Committee Reports

Fall Plenary Meeting
SUNY Delhi
October 19-21, 2017
Committee Charge
The Committee on Diversity and Cultural Competence will concern itself with issues pertaining to equity, inclusiveness and access, as they are reflected in the curriculum, student body, and personnel of the State University. Among the activities of this committee will be collecting and disseminating information, organizing periodic meetings and workshops, and providing guidance and recommendations to the Senate so that it may act with the best intentions of all people in mind.

Committee Members
Chair: Timothy W. Gerken, Morrisville State College (gerkentw@Morrisville.edu)
Timothy Chevral, Rachelann Copland, Sherri Darrow, Dana Haugh, Mary Irving, Jill Locascio, Gloria Lopez, Carlos Medina, Yvonne Nathan, Laura Pierie, Danna Prather, Ronald Saletsky, Justin Waryold, Pam Wolfskill,

Summary of Actions Since Previous Plenary

1. The committee met at the Fall Planning Meeting. The committee has two significant projects it will focus on during this academic year.
   a. The first is a response to the Operations Committee Report on Gender and Ethnic Composition of SUNY Faculty 1995-2015. A sub-committee was formed with members from the Operations Committee and the Graduate and Research Committee. A draft document titled SUNY 2017 was shared with Chancellor Johnson. This document suggests a plan to develop faculty from within.
   b. The second is described in #2 below.
2. Wrote, submitted, and awarded a CID proposal for developing and assessing diversity learning outcomes. The CID was held on 10/6/17 with over 20 participants (8 from the EID). I have submitted a proposal for a roundtable presentation at the SUNY Diversity Conference to present information and gather more ideas and suggestions. The goal is for the committee to write a Best Practices guide to present at the Fall 2018 Plenary.
3. Two resolutions were presented to the Executive Committee.
4. The Chair has worked SUNY ODEI to develop and promote the 2017 SUNY Diversity Conference.
5. The Chair was appointed to the Chancellor’s Diversity Advisory Council.
Outcomes for consideration at the plenary and to share with their campus

1. Consider whether your campus continuing appointment and promotion procedures support or hinder the SUNY Excel Goals of Access, Completion, Success, Inquiry, and Engagement. In the BOT’s Resolution of January 2015 on the Excel Performance plan there is this “Note that while Diversity is explicitly identified as a metric in Access, we will be seeking out and tracking inclusive excellence across metrics in all five priority areas.” How is your campus addressing “inclusive excellence”? Campus tenure and promotion processes that over emphasize scholarly achievement—or in the language of the Excel’s metric “Inquiry”—and do not give equal weight to the other four measures are not living up to this BOT resolution nor the BOT resolution on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from September 2015. I encourage you to meet with your colleagues, your Campus Governance Leaders, and your campus leadership and begin to develop continuing appointment procedures and promotion procedures that live up to and support SUNY’s goal of “inclusive excellence.” Support your faculty and staff who support SUNY’s mission.

(You may also want to refer to the SUNY page on compensation which defines academic rank and of the 10 qualifications only one focuses on publishing)
https://www.suny.edu/hr/compensation/unclassified/other/academic-rank-titles/

2. Work with your campus governance organization to endorse the resolutions passed at the plenary and let us know how your campus responds to these resolutions/endorsements.
Committee on Ethics and Institutional Integrity
Carlie Phipps (SUNY Polytechnic), Chair
Fall Plenary October 19-21, SUNY Delhi
October 20, 2017

Committee Charge
The committee will study and make recommendations to the SUNY University Faculty Senate President regarding issues of professional behavior, ethical conduct and institutional integrity as they relate to faculty, students, administrators and other personnel in SUNY and higher education. The committee will gather information and serve as a resource for the Senate and the University. The Committee will not serve as a disciplinary body nor will it take part in judicial proceedings. The Committee’s area of activity and interest will be quite broad and will include but not be limited to the following areas as they pertain to the State University of New York: Curriculum, Academic honesty, Research, scholarship and creative activity, Instructional, institutional and operational policies and practices, Personal integrity, Electronic communication, Confidentiality, Use of university resources, Conflicts of interest and commitment, Financial transactions, Impact on the environment, Hiring and admissions practices.

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Summary of committee actions since previous plenary
The committee agenda for the year is to: 1) develop a white paper on privacy in the campus environment (see below), 2) to develop a white paper on the use and implementation of ethics guidelines in formulating policies, and a resolution on the use of ethics assessments.

Outcomes for consideration at the plenary
Attached is a white paper on privacy to be introduced for acceptance at the winter plenary. The purpose of this paper is to be used as principles for campuses to use in formulating and updating privacy policies, particularly policies regarding electronic privacy and social media use.

Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus
The committee would welcome any feedback on this document prior to the winter plenary.

Looking into Privacy for SUNY Faculty Senate Ethics Committee
Andrew Fitz-Gibbon, Professor and Chair of Philosophy, SUNY Cortland
**What is Privacy?**

Privacy as a concept and practice is extremely complex. There is no consensus among legal theorists or ethicists. Daniel Solove says that privacy “is a plurality of different things and ... the quest for a singular essence of privacy leads to a dead end. There is no overarching conception of privacy...” (2008, ix). The primary difficulty, then, before the question can be answered with regard to who is due privacy and to what extent, is in knowing what we mean by privacy. Privacy is clearly among the foremost of liberal values, and it was not until the modern period, with the birth of the nation state and industrialization, that the notion of a difference between private and public domains began to make sense (Wacks 2015, 35, 37).

However, most people have an intuitive sense that privacy is valuable. Wacks says that privacy “stakes out a sphere for creativity, psychological well-being, and our ability to love, forge social relationships, and promote trust, intimacy and friendship (38).”

The Fourth Amendment to the US Constitution reads:

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

The Amendment casts a glance toward privacy in its notion of unwarranted intrusion and security of person. However, its tenor suggests its meaning is limited to search and seizure by the government or its agents.

Though not applicable in the United States, it is interesting to consider The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). It states:

(1) Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence

(2) There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others. (Wacks 2015, 66)

The problem with both the Fourth Amendment and the ECHR is that the exceptions to the right are so non-specific and vague that almost any reason might be found to override the right of privacy. In effect, the ECHR can mean, “You have a right of privacy, but not in this instance because ...”

After analyzing the pertinent scholarship, Solove suggests that privacy may be classified into six general types:

(1) The right to be left alone—Samuel Warren and Louis Brandeis’s famous 1890 formulation of the right to privacy;

(2) Limited access to the self—the ability to shield oneself from unwarranted access by others;

(3) Secrecy—the concealment of certain matters from others;

(4) Control over personal information—the ability to exercise control over information about oneself;

(5) Personhood—the protection of one’s personality, individuality, and dignity

(6) Intimacy—control over, or limited access to, one’s intimate relationship or aspects of life (2008, 12-38).
Though privacy is difficult to define, it is likely that the above six classifications share enough of a “family resemblance” such that each makes sense as an area where privacy is important. In other words, these are the kinds of things we are talking about when we speak of privacy.

Public or Private Domain?
Privacy only makes sense when we can be clear that there are such things as private and public domains, and that to speak of such domains also makes sense.
In SUNY, as a public university, working on public property, with public funding, clearly we are not within the private realm.
However, even in a public space, such as SUNY, aspects of individuality and personality cannot be subsumed under the banner of the public nature of the institution. These include, at the very least, the personal right to privacy with regard to bathrooms. It may include too, the right to privacy when an office door is closed, indicating that the occupant does not want to be disturbed. That personal information (age, sexual orientation, racial self-identity, marital and family status, medical history) be kept private, and not open to public view, seems clear. Many instances exist where privacy ought to be respected, such as telephone conversations and conversations between colleagues. Electronic communications are more problematic. As SUNY is a public institution, are all emails sent from a SUNY computer using SUNY servers, public and not private? What about a personal computer using SUNY servers?

Privacy and Ethics
To be sure the legal implications are many and complex, and we leave these to the lawyers. Below is an ethical perspective on privacy. In what sense, then, can an ethical case be made for privacy within SUNY?
Moral philosophers have offered a number of broad ways to think about ethics. The utilitarian approach—to base decisions on the most happiness for the greatest number—is not likely helpful with regard to the problem of SUNY and privacy. Utilitarianism requires a utility calculation (always difficult to do) and with a subject as amorphous as privacy would prove impossible.
More helpful would be a consideration of one form of Kantian deontology. Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) gave us a way of thinking about ethics that is based on duties that are owed in any situation, by any person, at any time, irrespective of circumstances; in other words, ethical imperatives are universalizable. He called the moral rule “the categorical imperative.”
In his Grundlegung, Kant suggests a number of formulations of the categorical imperative. The third formulation reads, “Act in such a way that you treat humanity, whether in your own person or in that of another, always at the same time as an end and never merely as a means” (1993, 43). The implication of this is that all of us within SUNY, if we are to be treated in an ethical manner, ought to be treated with respect as “an end” and not merely as a means to some other end. If SUNY, as an institution, merely uses its employees to its own end, rather than respecting each individual employee, such is ethically problematic. Respecting the privacy of people is part of the general duty of respect.
Often Kantian deontology is used to formulate rules that have the characteristics of the categorical imperative, for example, “never tell lies.” However, the problem with using Kant in that way is that the unbreakable rules almost always have counter examples where the ethical
choice would be to break the rule! A more helpful way is to use Kant’s categorical imperative as a universal principle, to be applied in different situations in differing ways. Thus, the general principle of respecting people, derived from the third formulation, ought always to be the case. There is never a case for not respecting people. This might be called a principlist approach such as taken by medical ethicists Tom L. Beauchamp and James F. Childress (2009). They suggest that there are four *prima facie* ethical principles that ought to be applied in every situation:

(a) Respect for autonomy  
(b) Nonmaleficence (the non-harm principle)  
(c) Beneficence (doing good) and  
(d) Justice.  

With regard to privacy and SUNY, it seems clear that employees ought always to have their autonomy respected, that breaches of privacy ought not be allowed that cause harm, and that the institution ought to follow the principle of justice as fairness with regard to all.  

John Stuart Mill (1806-1873) in his *On Liberty* explicates the the non-harm principle:  

The principle is that the sole end for which mankind are warranted, individually or collectively, in interfering with the liberty of action of any of their number is self-protection. That the only purpose for which power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilized community, against his will, is to prevent harm to others. (1978, 9)  

This has clear bearing on respecting the privacy of all members of SUNY. Breaches of privacy that cause harm to employees are ethically problematic.  

**Conclusion**  

We live in a world where electronic databases and communications devices allow for civic authorities to learn deep details about us when we transgress legal boundaries, and where marketers learn intimate facts about our activities and preferences. We are subject to the use or mis-use of information that we more-or-less voluntarily submit as part of purchases, applications, etc. Given these compromises, we still hope and expect to enjoy some privileges of privacy in our daily lives. Just because an institution is able to breach those boundaries without technically acting illegally, that does not mean that it is just or morally admissible. Wacks (2015) states the "The knowledge that our activities are, even may be, monitored undermines our psychological and emotional autonomy" (p. 10).  

**References**  

Governance Committee  
Chair: Kelley J. Donaghy  
177th Fall Plenary at SUNY Delhi  
October 19-21, 2017

Committee Charge:
The Committee shall concern itself with University-wide governance and shall provide guidance on matters of campus governance. The Committee shall interact with local governance leaders of the University. The Committee shall undertake a comprehensive review of the Governance Handbook every 4 years.

Committee Members:
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Summary of Committee Actions since Previous Plenary:
The primary order of business since the spring plenary was to set our annual agenda.

The AY 2017/2018 Governance Committee Agenda is to:
1. Review the section in the bylaws that pertains to nominations and elections
2. Produce a best practices/guidelines document for administrative searches
3. Revise and update the Bylaws and Procedures for the UFS
4. Review and revise the Governance Handbook
5. Work with SUNY Council on Assessment (SCOA) as they prepare a rubric for the assessment of shared governance
6. Write a resolution requesting a process for verifying that new programs and sunsetting of old programs have gone through campus governance bodies (the often requested “governance sign off”) - This is being considered in collaboration with the undergraduate committee.
7. Research and consider options for SUNY Counsel to provide legal advice to UFS and to local governance bodies
8. Investigate the practicalities and logistics of holding a SUNY Advocacy in Albany (re: Smoke free campuses)

Committee Meetings/Conference Calls to date
Fall Planning Meeting - September 14 and 15, 2017 in Syracuse
Conference Call - October 11th

Meetings Planned
Monthly conference calls
Two face-to-face meetings, one in January and one in May.

**Deliverables for consideration at this plenary** (numbering refers to the agenda item listed above)

Item #1. Nominations and Elections Bylaws Changes
The governance committee has put forth two motions with suggested bylaws changes for consideration of the body:
The first motion requests that time be allotted at plenaries at which elections are to be held to hear the candidates for officer positions to answer questions from the body. This process will be overseen by the nominating committee.
The second motion clarifies the teller’s report question when multiple candidates are on the ballot and what to do in case of a tie. This motion codifies past practice and provides guidance so that such decisions do not need to be made on the fly by those running the elections.

**Outcomes/Queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus** (numbering refers to the agenda item listed above)

Item #2. Administrative Searches, Best Practices
In investigating and looking at what others have done with respect to administrative searches we have come across a resource for campus bodies already needing guidelines and best practices information. We will develop our own set of these specific to SUNY and we will work with the new chancellor and provost to ensure we have administrative support for them broadly, but in the meantime this book may serve as a resource: “Search Committees: A Comprehensive Guide to Successful Faculty, Staff, and Administrative Searches,” Christopher D. Lee, Edna B., Chun, and Kathleen Dyson, 2014.

Item #3. UFS Bylaws and Procedures
All committee chairs have been asked to review their committees mission statement. A survey has gone out to past and present; presidents, vice presidents and parliamentarians to ask them where they thought the bylaws/procedures had holes and
where they were too restrictive. Please feel free to email the Governance Committee Chair with your own thoughts on these at kdonaghy@esf.edu.

Item #7.

A concern was raised about access of our local senates to the services and legal counsel from SUNY University Counsel. On one campus, legal counsel was sought by the local senate and SUNY Counsel made clear that university counsel does not work for local senates; they work for and represent the administration of the campus (presidents/provosts/vice presidents) but not for the campus governance leaders and/or the local senates. The committee has asked the UFS President (1) to clarify the role of SUNY counsel with respect to the UFS and (2) to inquire if local campus senates are entitled to the same services.
Committee Charge
The Committee serves as a source of professional advice and guidance to the Senate on matters relating to the quality, operation, and encouragement of graduate programs and research. To these ends, the Committee may be concerned with the procedures, criteria, and support of existing and new graduate programs within the University. The Committee may review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and graduate studies and other matters involving the furtherance of research and graduate studies within the University.

Committee Members
Sylwia Starnawska (ESC), Diane Gal (ESC), Rohin Mehta (Upstate), Annie Rohan (Stony Brook), Ira Blader (UB), Helen Durkin (Downstate), Katherine Thweatt (Oswego), Fred Walter (Stony Brook), Shirley Girouard (Downstate), Michael Wilking (Stony Brook), Julie London (Delhi), Kathleen Caggiano-Siino (SUNY RF), Ann Hawkins (System Admin), Nicole Pereira (Student)

Summary of committee actions since previous plenary
The Committee met to discuss the 2017-2018 agenda in Syracuse on September 14 and 15, 2017. Since that time the committee has had several robust email exchanges on several of the new agenda items and met once on a conference call on October 6, 2017.

Items under consideration in 2017-2018
Graduate Incentive Program. The incentive program to award graduate students who submit NIH F30 and F31 grants has been de-funded by the RF. The Committee will assess the program and write a final report by the end of the academic year.
Graduate Student Research Conference. The Committee discussed the goals of the conference and decided to explore alternate ways of attaining those goals. Concepts include: promotion of significant graduate research accomplishments, travel grants tied to legislative visits, alternate ways to promote cross-pollination between disciplines, identification and promotion of students whose research might inform policy-makers, topical/focused conference(s) instead of a broad cross-disciplinary conference.
Part-time Assistantships. We will be following-up on the April 2017 UFS resolution meant to remove any obstacles in the way of granting graduate assistantships to part-time graduate students.
Research at Comprehensive/Tech Sector. Vice Chancellor Wang initiated a conference call with faculty representatives from the comp and tech sectors back in May to discuss research. Those on the call seemed to corroborate what our committee survey of SUNY faculty previously
found—demands on faculty time and the lack of collaborative opportunities are important
deterrents for comprehensive and tech sector faculty to doing more research. The Committee
will start by looking at how research and scholarship are defined in the tech and comprehensive
sectors. We will also review the report from Richard Burke form a few years back that also
examined this topic. The Committee hopes to suggest remedies to any problems uncovered.

*Post-Docs.* A resolution from Graduate and Research made it to the UFS meeting in April, but it
was sent back to committee. The resolution does not appear to be widely supported, so it will
not be re-introduced at this time. The goal of attracting and retaining high quality post-docs to
SUNY remains on the Committee’s agenda, so work will continue.

*Pipeline for a Diverse Faculty.* We have formed a subcommittee with the Equity, Inclusion and
Diversity and the Operations Committees on how to move URM students through the SUNY
education/research system all the way (hopefully0 to faculty positions.

*Committee Charge.* The committee has reviewed its charge. A new draft charge has been
developed and is being discussed with Executive Committee.

**Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus**
The committee is starting to explore Interprofessional Education (IPE) at SUNY. Please forward
any concerns about IPE policy, procedure, and practice on your campuses (primarily, but not
limited to, the Health Science Sector)
Committee Charge
The Committee shall generate relevant reports and recommendations for the University and its institutions concerning: the development and administration of budgets, strategic planning, and operations; matters related to libraries, educational technology, and forms of instructional delivery; and, personnel policies, as they pertain to budget, operations, diversity, equity, affirmative action and delivery of a high quality SUNY education.

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Summary of committee actions since previous plenary
The Operations Committee developed the following actions agenda for 2017-18 at the Fall Planning meeting in Syracuse:

1. Action Items:
   i. Revisit Broad-Based Fees 2016-17 review and revise resolution for presentation at Fall 2017 Plenary
   ii. Develop resolution on Academic Advisement Related to Financial Aid Information/Impact for presentation at Fall 2017 Plenary
   iii. Conduct a review of the Composition of Administration to explore changes over time at SUNY campuses and issue report
   iv. Conduct a SUNY enrollment analysis related to selectivity and enrollment trends from 2000 to present
v. Participate in UFS sub-committee that will develop recommendations for actions in response to the Composition of Faculty report the Operations presented last year

2. Under review for possible action:
   i. Investigate if there is a need to enhance communication/understanding related to SUNY Inventors under the recently revised BOT Patent and Inventions Policy
   ii. Determine if it is possible for SUNY Budget Office to develop a budgeting information brief on budgeting best practices for CGLs to share with their campus governance bodies
   iii. Referred issue of IPE (Interprofessional Education) to Executive Board to see if another UFS entity should be charged with reviewing this issue
      1. Definition of Interprofessional Education: Interprofessional education involves educators and learners from 2 or more health professions and their foundational disciplines who jointly create and foster a collaborative learning environment. The goal of these efforts is to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes that result in interprofessional team behaviors and competence. Ideally, interprofessional education is incorporated throughout the entire curriculum in a vertically and horizontally integrated fashion. (Definition from CAIPE and the AACP Council of Faculties Interprofessional Education Task Force, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2720355/)

The committee had a conference call on September 17, 2017 and finalized two resolutions for presentation at the Fall 2017 Plenary.

The committee cancelled a conference call scheduled for 10/4/17, as data had not yet been made available to the committee for analysis and sub-committees had not met to work on their charges.

The committee will be meeting monthly (via phone and email) throughout the academic year. The next two conference calls are scheduled for 11/17/17 and 12/8/17.

Outcomes for consideration at the plenary
   1. Recommendation to Consider Impact of Broad-Based Fee Increases resolution
   2. Recommendations for Academic Advisers Related to Financial Aid resolution

Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus
None
Committee Charge
The Committee promotes the educational and scholarly interests of SUNY faculty through the development and strengthening of University-wide programs, grants, and awards

Committee Members 2017-2018

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Summary of committee actions since previous plenary

- Provost Cartwright approved the following three-part resolution on Distinguished Professors and Librarians passed at the Spring Plenary:
  
  **Be it Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate recommends that the criteria for nominations for all four Distinguished Professor ranks should read: “should arise from faculty members and/or students and/or administrators”; and

  **Be it Further Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate recommends that a Local Selection Committee for Distinguished Professor be specified in the nomination criteria to “include faculty who have considerable seniority and have demonstrated excellence in scholarship and/or creative activity”; and

  **Be It Further Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate supports other changes to the
Policies and Procedures for Distinguished Faculty Ranks that are recommended by the Programs and Awards Committees.

- Provost Cartwright, after opposition from some campus presidents, did not approve the following three-part resolution on Distinguished Professors and Librarians passed at the Spring Plenary:

  **Be It Resolved** that the University Faculty Senate recommends that the criteria for promotion to distinguished professorships be revised to read: “Candidates for all four Distinguished Professorship Ranks must have held the rank of Professor or Librarian for at least five years and must have at least three years of full-time service at the nominating institution, and must have completed at least ten years of full-time service in the State University of New York.”

- The Provost distributed the 2017-2019 Policies and Procedures for Distinguished Professorships Nominations as clarified and revised by the Programs and Awards Committee with particular attention to the Distinguished Librarian section.

- The Committee reviewed 20 proposals for Conversations in the Disciplines for 2017-2018 and granted 13 awards. The Committee was gratified that its revised and clarified guidelines and the administrative support of Kris Bendikas resulted in a stronger pool, quantitatively and qualitatively, of proposals.

**Outcomes for consideration at the plenary**

Review Committee Goals for 2017-2018

At the Fall Planning Meeting and on Conference Call discussed **Distinguished Awards:**

- Working with the Provost’s Office on the implementation of the Spring Plenary resolutions in the **Distinguished Professors** Policies and Procedures for 2017-2019
- Working with the Provost’s Office on the final wording of the **Distinguished Professors** Policies and Procedures for 2017-2019
- Designating a member of P&A with one of the **Distinguished Professor** ranks act as a liaison with the Distinguished Academy

At the Fall Planning Meeting and on Conference Call discussed **Chancellor’s Awards**

- Review of the Chancellor’s Awards Policies and Procedures for 2018-2020
- Should the term ‘Clinical Faculty’ extend beyond the health centers and medical schools?
- Should the required “three years of full time academic appointment” be at the nominating institution?
- Should the provision that disqualifies those who have been promoted in the last 1 year from being nominated for the **CA in Professional Service** exist?
• Adding a stipulation that patterns of grading should be reported for the Excellence in Adjunct Teaching award, as they are for the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching
• Review Policies and Procedures for the SUNY Shared Governance Award for 2018-2020
• At the Planning meeting discussed
• Discuss the definition of shared governance award
• Discuss the issue of favoring a long record of shared governance or a major event

At the Planning meeting discussed: Conversations in the Disciplines Program

• Increasing funding level for Conversations in the Disciplines
• Review of the Conversations in the Disciplines Program Application and Criteria 2018-2019
• Adding ‘Impact’ to the directions reflecting that it is on the checklist
• Deleting a confusing recuse statement
• Working for an early distribution of the guidelines and overseeing their broad distribution

Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus

• Please be sure that your campus is aware that the deadline for receipt of the Shared Governance Award nominations for academic year 2017-2018 is Tuesday, November 21, 2017
• Please be sure that your campus is aware that the deadline for receipt of Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Adjunct Teaching nominations for academic year 2017-2018 is Monday, November 13, 2017
• Please be sure that your campus is aware that the deadline for receipt of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Faculty Service, Librarianship, Professional Service, Scholarship and Creative Activities, and Teaching for academic year 2017-2018 is Tuesday, February 20, 2018.
Committee Charge
The Committee will be concerned with significant educational, developmental, social, cultural and recreational policies, programs, issues and services that affect the quality of student life and the campus environment of the State University of New York.

Committee Members 2017-2018

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Summary of committee actions for the past year and projects for current year

1. One subcommittee was investigating food accessibility-related issues, including access to foods based on allergies, lifestyle (e.g. vegan), and religion (e.g. kosher or halal); access to foods that are culturally relevant; and physical access to food for students for a variety of reasons. Because of the scope of the issue, this is being split into two subcommittees for the 2017-18 academic year. One will focus on food insecurity issues that many of our students face. The other will focus on food accessibility issues related to religious needs, dietary needs, etc.

2. A subcommittee was reviewing existing material and making recommendations of best practices to faculty and staff on addressing issues related to sexual violence. This will go beyond the compliance issues that we all have to be aware of. In 2017-18 this subcommittee will look at all violence and abuse, but still with an emphasis on sexual violence.
3. A subcommittee was following-up on UFS resolution 172-01-1 “Resolution Recommending the SUNY-wide Implementation of Chosen Name and Gender Identity Applications on the Registration, Email, ID cards, and other Identification Systems”. We wanted to make certain that this issue is being discussed on campuses regardless of the speed of system. In 2017-18 a subcommittee will be examining the issues more specifically about chosen names on rosters, LMSs, and ID cards.

4. The Committee has a draft version of a report on hazing and bullying. One subcommittee was working last year to finalize this document and will continue this year to update the report with more current data.

5. Fostering Collaboration Between Academic & Student Affairs Professionals - Workshop. The Workshop data from November 13-14, 2015 shows that it was successful. Jan attended the Council of Chief Student Affairs Officers meeting October 24-25, 2016 in Buffalo. At that meeting, it was decided that the Workshop should be repeated on a triennial basis for now. This means that 2017-18 will be a planning year with the next Fostering Collaborations Workshop to be held in Fall 2018. Jan will meet with the Chief Student Affairs Officers on October 17, 2018 to verify this and then planning will begin.

6. The Committee has reviewed a proposed training module for use by faculty and staff across the system and support its implementation.

7. The Committee reviewed a proposal from SUNY SA Military Affairs Committee and its Rules Committee concerning that military drills and trainings be explicitly added to excused absences across SUNY. A preliminary resolution was brought to the Executive Committee, but it did not include the final approved resolution from the SUNY Student Assembly. At the Spring UFS Plenary it was decided that the resolution be pulled. The Resolution was completed at the Fall Planning Meeting to be presented at the UFS Fall 2018 Plenary.

8. Jan participated in two conference calls concerning the SUNY Mental Health Task Force in February and April 2017. The meeting brought attention to a SUNY-wide Mental Resiliency Conference to be held at Onondaga Community College April 27, 2018.

9. Jan attended the FCCC Spring Plenary at SUNY Broome Community College on March 30 – April 1, 2017, as liaison from UFS SLC to the FCCC Academic and Student Affairs Committee. In return, Anne Ruszkiewicz, a committee member from Sullivan County Community College, will be the FCCC A&SAC liaison to the UFS Student Life Committee.

Outcomes for consideration at the plenary
Please examine our resolution calling for military drills and exercises to be considered excusable absences.

Outcomes/queries for UFS Senators to share with their campus
We hope that the senators and CGLs will freely bring the agenda of the Student Life Committee to the attention of their campus to begin local discussions on these topics.
Committee Charge:

The Committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Faculty Senate on matters relating to undergraduate programs and policies throughout the University. To these ends, the Committee may review such areas as existing and proposed curricula, standards for academic degrees, undergraduate academic assessment, teaching techniques and evaluation, special undergraduate programs, articulation among units of State University of New York and the various aspects of international education and development.

Committee Members:

David Allen (Maritime), Kristopher Baker (Rockland CC), Mary (Molly) Frame (Stony Brook), Mario Freamat (Morrisville), Norman Goodman (Stony Brook), Wendy Gordon (Plattsburgh), Martin Kaczocha (Stony Brook), Dan Knox (System Administration), Maria Lima (Geneseo), Gohar Marikyan (Empire State), Deborah Moeckel (System Administration), Janet Nepkie (Oneonta), Elise Newkirk-Kotfila (System Administration), Anastasia Pratt (Empire State), Ronald Sarner (SUNY-Poly), Vrinda Sharma (Student Assembly), Barat Wolfe (Canton).

Summary of Committee Actions Since Previous Plenary:

I. Completion of inventory of campus General Education requirements. A draft was distributed at the Spring Plenary and additions/corrections were made on the basis of comments received.

II. Agenda for AY 2017-18
   1. Applied Learning: Status report on the role of governance (Wendy Gordon – Chair, Molly Frame, Barat Wolfe, David Allen)
   2. General Education: Detail what other systems/campuses are requiring (Norm Goodman – Chair, Maria Lima, Wendy Gordon, Barat Wolfe)
   3. Attestation: Mechanism to verify governance participation in campus academic submissions to System Administration (Janet Nepkie – Chair, Norm Goodman)
   4. Review SED definition of Liberal Arts courses (Janet Nepkie – Chair, Maria Lima, Anastasia Pratt)
   5. Intelligent Advising: Using Predictive Analytics in Course Selection (Ronald Sarner – Chair, Kristopher Baker, Martin Kaczocha)
   6. Timing of Awards: should University-wide student academic awards by granted earlier (Martin Kaczocha – Chair, Molly Frame)
   7. Open Education Resources: Ensuring continued faculty control of course materials while working to lower costs to students – joint with FCCC (Kristopher Baker – Chair,
Outcomes for Consideration at the Plenary:

None for this meeting.

Outcomes/Queries for Senators to Share with their Campus:

I. Are there concerns on your campus regarding the adoption of Open Educational Resources? To the extent that OER materials have been adopted, have faculty retained control over the selection of course materials? Are faculty in control of the decision to turn a course into an OER course? Please communicate answers directly to Kris Baker (kbaker@sunyrockland.edu), with copies to Mario Freamat (freamamv@morrisville.edu) and Anastasia Pratt (anastasia.pratt@esc.edu).

II. Is there any activity on your campus with respect to offering microcredentials, and if so, are there microcredentials that also accrue academic credit? What is the involvement of faculty in the decision to offer such programs and in the award of academic credit? Please communicate answers directly to David Allen (dallen@sunymaritime.edu) with a copy to Gohar Marikyan (gohar.marikyan@esc.edu).