

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SENATE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

2013-14

In accordance with the **Bylaws of the Senate of Syracuse University**, Article IV, Section 6, that the Agenda Committee report to the Senate a summary of its work during the preceding academic year, this report is submitted to the Senate.

During academic 2013-14, the University Senate met on the following dates:

12 September 2013
10 October 2013
7 November 2013
5 December 2013
16 January 2014
13 February 2014
20 March 2014
17 April 2014

On the following pages is a summary of the action taken by the Senate and a brief abstract of the work of its committees. Full committee reports are on file in the Senate Recorder's office.

I. ANNUAL MATTERS

The University Senate recommended to the Board of Trustees the conferring of appropriate degrees on May 11th and 18th, 2014 upon those candidates who qualified for such degrees by Friday, May 9th, 2014 or May 16th, 2014 at 12:00 noon, and upon those students who would complete requirements for degrees at the end of the various summer terms and the fall semester of the 2014-15 academic year.

The University Senate recommended to the Board of Trustees that **David Remnick**, author, journalist, editor of *The New Yorker* magazine be honored with an honorary degree.

The University Senate recommended to the Board of Trustees of Syracuse University that the following retiring faculty members be honored with the title *Emeritus*, to be added to the rank at which they retired:

Steve Cohan, Professor of English
William Ritchie, Professor of linguistics
Thomas McKay, Professor of philosophy
Edward Mooney, Professor of religion and philosophy

(more)

3.

Arts and Sciences, to Professor, cont'd

Steven Diaz
Karen Doherty
Robert Doyle
Carol Faulkner
Timothy Korter
Graham Leuschke
Thomas Perreault
David Popp
Brian Taylor

to Associate Professor

Amanda Brown
Carol Fadda-Conrey
Amy Criss
Gareth Fisher
Stefano Giannini
Jay Hubisz
Amy Kallander
Sharon Kioko
Soren Lowell
Ines Mergel
Herbert Ruffin
Richard Schnee
Jason Wiles

Education

to Professor

Beth Ferri
James Rolling (dual with VPA)

to Associate Professor

Marcelle Haddix
Dawn Johnson

Engineering and Computer Science

to Associate Professor

Rebecca Bader
Jeongmin Ahn
James Henderson

(more)

4.

Promotions, cont'd

Law

to Associate Professor Tara Helfman

Management

to Professor Yildiray Yildirim

to Associate Professor Anna Chernobai

Public Communications

to Professor Melissa Chessher
Stephen Masiclat

Sport and Human Dynamics

to Professor Tanya Horacek

Visual and Performing Arts

to Professor Felix Ivanov

to Associate Professor Juan Juarez
Emily Vey Duke

II. CURRICULUM MATTERS

In addition to 187 new courses and numerous changes in existing courses, the Senate approved the following programs and minors during 2013-14:

College of Arts and Sciences

C.A.S., Medico-legal Death Investigation; C.A.S., Firearm and Toolmark Examination;
C.A.S., Applied Statistics; Minor in Arabic; Ph.D. Concentration in Security Studies

5.

Education

M.S., Literacy Education from Birth to Grade 12; M.S., Teaching English Language Learners, P-12 (1st certification); C.A.S., Media and Education (dual with Public Communications);

Engineering and Computer Science

C.A.S., Environmental Health; M.S., Cybersecurity; B.S./M.S., Bioengineering; B.S./M.S., Chemical Engineering

Public Communications/Engineering and Computer Science

M.S., Computational Journalism

Sport & Human Dynamics

C.A.S., Trauma-informed Practice; B.S., Food Studies; C.A.S., Intercollegiate Athletic Advising and Support; Minor in Mindfulness and Contemplative Studies; Minor in Food Studies

Visual and Performing Arts

5-Year B.Mus./M.B.A., Music Industry; M.Mus., Voice Pedagogy; B.Mus., Sound Recording Technology

University College

Certificate of Professional Studies, Knowledge Management

Various curricular changes in the College of Arts and Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, Sport and Human Dynamics, School of Education, Architecture.

*

III. MOTIONS

Agenda Committee

A motion that the Agenda Committee receive the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Investigate Administrative Policies and Practices and review it before mandating reports from any unit. (Senate approved, 10/9/13)

A motion that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Promotion was appreciated, that they went about it with good will, and that even though many on the Senate felt the work was not complete, that the Senate was appreciative of what they did, and wished to thank the members. A further motion called for administrative support for whatever ad hoc or standing committee took on the task of gathering data about comparison institutions and other matters pertinent to the study of promotion at SU. (Senate approved, 12/4/13)

Two motions by Prof. Van Gulick, as follows:

that the Senate expressed its gratitude to Nancy Cantor for all she had done on behalf of SU and the larger Syracuse community during her time of leadership, and that the Senate wished her success in the next stage of her career;

that the Senate extended a warm welcome to Chancellor designate Kent Syverud, and looked forward to working with him to strengthen the University and its programs in the Syracuse University tradition of collaboration and shared governance. (Senate approved, 12/4/13)

A motion by Prof. Bruce Carter that the Senate expressed its gratitude to Interim Chancellor Eric Spina for his efforts in taking over the Chancellor's Office during the transition period, and wished to tell him that they looked forward to continuing to work with him in the very important work of the University Senate. (Senate approved, 12/4/13)

Committee on Women's Concerns

The Senate approved a motion calling for creation of an ad hoc committee to investigate and act on, and make recommendations re family-friendly and work life balance concerns.

The mover listed lack of adequate child care for faculty, staff, and graduate students, uneven implementation of maternity and parental leave policy across the University, and issues concerning faculty, staff, and students who were primary caregivers, and the need to broaden the University's definition of 'family' as reasons for the motion.

The Senate approved the motion, and the Chairman explained that any such ad hoc committee would be created by the Agenda Committee after careful discussion of the need, and submitted to the full Senate for approval. (Senate approved, 12/4/14)

Committee on Research

A motion endorsing the recommendations outlined in its report, including: an explicit statement in the Faculty Manual, that implementation of research leave policy was college-dependent; that each college's research leave policy documentation should be made readily accessible, and explicitly stated in college bylaws; that the process for review of research leave requests be open and transparent; that the Academic Affairs committee and/or the Vice Chancellor's office should periodically evaluate faculty research leave policies; that research leave policy for faculty members holding appointments in multiple units might require special attention; that the Office of Research develop a plan to create a centralized instrumentation facility, with the assistance of the Committee on Research in development of policy for implementation and usage. (Senate approved, 3/19/14)

7.

Academic Affairs Committee

A motion that the Agenda Committee establish a committee for faculty status resolution (FSR), as follows:

1. Membership shall consist of five tenured faculty members, to be appointed for up to two-year staggered terms by the Subcommittee on Nominations. Each member must hold the minimum rank of associate professor, at least three must be full professors, and no two may be from the same college or school. One alternate shall also be appointed to ensure that the committee always has five members able to vote on each case.

2. The FSR committee shall appeals from the Provost and/or deans of colleges and schools if they wish to overturn ay negative promotion decision by a college or school tenure and promotion committee charged with reviewing the case.

3. The FSR committee will not consider appeals from candidates. (Current practice is that appeals from candidates for promotion shall be reviewed as appropriate by the Senate Committee on Appointment and Promotions on procedural grounds or the Committee on Academic Freedom, Tenure and Professional Ethics on grounds of bias.)

4. After a review of the case, the FSR committee shall vote on a final recommendation to be made to the Board of Trustees. A majority vote of the committee shall determine the recommendation.

If a dean or the Provost disagrees with the decision of the college or school committee on tenure, the dean and/or Provost should explain in person the rationale for the disagreement to the college/school committee. As is current practice in decisions of tenure, the Provost's recommendation is forwarded to the Board of Trustees. In decisions of promotion, if the Provost seeks reversal of the faculty's decision, he or she must meet with the FSR committee to present the rationale for requesting reversal. In promotion cases, the committee shall forward its recommendation directly to the Board of Trustees.

The Senate recognizes that normally the minimum rank for a tenured faculty member is associate professor. In cases in which an affirmative vote of the college/school committee is to grant tenure, it is typical that the rank of associate professor is also recommended. In cases in which the Provost approves tenure for a candidate whose case for tenure and promotion have not both been approved by the college/school committee, if the FSR committee has decided against promotion, he/she will be awarded tenure at the rank of assistant professor professor. Each college and school shall establish specific written procedures for expedited review of cases that require fast decisions due to external offers or other unexpected contingencies. Expedited review may be requested by the relevant dean, and if the school or college is unable to meet the relevant deadlines, the FSR committee may conduct an emergency review.
(Senate approved, 4/16/14)

IV. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The following committees reported on their work. Full reports are on file in the Senate Recorder's office.

The **Committee on Academic Affairs** reported the following names of students who had been selected as SU Scholars for 2014

Timothy Cheng (Public Communications)
 Alysen Demzik (Engineering and Computer Science)
 Dylan Hsu (Arts and Sciences)
 Alison Joy (Public Communications)
 Brittany Legasey (Arts and Sciences)
 Molly Linhorst (Arts and Sciences)
 Isaac Messian (Arts and Sciences)
 Kelsey Monteith (Arts and Sciences)
 Ellen Moore (Arts and Sciences)
 David Wilson (Engineering and Computer Science)
 Zhi Yang (Information Studies)
 Luo Yuxiang (Architecture)

The **Committee on Budget and Fiscal Affairs** reported on the outcome of a dialogue in the Senate about the Big East exit fee, including a compromise consisting of two parts: 1. that Athletics would directly fund 25% of the exit fee over a ten-year period, and 2. an expedited payment schedule should unrestricted revenues from joining ACC exceed expectations.

The committee also reported in January with an overview of the budget, including sources and uses of revenue, and highlighting enrollment, tuition discount rate, salary and fringe benefits, undergraduate financial aid, graduate student financial aid, debt service, and facilities. The committee recommended that the University set a minimum stipend of \$13,000 for full-time graduate teaching/research assistants for FY2015, and that the University provide base budget support for Slutzker Center staffing and operating budgets.

In its April report, the Budget committee reported on enrollment and admissions, RCM, and athletics, with closing thoughts on the arrival of a new administration in the middle of the academic year and its challenges to the Budget committee and the University.

The **Committee on Instruction** reported on its discussions of the Provost's Task Force on Advancing New Pedagogies, highlighting the creation of a Teaching and Learning Center to provide support and resources for innovative projects to improve instruction, Inventory of Innovative Pedagogies, Resources for Pedagogical Innovation, online courses and participation in consortiums, and intellectual Property when faculty develop online courses.

The report of the **Committee on the Library** included a summary of committee work during AY2012-13 and of their discussions during 2013-14 which included: outside review of libraries; library funding; space and renovations.

The **Committee on Research** reported on its work during 2013-14, including its findings regarding faculty research leave policies, comments on the need for a shared centralized instrumentation facility/process, and a list of research-related concerns to be addressed in the long-term, which included: researchers library resource needs; researchers need of shared data sets and more databases; research opportunities for undergraduate students; ramifications of SU's withdrawal from the AAU; need to raise SU's institutional ranking overall and rankings of individual departments, programs, and colleges/schools.

The **Committee on Administrative Operations** reported on its work during February through December of 2013, including discussion of Public Safety, issues to do with the Carrier Dome, SU's Emergency Communications Center (ECC), increased nighttime DPS patrol and investigations supervision, installation of cameras at the entrances and exits of residence halls, parking garages, etc., parking and transit services, including shuttles, Zimride, etc., and a report on campus planning, design and construction projects. The committee also reported that it had done a self-study as requested by the Agenda Committee.

The **Committee on Athletic Policy** reported its work during 2012-13, which included its membership, bylaw change, and guiding principles. The committee reported a visit by Renee Mack Baumgartner, Deputy Athletics Director and Chief of Staff, who spoke about the transition into ACC, Kevin Wall, Director of Student-Athlete Support, who spoke about the Committee's role regarding policies affecting athletes, the NCAA and its position on the academic progress of student-athletes, and a comparison of graduation rates from SU and ACC teams from 2002-2005.

The **Committee on Student Life** reported on its efforts at revitalizing the committee and said that they would be focusing on exploring the various student life concerns and topics in the new academic year.

In addition to their motion (p. 6), the **Committee on Women's Concerns** reported on their activities during 2012-13, which included discussions of childcare and other dependent care, the Early Education & Child Care Center, implementation of maternal/parental leave policy, the initiative to heighten awareness about child sexual abuse, development of a Women's Concerns website, and the Faculty and Staff Wellness Program.

V. RESOLUTIONS

In April, Prof. Paul Hagenloh and Prof. Sarah McCoubrey brought a resolution concerning support for the fossil fuel divestment petition currently in the hands of the Socially Responsible Investment Committee, as follows:

Whereas, the Syracuse University Board of Trustees adopted a Socially Responsible Investment Policy in November 2013, in which it reiterated its commitment to investments that are both profitable and demonstrate good corporate citizenship; and

Whereas, the policy specifies that when members of the University community have concerns about the endowment, a committee will be formed to review the concerns;

Whereas, the SU Student Association as passed a resolution to support divestment of the University's endowment from holdings in the top 200 fossil fuel companies in April 2013, and submitted to the Chancellor and other University officers a formal request that the University divest from fossil fuels per the Socially Responsible Investment Policy procedure; therefore be it

Resolved, that it is the sense of the University Senate that it supports the fossil fuel divestment petition currently in the hands of the Socially Responsible Investment Committee. (Senate approved, 4/16/14)

*

Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns

Resolved, that the University Senate condemns all acts of physical or symbolic violence against those protected specifically in the University's non-discrimination policy, whether targeted toward any individual or group of students, faculty, staff or community members. Such acts of bias are incompatible with our community values of inclusiveness and respect for all. In particular, we condemn the symbolic violence perpetrated in the tearing down of a campus display aimed to raise transgender awareness, which took place on November 13, 2013, just a few days before official Transgender Day of Remembrance for victims of hate crimes that have led to serious injuries and death in the past few years in the city of Syracuse. (Senate approved, 4/16/14)

**

Compiled by Teresa Gilman
University Senate Recorder
9/18/14