution doesn't say anything with particular details as to what the administration will do nor is it an endorsement of the GSO resolution. It is also not an endorsement from the Senate. It was noted that the Chancellor is constrained in a way that the rest of the University isn't and it was suggested that the resolution didn't do enough.

A senator asked what the resolution does. He noted that on January 17th there was a pretty clear statement from the administration involving our values, and now it looks like we're looking at how the principles will be applied in specific cases.

Senator Guillermo Guasp-Perez responded that the main thing is that when the issue was argued in December, it was stated that the University would look into specifics in January. Regardless of the Winter Message statement, it should be communicated to the entire Syracuse University community as to how these measures will be put into place.

Another senator stated that part of the issue is that, separate from the Chancellor's action, the Senate ought to make a statement of its position, and it should support the GSO statement. It seems like the only voice of the University is the Chancellor, when, in fact, a larger set of voices from across the University would have more weight.

A non-senator asked the Chair to be recognized by the Senate to address the issue. The Senate body recognized Walt Donner, a student in the Maxwell School, and the author of GSO resolution. Mr. Donner addressed two ambiguous points at the center of the issue. The first point being that there are questions as to how University resources will be used if deportations are carried out. The second point is, should a student be deported or feel they need to leave the country, how will they finish their degree. Understanding that not all classes can be conducted online, we would like to continue the discussion on how we help these students.

Senator Dana Cloud address the Senate. She thanked the students for taking the lead on the resolution. Senator Cloud agrees with Senator Craig Dudczak that we want the Chancellor to say something or respond to the resolution. Senator Cloud made a motion and asked for an amendment to the resolution stating “This body affirms or endorses the resolution and calls upon the Chancellor to address the issue.” The motion was seconded.

Senator Bob Van Gulick stated that while he was extremely supportive, he reiterated some of the issues that are involved. What immigration laws should and will be enforced is problematic. The senator added that he’s reluctant to say that we endorse the principles. He is against the resolution. Further discussion followed. It was noted that the issue shouldn’t only be about current students who are undocumented. How are we going to deal with the DACA students that will be admitted in the future? How will the University deal with being a haven for undocumented students?

Senator Crystal Bartolovich addressed the Agenda Committee resolution and noted that the subcommittee that wrote the resolution couldn’t agree unanimously that the GSO resolution should be endorsed in its entirety, unless the senate wanted to adjust it.

Senator John Burdick from the Anthropology department stated that he had looked into the policies that other peer institutions around the country are going to be instituting. There are no universities that state outright what actions will be taken. Subpoenas and judicial orders are the trigger for a university to act.

The amendment calling on the Chancellor to respond fails and the Senate debate returns to the original Agenda Committee resolution.

Senator Guillermo Guasp–Perez noted that the GSO resolution has language, borrowed from the University of Pennsylvania as an example, that they will not comply even under subpoena and judicial order.

Senator Eric Lui asked to have an editorial correction made and have the date added to the resolution.

The Senate body asked to have the Agenda Committee resolution read again. The Chair re-read the resolution calling on the Chancellor to address the students’ resolution. A voice vote was taken on the Agenda Committee’s resolution. Four votes against, the motion carries by majority.

The next item of business, as a point of information regarding electronic voting for the Senate, the devices will be purchased through a one-time gift from the Chancellor. The Chair thanked the Chancellor for his commitment to joint governance.

The Chair introduced Chancellor Kent Syverud to give his remarks to the Senate. The Chancellor stated that he was glad to be with everyone at the start of the new year and he hoped that everyone had a restful break. The Chancellor thanked everyone who was able to attend his Winter Message on January 17th. He noted that for anyone who missed the address, they could find his remarks and a video of the address at news.syr.edu.

The Chancellor's address included remarks regarding DACA and the students' resolution, as well as many important issues and strategic priorities for the semester and going forward. The Chancellor also noted that there will be further clarity fairly quickly regarding DPS. He indicated that there was a need for finesse due to the complicated issues involved. The issues that are being discussed in this area are not static. They can't be discussed once and then become permanent. The Chancellor would like feedback from the Senate. He expects prompt response on the two issues that the student organization raised and he's heard from many besides the GSO.

The Chair thanked the Chancellor for his remarks and introduced Provost Michele Wheatly to give her remarks to the Senate.

The Provost opened her remarks by wishing a happy new year to the Senate body. The Provost noted that she had two announcements to make. The Provost announced that she and the Chancellor will create a new campus facilities advisory board. The board will be co-chaired by the Provost and Vice President and Chief Facilities Officer Pete Sala. The Provost also noted that Professor Cathryn Newton, Special Advisor to the Chancellor and the Provost for faculty engagement, will be the lead faculty advisor to the campus facilities board.

The board will assess:

- all academic and non-academic investments within the Campus Framework
- best practices for all campus engagement
- decision making and communication regarding renovations
- new construction
- best use of facilities

The committee membership will be announced in the coming week.

The Provost announced that she and Senior Vice President for Enrollment and the Student Experience, Dolan Evanovich, have charged the Internationalization Council with the following action items:

- Define an exemplary experience for international students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels

- Collaborate with Peter Venable, as Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and dean of the Graduate School, to recruit international graduate students with the deans of the schools and colleges. The Provost will be working with Senior Vice President Dolan Evanovich and Dean Venable to develop the One University Strategic Enrollment Plan.
- Provide resources and support to fully integrate international students into the University, and improve the overall student experience. The top priority is the students.

For the spring semester, the Provost has the following goals regarding Academic Affairs and the Academic Strategic Plan.

- Advance elements of the Academic Strategic Plan and integrate academic strategic plans received from all the schools and colleges
- Currently working on several searches, including:
 - Vice President for Research
 - Dean of Whitman School of Management (almost complete)
 - Dean of University College
- Work with Dolan Evanovich to establish an institutional strategic enrollment plan for the University
- Work with deans, graduate directors, and staff in the schools and colleges to learn more about their masters/professional graduate program offerings
 - develop a plan for coordinating graduate enrollment processes across the University
 - work with Libby Barlow to standardize the University's efforts with regard to graduate enrollment data (analyzing, reporting, admissions)
- Work on SU Abroad Strategic Planning
 - Expand study abroad opportunities for all students
 - better position SU Abroad nationally
 - increase visiting student participation

The Provost noted ongoing work with the Senate for the spring.

- Many people are already working on Faculty Salary Committee with LaVonda Reed
- The Ombudsman committee is also making progress toward recommendations for an Office of the University Ombudsman
- The Middle States is well on the way to presenting a draft in April. There will be a Middle States discussion meeting on April 18th at Goldstein Auditorium. If your dean is asking for work on the Middle States assessment, it really needs to be done. There isn't another option.
- Faculty Affairs staffing – we're looking at some of the staffing needed to serve the faculty. The Office of Faculty Affairs is the place faculty go to learn anything they need help with.
- Peter Venable's office in the Graduate School is working at overseeing
 - graduate enrollment processes across the colleges
 - graduate assistantships and related funding opportunities
 - graduate online offerings
 - enhancement of institutional support for new and continuing graduate students on campus (especially international students)

We want to serve our graduate students to the best of our ability. We will also be looking at adjusting levels in the RCM model to help support all of our students.

At the conclusion of her remarks, the Provost answered questions from the Senate body.

A senator asked “Will there be more details to come when the Internationalization Council is announced to the larger community?”

The Provost responded that, yes, there will more details forthcoming.
A follow-up question asked if it will be soon.

The Provost indicated, yes, it would be soon. The Internationalization Council has already met twice.

Another senator raised the issue of transparency and faculty salaries. He asked will we ever be getting the information that used to go the Z Committee and Z report. We used to have access to that information and now we don't. It used to be available for 50 years, but now we don't have access and it's a problem.

It was noted that the decision to no longer give access to said information was made prior to the Provost's arrival at the University in 2016. The information provided very detailed information that was very useful including gender equity. Is there any chance of getting that information back? Chancellor Syverud stated that Committee Z history is sometimes confused AAUP, which the University continues to share. The more extensive data is specific to Syracuse University. They're trying to figure out how to get that information and carefully disseminate it.

The jury is still out until the Faculty Salary Committee is finished with its work. The Z Committee was very helpful and the administration doesn't want to give the impression that it wasn't. The administration is trying to find the best way to gather and disseminate that information through the committee.

A senator noted that there have been multiple references to the strategic academic plan as we move toward a plan that has actual specificity and details that will eventually feed into a One University assessment. The senator stated that they were familiar with plans that are entirely based on the perception that the overall college benefits. How do you get beyond the self-interest that is constraining the plans that are under development right now so that we can actually have content and plans that will make a One University a reality?

The Provost responded that we have plans that are based on the leadership within the schools and there's been a large change in leadership. Any new leadership /deans will be going back to previous plans. They will be moving ahead with the process in hopes that the schools and colleges will be able to look beyond their own self-interest to work towards the One University goal.

The Chair thanked the Provost for her remarks and introduced the chair of the Committee on Student Life, Jose Marrero Rosado, to give the committee's report to the Senate. [See Student Life report]

Senator Rosado noted that the report was supposed to be given during the last term and the committee had been working on it since beginning of last semester.

The report focuses on the Office of Career Services and noted that they doesn't receive funding from the University, which is of concern. Other Carnegie R1 universities receive on average 60 to 100 percent of their money from their universities to provide workshops and services to the students.

The fact that our Career Services have to charge the employers to provide services scares away employers and limits services to students. Senator Rosado noted the following committee recommendations to improve career services to students.

Another area of concern is the lack of adequate support for international students. Over half of the students who attend career fairs are international students, while only 20 percent of employers at the fairs are interested in hiring international students.

Committee Recommendations

- 60 percent of funding from the University
- Add two staff members to the Center
- Add international specialist to the staff
- Review of the schools and colleges career services
- Taxing different offices to fund the central Career Services

Senator Crystal Bartolovich suggests that the Student Life Committee coordinate with Budget Committee to align with the needs across the university. It would be difficult to affirm the report without knowing the broader implications.

Senator Bob Van Gulick added that the report seems to indicate that there is some unfair bias in the schools. Did the committee meet with the schools and colleges?

Senator Rosado indicated that the committee met with central Career Services.

Senator Van Gulick added that the schools and departments tend to do a better job than central career services at the graduate level. It seems like the committee has only heard from one side of the debate.

Senator Rosado indicated that the report isn't meant to disparage one area over another. There should be more collaboration between them. They should be working together to provide the best services, even if they send a student to another career services area.

Senator Van Gulick added the departments work in house to hold workshops because they're better suited to know what the students need.

Senator Guillermo Guasp-Perez, a graduate student in the Maxwell School, added that when we look at graduate students, he thinks that the centralized office doesn't have the resources to provide the appropriate services as they do in the individual schools. We need to look into a way to integrate those services to the undergraduates.

Senator Mary Lovely added that there are barriers to students across units. The senator asked Provost Wheatly what the Provost's office is planning on doing to address the barriers to excellence in student services.

The Provost replied that parents are looking for pathways to careers. It incumbent on the academic units to provide those services. We need to try to figure out how we move the ball ahead. They want career exploration, the early stages of career development. It's going to be very much a part of our plan for the student experience.

Senator Lovely asked how the Senate can keep up with this issue to keep it moving.

Senator Rosado stated that he will send the report to the Budget Committee.

Senator Craig Dudczak raised the issue of international students – there seems to be something missing. There are issues with such things as visas that the employers have no control over. There are other issues, in STEM areas, as it relates to international students.

Senator Crystal Bartolovich added in relation to Senator Van Gulick's comments, in general, graduate students are in need of services from their department, but students are not getting employment assistance and they're turning to career services and are turning to non-academic jobs. Senator Deborah Pellow added that the Maxwell School has career services. Do the students have the right to consult career services? The more we talk about One University, it seems like a wonderful opportunity. It's not just about retaining students, but what will do for them afterwards.

The Chair thanked Senator Rosado for his report and introduced Senator Chris Day to present the nominations for Honorary Degrees. At this time, the Chair asked any non-senators to leave the Senate floor and invited them to wait and rejoin the meeting for old and new business once this session has been concluded.

Senator Chris Day opened by stating that the Committee on Honorary Degrees was happy to present four outstanding candidates for honorary degrees this year. Senator Day asked senators to continue to send recommendations to the committee for the future.

Senator Day added that the four candidates are very strong and represent the highest academic and personal excellence. Senator Day read the biographic information for each of the candidates. [Biographic information was sent to "senators only" on January 13th, 2017.]

The Chair asked for discussion or questions regarding the first candidate. There were none raised. The Chair asked for a vote on the first candidate. The candidate was unanimously approved by the Senate.

The Chair asked for discussion or questions regarding the second candidate. There were none raised. The Chair asked for a vote on the second candidate. The candidate was unanimously approved by the Senate.

The Chair asked for comments or questions regarding the third candidate. There were none raised. The Chair asked for a vote on the third candidate. The candidate was unanimously approved by the Senate.

The Chair asked for any comments or questions regarding the fourth candidate. There were none raised. The Chair asked for a vote on the fourth candidate. The candidate was unanimously approved by the Senate.

The Chair thanked the Senator and the Committee.

A question was asked from the Senate floor. Is there a limit of only four candidates? There seem to be no nominees from a STEM field. Were there no nominees or no viable candidates?

The Chair indicated that there was a STEM candidate nominated last year and he will be accepting his degree this year. Senator Day added that if anyone knows of any STEM nominees, please send them along to the committee.

The Chair asked if there was any old business. There was none. The Chair asked for any new business, as there was none, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Attendees:

Bron Adam	Francine D'Amico	Margaret Himley
Lois Agnew	John Dannenhoffer	Sharon Hollenback
Susan Albring	Lawrence Davis	Kevin Hundelt
Suzanne Baldwin	Christian Day	Neil Jasper
Thomas Barkley	Susan Dean	Eric Kingson
Crystal Bartolovich	Thom deLara	Rajesh Kumar
Amber Bartosh	Albrecht Diem	Adam Labonoski
Mehrзад Boroujerdi	Craig Dudczak	Elissa Leathers
Lynn Brann	Sana'a El-Amir	Jude Lewis
Patricia Burak	Patti Ford	Andrew London
John Burdick	Rashmi Gangamma	Mary Lovely
Harold Burstyn	Myrna Garcia	Eric Lui
Dana Cloud	Stefano Giannini	Amy Lutz
John Coggiola	Guillermo Guasp-Perez	Sinead Mac Namara
Todd Conover	Roy Gutterman	Celia Madeoy
Kim Cook	Marianne Hanley	Nancy McCracken

Stephanie McReynolds
Suzette Melendez
Mark Monmonier
Laurel Morton
Anne Mosher
Diane Murphy
Amanda Nicholson
Anne Osborne
Susan Parks
James Powers
Kevin Quinn
LaVonda Reed
Jose Marrero Rosado
Karin Ruhlandt
Eileen Schll
Pooja Shah
Tom Sherman
Yutaka Sho
Diksha Shukla
Jeff Stanton
Chancellor Kent Syverud
Derrick Taylor
Margaret Thompson
Maureen Thompson
Robert Van Gulick
Cecilia Van Hollen
Peter Vanable
Michael Wasylenko
Provost Michele Wheatly
Peter Wilcoxon
Chris Wildrick
Jamie Winders