

March 2007

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
March 26, 2007

1. Moderator Murphy officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of March 26, 2007 to order at 4:01 PM in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.
2. Approval of the minutes

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

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Report of the Provost

Provost Nichols commented on the academic plan and reported that there has been good discussion and feedback concerning the plan. Discussion groups of faculty are being formed to concentrate on the implementation of the plan. These discussions will take place in a series of colloquia.

Provost Nicholls discussed the status of the several Dean's searches that are ongoing. The search for the Law School is complete. Jeremy Paul has been appointed. The interviews for the Dean of the School of Business have been completed and an announcement will be forthcoming. The searches for Engineering, Nursing, and Social Work are in the interview phase. Provost Nicholls thanked the search committees for their work and commented on the high quality of the applicants we have been able to attract.

Provost Nicholls entertained questions. Senator Schaeffer stated the library staff has announced that it will soon begin deaccession of books due to a lack of space. He commented that UITS has storage space in the basement and the Roper Center has announced they will be moving to the third floor of the Babbage Library. Senator Schaeffer asked if there is not room for books in the library, how the departments can be accommodated? Provost Nicholls replied that he would make inquiries and provide answers to Senator Schaeffer in the near future.

4. Senator DeWolf presented the Report of the Senate Executive Committee.
(See Attachment # 37)
5. Senator Anderson presented the Annual Report of the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School.
(See Attachment # 38)

Senator Anderson entertained questions from the Senate. Senator Zirakzadeh inquired about the structure of the reports delivered by Senator Anderson, indicating that perhaps more meaningful headings for data reporting might be provided. Senator Anderson responded that the divisions by which the report is organized are determined by the sub-committees of

the Research Advisory Committee. This is consistent with the report formats from previous years.

Senator Eby inquired about the travel funds available to faculty. Senator Anderson stated that he had polled his colleagues at other institutions and concluded that the support offered to University of Connecticut faculty compares favorably with our peers and that in fact our support is greater than that offered to faculty members at other comparable institutions.

Senator Anderson made further comments and explanations concerning indirect cost calculations and reporting. He mentioned that the Graduate Faculty Council received a detailed report on this topic.

Senator Anderson reported that the Academic Plan has been reviewed and analyzed by the Graduate School and the Graduate Faculty Council and recommendations were made to the Provost.

Senator Anderson discussed the NRC surveys of graduate programs, thanking faculty for their participation and asking for further cooperation as the process continues.

Senator Anderson commented on minority graduate student recruitment. He noted that new faculty who have been given that responsibility, combined with existing faculty and administration have been “spectacularly successful” in bringing minority students to the University to examine our programs.

Senator Faustman asked how start-up packages are formulated and specifically, what portion comes from central administration and what portion from other sources? Senator Anderson replied that it is very complicated and it has been changing. Start-up packages are now generally funded by the Provost’s office and the Deans, with help from the VPRGE’s indirect cost/overhead funds. Provost Nicholls added that in the past it has been coming almost entirely from bond funds and the Provost’s office. The difficulty has been that each of these seemingly separate funds actually consisted of bond money. In a recent year when bond funds were reduced this led to difficulty in putting together start-up packages, so new solutions are being sought to reduce reliance on bonded money.

Senator Frank inquired about the way expenditures are reported in the VPRGE’s report specifically, are expenditures reported by department or by center if a faculty member is a member of a research center. Senator Anderson replied that they are reported separately. Responding to a follow-up question concerning reportage when there are co-P.I.’s, Anderson responded that in these cases a major P.I. is identified and the funds are credited to that department.

6. Barry Feldman, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer presented a verbal report on the activities of the Building and Grounds Committee and the Capital Projects Planning Advisory Committee.

Senator Feldman reported on new signage on North Eagleville Road and the efforts to improve lighting there. There are plans to hire a landscape designer and traffic engineer this summer to look for further ways to improve safety along that thoroughfare and indeed

throughout the campus.

Senator Feldman stated planning continues for the new Torrey/Gant replacement building. Design should be in process by 2008, with an architect selected and beginning work, followed by approximately 24 months of construction, so the building should open in the summer of 2010. The project is on schedule. In addition, the stem cell research building is also in process and will probably open about 2010, and the landfill remediation continues.

Senator Feldman outlined how the governor's new budget will affect UConn 21st Century. The governor's proposal extends the program by one year, to 2016, but reduces the bonding cap each year to compensate. While there are some advantages to this plan, it may also cause some cash flow problems in the future. Solutions to these problems are in discussion.

7. Senator Bull presented the Annual Report of University Budget Committee.
(See Attachment # 39)
8. Senator Jeffers presented the Report of the Courses and Curricula Committee.
(See Attachment # 40)

I. Changing 200s level courses

The Committee recommends approval to change the following courses:

- A. PNB 264, PNB 265 Human Physiology & Anatomy Prerequisite change
Current Catalog copy: Both semesters. Four credits each semester. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory. Prerequisite: CHEM 122 or 124 or 127Q. Recommended preparation: BIOL 107, PHYS 101 or 122. Open to sophomores or higher. Not open to students who have passed PNB 274-275. These courses must be taken in sequence to obtain credit, and may not be counted toward the Biological Sciences or Physiology and Neurobiology majors.
Revised Catalog copy: Both semesters. Four credits each semester. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory. Prerequisite: BIOL 107, and one of CHEM 122 or 124 or 127Q. Open to sophomores or higher. Not open to students who have passed PNB 274-275. These courses must be taken in sequence to obtain credit, and may not be counted toward the Biological Sciences or Physiology and Neurobiology majors.
- B. PNB 274, PNB 275 Enhanced Human Physiology and Anatomy Prerequisite change
Current Catalog copy: Both semesters. Four credits each semester. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory. Prerequisite: BIOL 107, CHEM 124 or 127Q. Recommended preparation: PHYS 121, 131, or 141. Not open to students who have passed PNB 264-265. These courses must be taken in sequence to obtain credit. Open to sophomores or higher.
Revised Catalog copy: Both semesters. Four credits each semester. Three class periods and one 3-hour laboratory. Prerequisite: BIOL 107, and either CHEM 124 or 127Q. Not open to students who have passed PNB 264-265. These courses must be taken in sequence to obtain credit. Open to sophomores or higher.

The motion carried.

II. New General Education courses forwarded from GEOC: The Committee recommends approval of the following courses and topics

A. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 1:

ARAB 121	Traditional Arabic Culture
ARAB 122	Modern Arabic Culture
CHIN 121	Traditional Chinese Culture
CHIN 122	Modern Chinese Culture
ILCS 1XY	Introducing Italy through Its Regions
MUSI 193	Introduction to Music History I
MUSI 194	Introduction to Music History II

The motion carried.

B. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 4:

International Category

ARAB 121	Traditional Arabic Culture
ARAB 122	Modern Arabic Culture
CHIN 121	Traditional Chinese Culture
CHIN 122	Modern Chinese Culture
GERM 175	Human Rights and German Culture
HIST 107	East Asian History through Essential Hanzi

The motion carried.

C. For the information of the Senate: HIST 230/W - American Environmental History may be offered as either a W or a non-W.

9. Professor Robert Hoskin presented the Annual Report of the President's Athletic Advisory Committee.

(See Attachment # 41)

10. Senator Bansal presented the Nominating Committee slate of standing committee membership for 2007/2008 for the information of the Senate. The slate will be voted on at the April 30, 2007 meeting of the Senate.

(See Attachment # 42)

11. New Business – none.

12. There was a motion to adjourn.

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert F. Miller
Senate Secretary

The following members and alternates were absent from the March 26, 2007 meeting:

Anderson, Greg
Aronson, Lorraine
Austin, Philip
Becker, Loftus
Bergman, Theodore
Boyer, Mark
Bramble, Pamela
Broadbent, Erica
Caira, Janine
Cantino, Marie
Croteau, Maureen
Deibler, Cora Lynn
Engel, Gerald
Etter, Katherine

Evanovich, M. Dolan
Fox, Karla
Franklin, Brinley
Gianutsos, Gerald
Guillard, Karl
Hart, Ian
Hightower, Lawrence
Jain, Faquir
Kehrhahn, Marijke
Kelly, Kristen
Kendall, Debra
Letendre, Joan
Lowe, Charles
Mannheim, Philip

Myers, Kathryn
Rummel, Jeffrey
Sanchez, Lisa
Scruggs, Lyle
Simmons, Robin
Taylor, Ronald
Thorpe, Judith
Tilton, Robert
Von Hammerstein,
Katharina
Wagner, David
Williams, Michelle
Woods, David