

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SENATE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

2014-15

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 2014-15, the University Senate met on the following dates:

10 September 2014
8 October 2014
5 November 2014
3 December 2014
14 January 2015
11 February 2015
18 March 2015
15 April 2015

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 10th and 17th, 2015 upon those candidates who qualified for such degrees by Friday, May 8th, 2015 or May 15th, 2015 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 2015-16 academic year.

The University Senate recommended to the Board of Trustees that the following candidates for honorary degrees be honored at commencement or any other appropriate University event:

Kevin Bell, alumnus, member, Arts and Sciences Board of Visitors, international leader in zoo-based conservation and science programs

Bob Costas, sports journalist, teacher, philanthropist

Charlotte (Chuckie) Holstein, humanitarian, community activist and volunteer, civic leader

Mary Karr, poet, essayist, memoirist, teacher

Dr. Sonia Nieto, multicultural/bilingual educator, scholar, lecturer

Dr. H. Vincent Poor, distinguished teaching scholar, educator, author

Richard Thompson, attorney, philanthropist, retiring chairman, SU Board of Trustees

Kenneth Zeichner, professor of teacher education, author, leader in his field

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:

Walter Broadnax, Distinguished Professor of public administration/international affairs
Marjorie DeVault, Professor of sociology
Jerome Dusek, Professor of psychology
Mary Louise Edwards, Professor of communication science
Jerry Goodisman, Professor of chemistry
Craig Ewart, Professor of psychology
William Hoyer, Professor of psychology
Amy Shrager Lang, Professor of English and humanities
Micere Githae Mugo, Professor of African American studies
Gary Radke, Professor of art and music history
John Russell, Professor of biology
William Starmer, Professor of biology
Joan Deppa, Associate Professor of newspaper communication
Charlotte Grimes, Associate Professor of political reporting
Robert Kucharavy, Professor of Practice, public relations
Gerald Mager, Professor of education
Steven Taylor, Professor of education (posthumous)
Roger De Muth, Professor of art
Carlos Hartmann, Professor of electrical engineering
Philipp Kornreich, Professor of electrical engineering
Dennis Gillen, Associate Professor of management
Richard Ellison, Professor of law
Robert Rabin, Professor of law

The Senate recommended that the following retiring administrators be honored with the title *Emeritus*, to be added to the rank at which they retired:

Melvin Stith, Dean, School of Management
Eric Spina, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

II. CURRICULUM MATTERS

In addition to 134 new courses and numerous changes in existing courses, the Senate approved the following programs and minors during 2014-15:

School of Architecture

Title: Architecture M.Arch I changed to **Architecture M.Arch.**

College of Arts and Sciences

M.A./Ph.D., International Relations/Political Science (Maxwell School)

Chinese Language minor

Revisions in: B.A., Philosophy; B.S., Psychology; B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Religion; M.S.,

Biomedical Forensic Sci., B.S., Comm. Sciences & Disorders.

School of Education

B.A., Mathematics Education 7-12, BA+2

Title: C.A.S., Disabilities Studies changed to C.A.S., **Disability Studies**, with distance learning format added to complement on-campus program

College of Engineering and Computer Science

New: 5-year Dual B.S., Aerospace Engrg./M.S., Energy Systems Engrg.

5-year Dual B.S., Aerospace Engrg./M.S., Mechanical & Aerospace Engrg.

5-year Dual B.S., Mechanical Engrg./M.S., Energy Systems Engrg.

5-year Dual B.S., Mechanical Engrg./M.S., Mechanical and Aerospace Engrg.

5-year Dual B.S./M.S., Civil Engineering

5-year Dual B.S./M.S., Environmental Engineering

Revisions in: B.S., Computer Engrg.; B.S., Env'l Engrg.; M.S., Electrical Engrg.

College of Law

C.A.S., National Security Law and Counterterrorism

B.S./J.D., General Studies in Management and Law

School of Management

B.S., General Accounting for non-C.P.A. students

Title: B.S., Accounting changed to **Professional Accounting**

Revisions in B.S., Entrepreneurship, Finance, General Studies, Marketing, Management, Real Estate, Retail Management, Supply Chain Mgt.; format change in iMBA

College of Sport & Human Dynamics

M.A., Addiction Studies

M.S., Food Studies

Title: M.S., Child & Fam. Health in the Global Community changed to **Global Health**

Title: M.S.W. concentration Individuals, Families and Groups changed to **Advanced Clinical Practice**, and Community, Organization, Policy, Planning and Admin. changed to **Integrated Social Work Practice**

School of Public Communications

M.S., Communication (online format in partnership with 2U, Inc.)

Revisions in: M.A., Magazine, Newspaper, and Online Journalism; B.S., Newspaper and Online Journalism; M.S., Broadcast and Digital Journalism

(more)

4.

Visual and Performing Arts

New: B.F.A., Studio Arts (for nonprofessional artist), B.S., Arts in Context;
B.S., Studio Arts (studio intensive); M.A., Arts in Context – Creative
Leadership; M.F.A., Studio Arts (studio intensive)

Revisions in: B.F.A., Environmental and Interior Des.; Communication Des.; B.F.A.,
Fashion Des.; B.I.D., Industrial & Interaction Des.

III. MOTIONS

In Memoriam

The Senate memorialized Prof. Scott Strickland (10/8/14) and Prof. Sari Biklen (11/5/14) in meetings, and made motions to include the eulogies in the record.

AAUP Centennial Declaration

The Senate moved approval a resolution to affirm and adopt the AAUP Centennial Declaration of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) as part of Syracuse University's guiding principles. (12/3/14)

The Senate approved a motion in support of the efforts of THE General Body to increase diversity, transparency, and shared governance in University practices, and pledged to continue those efforts as part of their own work until concrete measures were taken to achieve those goals to the Senate's satisfaction. (12/3/14)

Committee on Appointment and Promotions

In November, the Senate also approved a motion endorsing the four recommendations concerning modification of promotion procedures and working out a compromise with the Office of Academic Affairs and the faculty, based on the request of the Board of Trustees.

Motion by Prof. Bruce Carter

The Senate approved a motion objecting to the Board of Trustees's May 2014 decision on faculty promotion, which had been in response to the draft of a report rather than the overwhelming April 2014 vote of the Senate regarding tenure and promotion, also reminding the administration and the trustees that they cannot build a great university without the enthusiastic support of current and future faculty. (11/5/14)

Motion by Prof. Crystal Bartolovich

The Senate also approved a motion objecting to the specification which shifts the decision making on promotion to full professor from the faculty to the administration (Vice Chancellor and Chancellor) before being submitted to the Board of Trustees, and respectfully asks the Board of Trustees to reconsider their decision and/or explain their action. (11/5/14)

Motion by Prof. Robert Perreault

In December, the Senate approved a motion applauding the values reflected in the attempt of THE General Body to increase diversity, transparency, and shared governance in University practices and pledged to honor those values in their own work. ((12/3/14)

Committee on Computing Services

In October, the Senate approved a motion endorsing the Committee's recommendation to encourage SU to proceed with the selection and appointment of an ADA Coordinator, whose duties would include overseeing campus-wide compliance with the ADA and Rehabilitation Act, procurement of accessible digital media and web content, as well as accessibility of web-based digital content. (10/8/14)

Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Concerns

The Senate approved a resolution calling for creation of collaboration between curricular and co-curricular departments, focusing on addressing instances of offensive speech in and out of the classroom, inclusion of LGBTQ advocates on working groups, committees, and other initiatives focused on campus diversity, and that the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics should work with the Committee and other appropriate University departments to revisit the recommendations with attention to establishment of mandatory anti-harassing training for all coaches, staff and athletic personnel; creation of a meaningful ally program for student athletes, and development explicit anti-harassment/anti-homophobia policy for athletes, coaches, and referees with set consequences for violations. (10/5/14)

Vice Chancellor Search Committee

In April, the Senate voted to approve a motion that a search committee comprised of the following persons be constituted and charged to search for a new Provost/Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs:

Faculty

Jean-Francois Bedard (Architecture)
Tej Bhatia (Arts and Sciences)
Keith Bybee (Law/Maxwell)
Charles Driscoll (Engineering and Computer Science)
Alejandro Garcia (Sport & Human Dynamics)
Ian MacInnes (Information Studies)
Christina Marchetti (Arts and Sciences)

Academic Dean

Lorraine Branham (Public Communications)

Staff

Gwenn Judge (Budget and Planning)

Graduate Student

Patrick Neary (Arts and Sciences)

Undergraduate

TBD

Trustee

Jim Breuer
Pat Mautino

Committee on Research

In April, the Senate approved a motion supporting the recommendations of the Committee, which called for establishment of an Office of Undergraduate Research & Scholarship, develop mechanisms for publicizing research opportunities for undergraduates and showcasing their work, allocation of funds to support undergraduate research, synchronization of undergraduate curricula with research opportunities, and formulation of tools to assess learning outcomes of undergraduates involved in research. (4/15/15)

Committee on Budget and Fiscal Affairs

In April also, the Senate approved a motion endorsing the Committee's recommendations, including that budget information for schools/colleges be provided in the secure websites hosted by the Office of Budget and Planning, as previously planned; that RCM methodologies for taxes, details of indirect cost assessment of schools/college, and tuition allocation percentages be reviewed; that in the long term Athletics be required to have a balanced budget and revenue-neutral operation; that wage increase rates and headcount changes (cf., Bain report) be reported for all SU employee groups, including faculty; that the RCM training program initiated by the Budget office be continued. (4/15/15)

*

IV. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The following committees reported their work. Full reports are available 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 2015

Maryann Akinboyewa (Arts and Sciences/Management)
 Brooke Baerman (Arts and Sciences)
 Matthew Fernandes (Arts and Sciences/Public Communications)
 Alex Ganes (Visual and Performing Arts)
 Jonathan Lee (Arts and Sciences/Information Studies)
 Elizabeth McMahan (Arts and Sciences)
 Natalie Rebeyev (Arts and Sciences)
 Elliott Russell (Arts and Sciences/Engineering and Computer Science)
 Bo Stewart (Arts and Sciences)
 Emily Tucci (Engineering and Computer Science)
 Kristin Weeks (Arts and Sciences)
 Mark Zlotzky (Architecture)

The committee also reported on its discussions of the promotion and tenure process, including meeting with the Board of Trustees regarding its decision on the promotion and tenure process, and the discussion of a university-wide committee to advise the Provost on promotion and tenure cases. The committee reported its review of the review of the Professor of Practice category, announcing that they would be bringing motions calling for new language in the Faculty Manual to the Senate in the fall. It further reported on the selection process for faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, its work with the Strategic Planning Working Group (int'l prog. support), proposed changes to the faculty/staff immigration process, review of academic unit changes in VPA, and meeting with Agenda Cme. re: the VCAA search.

The **Committee on Appointment and Promotions** reported their discussion of the duties of the committee since the Board of Trustees-mandated change in the promotion policy. The report included concerns they had with implementation of the Trustees's May 2014 decision, including its responsibility for ensuring that college/school procedures conform to University policy, and the likelihood of increased grievances being filed on procedural grounds, as candidates for tenure and promotion had had to indicate their intention before the Trustees's decision was issued, and departmental/school review had begun before the revisions required by the Trustees's decision was in place, and thus the committee brought a motion re: the modification of procedures and working out a compromise with the Office of Academic Affairs.

The **Committee on Budget and Fiscal Affairs** reported in December on the Bain review, and three areas the Chancellor had asked them to look at, viz., RCM, enrollment, and athletic, and the subcommittees they had appointed to focus on each one. The committee reported again in April that, though the Budget office had not provided budget data on salary or tuition increases or operating budgets as it had in the past, it did provide budget data for schools and colleges in FY2014, which indicated that the unrestricted portions of the FY2014 actual carryover balances for several schools/colleges had decreased. The report said that in FY2014 almost all schools/colleges showed positive unrestricted and restricted carryover balances that varied widely, that funding of the Strategic Plan and meeting near term budget challenges might be difficult in some cases, and that in the absence of information sharing and budget transparency the recent exercise of 10-20% staff reduction had become a source of anxiety in the S.U. community. The report included 5 recommendations (see Motions, p. 7).

The **Committee on Computing Services** reported on a study they had done on the legal responsibility to accommodate disabled members of the University community and what SU was doing to comply with ADA requirements, including assistive information technology and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0). The report included a motion recommending policy on accessibility of web-based content (see Motions, p. 5).

The **Committee on the Library** reported that it had focused on outside review, resources, removal of bound periodicals from shelves to an off-campus facility, improvement of communication, all-university access to facilities, and the library dean search. The report pointed out that as a congressionally-designated depository for U.S. government documents, the Law Library was required to provide public access, that the committee had received numerous complaints of having been denied entrance, and that the policy needed to be reviewed. The committee reported that the library's progress continued to be impeded by shortfalls in operating, that the problem was structural (i.e., insufficiencies totaling \$3.3M, or 15% of the 2015 budget), and that the only the central administration could choose to resolve it. The committee also reported that they had been alerted to serious concerns from various units on campus, especially the School of Architecture, about the Migration Project (i.e., movement of bound periodicals to a storage facility), and questioned the reason for such a major project being announced at the last minute, pointing out objections to the way the move was being handled, from the libraries and the Architecture students, as a clear problem in communication.

The **Committee on Research** reported its work, which had focused on undergraduate research across schools/colleges, and how the various schools/colleges were engaged in enhancing the experience, including discovery of whether there were best practices or successful strategies or barriers faced by faculty. The committee raised three questions: 1. If you involve undergraduates in research projects, how and why do you do so? what kind of tasks do you assign them? 2. What are some successful strategies? 3. What are some barriers? The committee surveyed colleges/schools, and several units responded (Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Education, Engineering and Computer Science, Sport & Human Dynamics, Information Studies, Maxwell School, Whitman School), and the report included a summary of results. The report included a list of lingering questions (e.g., what constitutes undergraduate research, from STEM fields to the humanities to the social sciences and professions? should all or only a portion of undergraduates participate in research? what are the expected outcomes? who should be responsible for oversight?), and appended the 1994 report to the Senate on undergraduate research.

The **Committee on Women's Concerns** reported on its 2013-14 work, as well as a summary of areas they intended to focus on in the coming year, e.g., the climate for women on campus, monitoring Title IX implementation at SU, the support of students impacted by sexual violence, folding the broad issue of work/life balance into the charge to the Committee on Services to the Faculty and Staff, continued work on a proposal for an ombuds program at SU, investigation of course offerings to assess how pervasive the lack of women's voices is in the curriculum, committee outreach to the SU community.

* *