

April 2006

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 3, 2006

1. Senator Spiggle officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of April 3, 2006 to order at 4:05 pm in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.

2. Approval of minutes

Senator Spiggle presented the minutes from the regular meeting of March 13, 2006 for review.

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Report of the Provost

Senator Nichols updated the Senate on the following items: Legislation for the building plan has been drafted in the Connecticut legislature, the bill looks promising, and will provide for appropriate oversight at UCONN; NEASC accreditation is underway and a first draft of the self-study will be available by September for distribution to faculty and staff (this will also be available on the NEASC webpage).

Search updates: a national search is underway for replacing Chief Operating Officer Linda Flaherty-Goldsmith. Richard Schwab is chairing the search. Barry Feldman of West Hartford will be appointed as the interim COO. Update on the current Dean searches: Law School search committee has been formed. Vice Provost Singha and Dean W. Hunter have been appointed co-chairs with an aim towards completion in summer/fall of this year; since Dean W. Hunter is leaving the Business School, an interim will be appointed during the search; Dean L. Dzurec of the School of Nursing will step down and a national search will be conducted next year; the search for Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School is underway under the chairmanship of Senator and Dean R. McCarthy. The Provost requested Senator McCarthy provide a brief update. Senator McCarthy stated he anticipates a short list of candidates will be invited for a short interview as a segue to a longer interview and visit to campus this summer.

4. Report of the Senate Executive Committee was presented by Senator Kendall.

(See Attachment #36)

Senator Kendall's report included a special presentation of gratitude for Chief Operating Officer Linda Flaherty-Goldsmith, who responded with a warm thank you.

5. Senator Kendall presented a motion on electronic voting:

(See Attachment #37)

Motion: All future University Senate elections will be carried out using electronic notification, ballots, and tallying procedures.

Background: Approximately 20-25 University Senate elections per year are currently carried out by paper ballot. Ballots are prepared by the Senate Office, mailed to voters' campus addresses, and are counted by hand by appointed tellers. Over the course of the last several months the Senate Executive Committee has guided the development of an electronic election process with the assistance of the ad hoc Committee to Explore Electronic Voting. This has involved the development and application of the appropriate computer programs to ensure ballot authenticity, confidentiality, and an accurate and efficiently managed election process. Several mock elections were run, feedback from voters was solicited, and the ballot format and voting instructions refined in response to suggestions for

improvement. Subsequently, pilot Senate elections were carried out and several advantages over paper ballots have already become evident.

Senator Kendall provided detailed information on the coding strategy for eligible voters that will ensure ballot authenticity and obviate redundant votes.

Senator Lowe asked if voters could be tracked with the new system. Senator Kendall answered the system tracks if an eligible voter has placed a vote, but does not report who they voted for.

Senator Sacco asked if there an override was in place if there is an electronic problem. Senator Kendall responded the Senate could return to the use of paper ballots if electronic ballots were not possible for some electronic reason.

Senator Sanner expressed concern regarding employee access to computers. Senator Kendall commented that one can vote off-campus through internet access. University policy states email is an official form of communication of the university and encourages all staff and faculty to check email on a regular basis for email notifications. This proposed process is in-line with these University guidelines. Those without access or concerned about notification are encouraged to visit the Senate office for support. Senator Kendall commented on a previously identified concern that not everyone at UCONN has an email account. The Senate has not been able to identify anyone eligible to vote that has not been issued an email address. Again, Senator Kendall reiterated that if this does present an issue, those individuals may contact the Senate office for assistance in voting.

Senator Lowe provided comic relief by suggesting the Senate should vote on this motion electronically.

The motion carried.

6. Report of the Curricula & Courses Committee was presented by Senator Jeffers.

(See Attachment #38)

- I. New 100s level courses.

The committee recommends approval of :

- A. ANSC 193 Foreign Studies in Animal Science

Proposed New Cat Copy:

ANSC 193 Foreign Studies in Animal Science. Either semester. Variable credits (1-15).

Variable topics. Hours by arrangement. May be repeated for credit. Open only with consent of instructor.

The motion carried.

- II. Change to 100 level courses:

None

- III. Reported for information of Senate: Change to existing W skill category course:

- A. JOUR213W Magazine Journalism Change of prerequisite and catalog description

Exist Cat Copy: JOUR 213W

Magazine Journalism. Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: JOUR201; ENGL105 or 110 or 111 or 250. Recommended preparation: JOUR 212W Students research report and write, for publication, a magazine-length non-fiction article.

Revised Cat Copy: JOUR 213W

Magazine Journalism. Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: JOUR201; ENGL105 or 110 or 111 or 250. Survey of magazine journalism examining different forms of periodicals and their operation, from mission to final product. Students research, report and write for various publications.

IV. Reported for information of Senate: Changes to 200s Open to Sophomores

- A. ANSC 216 Principles of Nutrition and Feeding of Animals.
Change title to: Principles of Animal Nutrition
- B. ANSC 293 Foreign Studies in Animal Science new course , open to sophomores
Proposed New Cat Copy:
ANSC 293 Foreign Studies in Animal Science. Either semester. Variable credits (1-15).
Variable topics. Hours by arrangement. May be repeated for credit. Open only with consent of instructor. Open to sophomores or higher.
- C. BME 211 Introduction to Biomedical Engineering
Change in prerequisites
Changing the Pre-requisites from: Prerequisite: BIOL 107 and Corequisite: PHYS 151Q and MATH 210Q to Corequisite: MATH 116Q and Recommended Preparation: BIOL 107

V. New General Education courses forwarded from GEOC:

The Curricula & Courses Committee moves that the University Senate approve the following courses for the General Education Curriculum:

A. Content Area 1 (Arts and Humanities):

CLCS 1XXW Languages and Cultures
INTD 170 Honors Core: Walden, A History

The motion carried.

B. Content Area 2 (Social Science):

ANTH 102 Great Discoveries in Archaeology
ECON 107 Honors Core: Economies, Nature, and the Environment

The motion carried.

C. Content Area 4 (Diversity and Multiculturalism):

May be used to satisfy the International requirement:

ANTH 102 Great Discoveries in Archaeology
CLCS 1XXW Languages and Cultures

The motion carried.

D. For the information of the Senate, courses for inclusion in the W skill code:

CLCS 1XXW Languages and Cultures
ECON 249W Economic Growth

HIST 283W Hispanic World in the Ages of Reason and Revolution
 NURS 175W End of Life: A Multicultural Experience
 POLS 2XXW Arab-Israeli Conflict

E. For the information of the Senate, courses for inclusion in the Q skill code:

CDIS 1XXQ Applied Sound Science

F. For the information of the Senate, the following courses were recently added to the GEOC list of courses approved for teaching in the intersession:

1. The following courses have been approved for teaching in the Intersession:

HIST 108 Modern World History

2. The following courses have been given provisional approval for teaching in the Intersession:

ANTH 106 Introduction to Anthropology

CDIS 150 Communication Disorders

FREN 169 Studies in the French-Speaking World

FREN 171 French Cinema

NUSC 165 Fundamentals of Nutrition

VII. Action from GEOC on six department rule

Motion: The General Education Guidelines (*PART A - I: Content Areas*) should be changed as follows

Current language

a. The Content Area courses in Groups One, Two, and Three must be taken in six different academic units. Content Area courses may be counted toward the major.

New language

a. The Content Area courses in Groups One, Two, and Three must be taken in six different academic units.* Content Area courses may be counted toward the major.

*A student will be permitted to use two courses from the same department within content areas one through three if one of those courses is cross-listed in another academic unit not otherwise used to meet this requirement.

The Senate discussed the wording of the motion and if it was in alignment with the original intention. **Senator Sweet moved to return the motion to the committee.**

The motion to return the motion to the committee carried.

Senator Jeffers reminded Senators that departments need to get their course renumbering changes ready for the full implementation of the new course numbering system.

7. Report of the Scholastic Standards Committee was presented by Senator Moiseff.

(See Attachment #39)

Senator Moiseff presented a proposal to revise the procedures for reviewing new INTD courses for comment from the Senate, with the intention of voting on it at the May 1, 2006 Senate meeting.

8. Annual Report of the University Budget Committee was presented by Senator Holsinger.
(See Attachment #40)
9. Annual Report of the Provost's Commission on the Status of Women was presented by Senator Spiggle.
(See Attachment #41)
10. Semi-Annual Report of the Building & Grounds Committee was presented by Senator Flaherty-Goldsmith.
(See Attachment #42)

L. Flaherty-Goldsmith stated Arjona/Monteith was originally funded for \$60 million but the amount needed to replace the facility and build classrooms, etc is \$85 million. This does not replace the current space each faculty member has but does provide space to meet the needs of those operations in the plan for those buildings. The problem UConn now faces is how to reallocate the remainder. The Building & Grounds Committee will be confirming the space-planning portion of the budget allocation. By June, this committee will resolve where the funding is to come from, followed by design of the facility. Another project is the Law School façade. The state bonding authority will not step in to obtain the \$12 million needed to get that fixed. In state proposals, funding has not been provided. Negotiations with the original contractors are underway in lieu of obtaining bond funds. An update on the town center project was provided, with details of relocation and swing space for several offices, including the Office of International Affairs. In addition, two Fine Arts departments will most likely move to the Depot Campus where the Department of Technical Services currently is, which will also move. Swing space is a continuous problem in all of these transitions. The old warehouse may provide two additional floors and provide swing space for some of the TLS activities. No decisions have been made as of yet, but this facility may meet some of the needs of TLS and swing space to give enough money for UCONN 2000 to renovate TLS. The Master Plan has been drafted for review and goes to the Board of Trustees on April 11 (thanks to the efforts of Karla Fox). Deferred maintenance (DM) at UConn is under review by an external company. A plan must be in place for the Storrs campus for maintenance and facilities infrastructure. The review by the external company will advise B&G how much money should be allocated. A fire alarm update will be done this summer across campus.

Senator Faghri asked whether this is all part of UCONN 2000 or UCONN 21st Century. Senator Flaherty-Goldsmith responded that there were three phases of UCONN 2000; some of what we call UCONN 21st century is phase three. Senator Faghri asked what are we are doing to plan for these future endeavors since no planning was in place prior to UCONN 2000. Specifically what part of UCONN 21st Century is to be used for DM and equipment, startup packages etc. Senator Flaherty-Goldsmith responded that in phases 1-3 there was a line item for DM, and a separate line item for equipment and telecommunications. The latter includes startups and the former is only for DM. However, if B&G identifies a need for another \$25 million for Arjona and \$12 million for the Law School, something will need to be cut. Planning will need to be completed before B&G can fully allocate UCONN 21st Century funds to individual projects.

11. Report of the Vice Provost for Research & Graduate Education (VPRGE) and Dean of the Graduate School was verbally presented by Senator Anderson.

Senator Anderson stated his hopes this will be the first in several reports to share information between the various councils and the Senate. The Graduate Faculty Council and executive committee were established in 1988. The Research Foundation was established in 1945 by legislative mandate. Graduate Faculty Council consists of elected members from all fields of study at UConn and has ~60 members who meet 2-3 times a semester. The Chief Operating Officer is the President and passes duties to the VPRGE. Issues presented to the graduate council and executive committee are funneled through the VPRGE and Associate Vice Provost Jim Henkel and include curricular issues and approvals, review of new degree programs, graduate faculty status,

committee and students problems, recruiting graduate students, postdoctoral issues, insurance for graduate students, housing, National Research Council ranking of graduate programs, diversity plans and outstanding scholar awards. The Research Advisory Council (RAC) serves the interests of the Research Foundation with 12 members representing the diversity of programs on campus. The RAC deals with policy development and implementation as well as allocation of funds among grants and travel.

Senator Wagner asked about the fundraising efforts for the foundation with respect to the dearth of fellowships and awards on campus. Senator Anderson responded that yes, this should be brought to the council.

12. Report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Senator DeWolf for a vote at the May 1st meeting of the Senate.

(See Attachment #43)

13. Unfinished business – none.

14. New Business – none.

15. There was a motion to adjourn.

The motion was approved by a standing vote of the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Please note: The Annual Activities Report of the Provost's Library Advisory Committee is available on the Senate's website, but was not verbally presented at the April 3, 2006 Senate meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel J. O'Neill,
Senate Secretary

The following members and alternates were absent from the April 3, 2006 meeting:

Altobello, Marilyn
Anderson, Thomas
Aronson, Lorraine
Austin, Philip
Bergman, Theodore
Boyer, Mark
Bramble, Pamela
Bull, Nancy
Burton, Aaron
Callahan, Thomas
Clausen, John
Dashefsky, Arnold
Domoff, Sarah

Evanovich, M. Dolan
Franklin, Brinley
Gianutsos, Gerald
Glenn, Wendy
Holzworth, R.J.
Humphreys, Nancy
Hunter, William
Jevitts, John
Majumdar, Suman
Morrill, R. Brooke
Muirhead, Deborah
Ndoye, Abdou
Ogrean, Tracy

Palmer, David
Ratcliff, Kathryn
Roe, Shirley
Simmons, Robin
Smith, Erling
Sopcak, Amy
Stwalley, William
Taylor, Ronald
Thorson, Robert
Williams, Michelle
Zinn, Steven