

April 2007

Minutes April 30, 2007

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 30, 2007

1. Moderator Murphy officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of April 30, 2007 to order at 4:03 PM in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.

2. Approval of the minutes

Moderator Murphy presented the minutes from the regular meeting of March 26, 2007 for review.

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Report of the President

President Austin reported on the status of the university's budget which is currently before the State Legislature. President Austin stated he believes that the university will receive between \$4.5 and \$6.0 million in additional funds for student financial aid. President Austin reaffirmed his commitment to provide the funds necessary to provide a university education to those who need and deserve it. The Eminent Faculty Program and the Entrepreneurship Program appear to be fairing well in the budget process as the state committees have increased the allotments for them from the amounts specified in the Governor's budget proposal.

President Austin mentioned that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), which is the university's accreditation agency, has provided the university with a draft report generated from the recent site visit. In many ways the report echoes the Self Study document that was generated by the University. The report is laudatory with the exception of repeated reference to inadequate numbers of faculty to support our mission. The report has yet to be submitted to NEASC's formal approval procedures, but it will most likely remain essentially as it now stands.

The President announced that he would prefer to leave his post in September but stated that if the Board of Trustees cannot appoint a new President by then he has agreed to remain until December to avoid the specter of an interim president. President Austin thanked the various constituencies on campus for their support and asked that the same sort of support be extended to his successor.

Senator Clausen inquired if the university was slowing in commitment to diversity training on campus. The President replied that he has asked members of his administration to provide a report on this subject. He then introduced Vice Provost for Multicultural and International Affairs Ronald Taylor who in turn introduced Dana Mcgee, Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity. She stated that the majority of university senior staff have participated in diversity training and that there has been prepared a curriculum addressing diversity training for the remaining constituent elements of the campus. What has fallen short is the delivery. There was an attempt at using volunteers to provide training but it was not successful. There have also been two staff members who were designated as trainers, but the feedback concerning the effectiveness of this approach was not positive and it too was discontinued. The search for a delivery mechanism for diversity training continues. There is an attempt to avoid the hiring of an outside commercial company to provide the training, although that is an option often taken at other institutions.

Senator Mannheim asked if a joint program with other state universities was possible. Director Mcgee responded that this was an excellent idea and stated that most of the smaller institutions have had to use commercial vendors for this training and might be amenable to such a suggestion.

4. Senator DeWolf presented the Report of the Senate Executive Committee.

(See Attachment #43)

5. Senator DeWolf yielded the floor to Senator Clausen who yielded to Senator Hiskes. Senator Hiskes recognized the special contributions of John DeWolf to the Senate and extended the thanks of the Senate for his service as Chair of the Senate Executive Committee.

Senator Hiskes read the following statement: "Given that this is the last Senate meeting of the 2006-07 academic year, it is appropriate at this time to recognize the special contributions of John DeWolf to the University and the University Senate. On behalf of the University Senate and the Senate Executive Committee, I want to extend our most sincere thanks to John DeWolf for serving as the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee during this academic year. There are many good reasons why John is repeatedly elected to serve in this important position, and I will mention only a few. It would be hard to find an individual who has a broader understanding of the organic functioning of the University as a whole, or who is better able to integrate and balance the interests of students, faculty, administrators, and staff in advancing the mission of the university. I continue to be impressed with John's ability and grace in keeping discussions among faculty on track and on time while still allowing everyone have his/her say on important issues (and this is no small talent where faculty are concerned). We are especially grateful for the contributions that John has made and will make as the University engages in the search for a new President. Please join me in thanking John DeWolf."

The statement was endorsed by a round of applause by the Senate.

6. Senator Hiskes then relinquished the floor to Senator Clausen who proposed a resolution thanking Dr. Karla Fox for her work on the NEASC accreditation review.

"Resolution

Whereas, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) has as its primary purpose the accreditation of educational institutions; and

Whereas, the University of Connecticut's 10 year self study and review was scheduled for 2007; and

Whereas, Dr. Karla H. Fox, Professor of Business Law, was appointed by the President and Provost to be Chair of the NEASC Re-accreditation Steering Committee in 2003, and pulled together the self-study from each of the eleven standard sub-committees;

Resolved, that the Senate would like to express its appreciation to Professor Fox for her leadership, hard work, and dedication in the NEASC re-accreditation review."

The resolution was adopted with applause by the Senate. Senator Clausen yielded the floor to Senator Gary English.

7. Senator English spoke in praise of the vision and leadership provided by President Austin during his term and offered thanks to President Austin for his role in the transformation of the university during the eleven years of his tenure.

(See Attachment #44)

Senator English then presented the following resolution:

"Resolution:

Whereas, the University Senate of the University of Connecticut acknowledges the many contributions of President Phil Austin to the growth and development of the university, and,

Whereas, the Senate recognizes the personal commitment and outstanding leadership exhibited by President Austin over the last eleven years,

Be it Resolved, that the University Senate wishes to express its deepest gratitude to President Austin for his vision, his discipline, integrity, intellectual honesty and his openness and his commitment to shared governance which has brought so many benefits to the university, its students, faculty, administration and staff, and to the State of Connecticut.”

The Senate adopted the resolution with a standing ovation.

8. Ronald Schurin presented the results of the recently completed National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) recertification. He explained the various components of the process and related each of the standards outlined by the NCAA. He then reviewed the results of the self-study, and the findings and recommendations of the recertification panel

(See Attachment #45)

Senator Mannheim inquired if the university had a rule concerning how much time a student athlete may spend on athletics versus the amount of time spent on academics. Ronald Schurin replied that the figure is 20 hours per week maximum for athletics.

9. Senator Makowsky presented the Annual Report of the Regional Campuses.

(See Attachment #46)

She outlined the areas of emphasis for each campus and discussed the strengths of the regional campuses. She then outlined her efforts at integrating the Regional Campuses with Storrs and with each other to strengthen the programs in both areas. Some areas have already been integrated with Storrs: Facilities, Libraries, and Buildings and Grounds. Other attempts at integration are on-going in academic programs, research, instruction, and outreach, student affairs, and enrollment management. Senator Mannheim pointed out that if money is returned to the Deans that there should be a representative in the Dean's offices looking out for the welfare of the regional campuses. Senator Makowsky agreed.

10. Senator Michael Darre presented the Annual Report of the University Commencement Committee.

(See Attachment #47)

Senator Marone inquired if a closed circuit television option could be made available for those guests who would like to attend the ceremonies but cannot get tickets. The problem, Senator Darre stated, is that there really are not big spaces with seats available, but that investigations are continuing.

Senator Broadbent asked if thought had been given to moving graduation outside to Renschler Field. Senator Darre said that this has been considered.

Senator Mannheim pointed out that the old stadium is still standing. Senator Darre responded that it was not available.

11. Senator Makowsky presented the report of the Work/Life Oversight Committee.

(See Attachment #48)

Senator Schaefer expressed concerns regarding the report advocating the need of a work/life coordinator. This would be another position and would inhibit the university from hiring additional faculty members. Discussion ensued with advocates on both sides.

12. Richard Langlois presented the Annual Report of the Provost's Library Advisory Committee.

(See Attachment #49)

13. Senator Fox presented the Annual Report of the Parking Advisory Committee.

(See Attachment #50)

Senator Mannheim inquired if the committee had considered changing the structure of the parking fees from one that is based both on the proximity of the parking to the center of campus and the salary of the parker to one based only on location. Senator Fox replied that the committee had considered this and rejected the idea. She explained the underpinnings of the fee system and outlined how it was devised.

Senator Lowe asked if the committee would extend the sticker only parking in the core of campus from 4:00 to 7:00. Senator Fox responded that it had been extended to 5:00 but that further considerations could be made.

Senator Strausbaugh offered that parking for those teaching in the evenings is difficult and asked if access to other parking areas could be offered for those staff. Senator Fox re-stated that this issue may be revisited in the future.

Senator Mannheim suggested that additional areas should be opened later in the day.

Senator Tuchman asked if the committee had considered the new pedestrian safety interventions. Senator Fox re-affirmed that review of these policies and procedures should be on-going.

14. Senator Boyer presented the Report of the Faculty Standards Committee containing a Resolution on University-wide Tenure.

(See Attachment #51)

Senator Schulz asked for clarification concerning what problem the resolution solves. Senator Boyer responded that policies and procedures across campus are not evenly applied and even that many department heads do not seem to understand that memoranda of understandings presently are sometimes negotiated between administration and faculty.

Senator Mannheim asked how this interfaces with Senator Makowsky's report and whether hires at regional campuses would have to have memoranda of understanding and appointment letters generated at Storrs. Senator Makowsky pointed out that this is already the case.

Senator Zirakzadeh asked if the wider faculty rather than only the Senate might also be included in the discussion urged by this resolution. The response was that this issue was not central to the discussion of the faculty.

Senator Bramble pointed out that these memoranda do not only exist at regional campuses but also at Storrs, particularly as related to joint appointments.

Senator Boyer stated the Faculty Standards Committee does not at this point endorse memoranda of understanding but sees this resolution only as an educational process.

Senator Eby offered that some changes in wording that might clarify the resolution and **moved to amend the resolution as follows:**

Resolved, That the Senate strongly urges the University administration to lead a discussion with all Deans, Directors, and Department Heads about the ~~possibility of crafting~~ **circumstances and implications of crafting** "memoranda of understanding" and/or appointment letters that reflect ~~the particular~~ **any unique** duties and expectations of individual faculty under their supervision. We request that the administration report back to the Senate by January 2008.

The motion to amend failed.

Senator Nicholls offered that this resolution essentially asks the administration to begin a discussion. He stated that it is his intention to do this anyway and so the resolution may be moot.

Senator Schaefer offered that the last sentence of the resolution was the most important part of the resolution. He suggested that the report that would be generated in January 2008 would be referred back to the Faculty Standards Committee for further action.

Senator Bramble offered that there are administrators and department heads that are not aware that memoranda of understanding could be written in the first place.

The original resolution carried without dissent.

Senator Boyer pointed out that revised PTR forms are on the committee's website. He described the changes—most of which he deemed “clarifications” rather than changes to the procedures themselves—and invited members of the Senate to offer comments on them before they are again taken up for passage in the fall.

15. Senator Moiseff presented the Report of the Scholastic Standards Committee.

(See Attachment #52)

The Senate engaged in spirited discussion on the pros and cons of the motion to revise section II.E.11 on Class Attendance Section in the by-laws.

Senator Bansal moved to close debate.

The motion to close debate failed.

Senator Clausen moved to suspend the rules. He then withdrew his motion.

Senator Ratcliff moved to table the motion.

The motion to table carried.

For the information of the Senate: the Senate Scholastic Standards Committee has approved S/U grading for the following courses:

SOCI 295 Internship: Field Experience (v)
 INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: Learning in the Discipline (1 credit)
 INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: Enhancing Academic Achievement (1 credit)
 INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: “Communicating Biology” (2 credits)
 INTD 298 Special Topics: Issues in Higher Education/PA2SS Peer Mentor Program (1 credit)
 INTD 298 Special Topics: Peer Advisement Program (Student Support Services) (2 credits)

16. Senator Jeffers presented the Report of the Curricula and Courses Committee.

(See Attachment #53)

- a. The Committee recommends approval to add the following 100-level course:

1. AH 105: Introduction to Karate
 Catalog copy: Introduction to Karate. One credit. Either semester. Introduction to the techniques and philosophy of traditional Shotokan karate.

The motion carried.

- b. The Committee recommends approval to prerequisite changes for the following Chemistry courses:

1. CHEM 124Q Fundamentals of General Chemistry I
Current copy: Either semester. Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Not open to students who have passed CHEM 122, 127Q, 129Q, or 130Q. Recommended preparation: MATH 101 or equivalent.

Revised copy: Either semester. Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Not open to students who have passed CHEM 127Q, 129Q, or 137Q. Recommended preparation: MATH 104Q, MATH 101, or equivalent.
2. CHEM 125Q Fundamentals of General Chemistry II
Current copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: CHEM 124Q. Two class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Open by consent of instructor for only 1 credit to students who have passed CHEM 122 with high standing or who have passed 127Q, 129Q, or 137Q. Not open to students who have passed CHEM 128Q, 130Q, or 138Q. Follows CHEM 124Q.

Revised copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: CHEM 124Q. Two class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Open by consent of instructor for only 1 credit to students who have passed CHEM 127Q, 129Q, or 137Q. Not open to students who have passed CHEM 128Q, 130Q, or 138Q. Follows CHEM 124Q.
3. CHEM 127Q-128Q General Chemistry
Current copy: Either semester. Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Students who have passed CHEM 122 will receive only 2 credits for CHEM 127 but 4 credits will be used for calculating the GPA. Very high standing in CHEM 122 may substitute for CHEM 127 with the consent of instructor. CHEM 127 is not open....

Revised copy: Either semester. Four credits. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory period. Students who have passed CHEM 122 will receive only 2 credits for CHEM 127 but 4 credits will be used for calculating the GPA. CHEM 127 is not open...

The motion carried.

- c. The Committee recommends approval to prerequisite changes for the following English course:

1. ENGL 130 Introduction to Shakespeare
Current copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250. Students may not receive credit for both ENGL 130 and 230 or 230W.

Revised copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 110, 111 or 250.

The motion carried.

- d. Interdepartmental Special topics courses for approval to offer with topic title and credits as indicated. The Committee recommends approval of:

1. INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: Section Title: Learning in the Discipline 1 credit
2. INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: Enhancing Academic Achievement 1 credit
3. INTD 196 Special Topics Seminar: Communicating Biology 2 credits

The motion carried.

- e. For the information of the Senate, reported here are 200 Level courses open to sophomore with the changes noted. The INTD special topics courses are approved for the title indicated:
1. ENGL 230/W Shakespeare I
Current copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 110 or 111 or 250 or both 105 and 109. Open to sophomores or higher. Students may not receive credit for both ENGL 130 and 230 or 230W.

Revised copy: Either semester. Three credits. Prerequisite: ENGL 110 or 111 or 250. Open to sophomores or higher.
 2. CHEM 243 Organic Chemistry
Current copy: Either semester. Three credits. (Two credits for students who have passed CHEM 141.) Prerequisite: CHEM 126 or 128 or 130 or 138. Introduction...

Revised copy: Either semester. Three credits. (Two credits for student who have passed CHEM 141.) Prerequisite: CHEM 128 or 130 or 138. Corequisite: CHEM 126Q. Introduction...
 3. INTD 241 Introduction to Diversity Studies in American Culture (3 credits, rather than 4 credits previously approved)
 4. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Career Planning (Stamford Campus) (1 credit)
 5. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Issues in Higher Education/PA²SS Peer Mentor Program (1 credit)
 6. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Peer Advisement Program (Student Support Services) (2 credits)
 7. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Tutoring Principles for Quantitative Learning (1 credit)
 8. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Asian American Mentoring & Leadership (3 credits)
 9. INTD 298 Special Topics: Section Title: Queer Studies in an Interdisciplinary Approach (3 credits)
- f. New General Education courses forwarded from GEOC: The Committee recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in the W competency:
1. ENGL 235W Reading the American City
 2. HDFS 205W Understanding Research Methods in HDFS (change in credits from 3 to 4 credits)
 3. HIST 243W Colonial America: 1492-1760
 4. HIST 248W Topics in U.S. Legal History
 5. PSYC 250W Current Topics in Clinical Psychology

The motion carried.

14. Senator Bansal presented the Report of the Nominating Committee.

(See Attachment #54)

- a. The Nominating Committee moved the approval of the 2007/2008 standing committee membership slate as shown on Attachment #55.

(See Attachment #55)

The motion carried.

- b. The Nominating Committee moved Hedley Freake to membership on the General Education Oversight Committee, term ending June 30, 2008.

The motion carried.

- c. The Nominating Committee moved Niloy Dutta, Jane Goldman, Felicia Pratto, and John Troyer to membership on the General Education Oversight Committee, term ending June 30, 2009.

The motion carried.

15. New Business – none.

16. There was a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting adjourned 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert F. Miller
Senate Secretary

The following members and alternates were absent from the April 30, 2007 meeting:

Allison, Peter
Anderson, Greg
Aronson, Lorraine
Becker, Loftus
Bergman, Theodore
Bull, Nancy
Chambers, Kim
Croteau, Maureen
D'Alleva, Anne
Engel, Gerald
Evanovich, M. Dolan

Facchinetti, Neil
Feldman, Barry
Freake, Hedley
Gianutsos, Gerald
Gramling, Lawrence
Hart, Ian
Hightower, Lawrence
Holzworth, R.J.
Jain, Faquir
Kaufman, Douglas
Kendall, Debra

Myers, Kathryn
Ravishanker, Nalini
Sanchez, Lisa
Schwab, Richard
Scruggs, Lyle
Simmons, Robin
Thorpe, Judith
VanHeest, Jaci
von Munkwitz-Smith
Wagner, David