

Spring 2008 College Senate Topics¹

MARCH MEETING

Informational (to be announced at meeting)

- **Informational (Administration):** NCATE
- **Informational (Administration):** Informational Services and Systems introduction and update about Banner implementations
- **Informational (Administration):** Clarification of Jan. 2008 timing of implementation of recommendation from the 2004 report from the Parking and Transportation Task Force, and absence of College Senate involvement in this implementation
- **Motion withdrawn by maker:** Reconsidering the upper division designation of 200 level Modern and Classical Language courses (Merini motion introduced in December, 2007) (referred to Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, chair)
- **Motion received; introduction of item by committee to which it has been referred:** Students on probation cannot exceed a specific credit limit (Motion brought forward by Steve Schwartz; to be introduced to the body by committee to which it has been referred, Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, Chair)
- **Motion received; introduction of item by committee to which it has been referred:** Transfer students with A.A. or A.S. may waive non-trustee General Education requirements. Extend this to the B.A. or B.S. degrees. (Motion brought forward by Academic Appeals Committee; to be introduced to the body by committee to which it has been referred, Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, Chair)
- **Motion received; introduction of item by committee to which it has been referred:** Campus Alcohol Policy Campus Alcohol Policy (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michele Bonn, chair, and Gabrielle Dominique, chair, Student Welfare)
- **Informational:** Election information for campus units and college-wide elections (dates and positions) (By-Laws and Elections, John DeNisco, chair)
- **Informational:** Review of Strategic Plan and Middle States Report (Ros Park, Academic Plan)
- **Informational:** Streamlining the committees used for review of nominees for the President's Awards: report to be presented to the Senate for acceptance (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michelle Bonn, chair)
- **Informational:** Recommended action steps for the governance-related portion of the Strategic Plan (Sharon Cramer, David Carson, John DeNisco, in Chair's remarks)

Introduction (for action in April)

Discussion: Charge from May, 2008 College Senate meeting:

Three motions from the Ad Hoc Graduate Issues Committee (see pages 5-7 of this document for motions)

¹ Note 1: If no date is given, the item's presentation is TBD (To Be Determined); item are subject to change

- **Discussion:** Academic Calendar (5 year plan) (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, Chair)
- **Discussion:** Service Learning designation on transcript (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, Chair)

Action (previously introduced)

- **Action:** Reconsideration of number of required upper division credits for undergraduates (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, chair)
December Presentation /February Discussion /March Action

TENTATIVE/PRESUMED ITEMS FOR APRIL:

Informational:

- **Informational:** Budget Analysis, implications and recommendations (Budget and Staff Allocations -- BSAC, Ted Schmidt, chair)

Introduction (for Action in May) (Note: if these items are not introduced in April, for action in May, they will be carried over until 2008-9):

- **Discussion (Pending receipt of report from SIFOC):** Re-defining the writing requirement (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, chair) (Note: report currently is in SIFOC, to be forwarded to I&R; the report withdraws the earlier report/motion and replaces it with a report to be presented for acceptance or endorsement)
- **Discussion** By-Laws revisions (By-Laws and Elections, John DeNisco, chair)
- **Discussion:** Students on probation cannot exceed a specific credit limit (Motion brought forward by Steve Schwartz; to be introduced to the body, and referred to Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, chair)
- **Discussion:** Transfer students with A.A. or A.S. may waive non-trustee General Education requirements. Extend this to the B.A. or B.S. degrees. (Motion brought forward by Academic Appeals Committee; to be introduced to the body by committee to which it has been referred, Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, Chair)
- **Discussion:** Campus Alcohol Policy (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michele Bonn, chair, and Gabrielle Dominique, chair, Student Welfare)
- **Action or Informational:** Bookstore issues: Referral to Committee Feb. 2008 (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michelle Bonn, Chair and Student Welfare, Dominique Gabriel, Chair)

Action (introduced in March)

- **Action:** Representation of graduate students and graduate faculty on the College Senate (Ad Hoc Graduate Issues Committee, Greg Wadsworth, chair)
- **Action:** Academic Calendar (5 year plan) (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, Chair)

- **Action:** Service Learning designation on transcript (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, Chair)

TENTATIVE/PRESUMED ITEMS FOR MAY:

Informational:

- **Final reports: All committees and ad hoc committees**
- **Results of elections (By-Laws and Elections committee, John DeNisco, chair)**
- **Informational (Administrative):** Course Redesign
- **Informational:** Review of the Assistant Dean of Intellectual Foundations (SIFOC as Review Committee, as per SIFOC By-Laws); co-chairs Nancy Chicola, Chair, Curriculum and ex-officio member of SIFOC; Senator Gary Solar, member, Curriculum)
- **Informational:** Monitoring VSA implementation (College Senate Chair Sharon Cramer and SUNY Senators John DeNisco and David Carson)

Introduction (for Action in 2008-9): None known at this time

Action (if introduced in April)

- **Action:** Re-defining the writing requirement (Instruction & Research, Heather Maldonado, chair) (Note: report currently is in SIFOC, to be forwarded to I&R; the report withdraws the earlier report/motion and replaces it with a report to be presented for acceptance or endorsement)
- **Action:** By-Laws revisions (By-Laws and Elections, John DeNisco, chair)
- **Action:** Students on probation cannot exceed a specific credit limit (Motion brought forward by Steve Schwartz; to be introduced to the body, and referred to Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, chair)
- **Action:** Transfer students with A.A. or A.S. may waive non-trustee General Education requirements. Extend this to the B.A. or B.S. degrees. (Motion brought forward by Academic Appeals Committee; to be introduced to the body by committee to which it has been referred, Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, Chair)
- **Action** Campus Alcohol Policy (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michele Bonn, chair, and Gabrielle Dominique, chair, Student Welfare)
- **Action or Informational:** Bookstore issues: Referral to Committee Feb. 2008 (Faculty/Staff Welfare, Michelle Bonn, Chair and Student Welfare, Dominique Gabriel, Chair)

Items carried over from Fall, 2007, or New Business (mentioned in Fall, 2007, but not yet formally introduced) likely to be carried over until Fall 2008

- **Action or Informational:** Advisement issues (referred to Standards for Students, Elizabeth Stevens, chair)
- **Action or Informational:** Student Welfare issues (Dominique Gabriel, Chair, Student Welfare)

- **Action or Informational:** Report on impact of Health Fee increase (as per Senate-approved recommendation in 2006-7; Budget and Staff Allocations Committee, Ted Schmidt, Chair)
- **Informational:** Putting the “R” (Research) back in Instruction and Research (Instruction and Research Subcommittee, Chair TBD)

Elections and By-Laws Referendum

- *Voting Group: Eligible Campus-wide voters:*
 - Elections of At Large Senators (2 with terms 2008-2011, 1 with term 2008-2010, in keeping with recommendation approved by the College Senate and the campus community, and approved by the President in 2006, to achieve the faculty-majority of the College Senate by 2008)
 - Election of one University Faculty (SUNY) Senator (term 2008-2011)
 - Elections within units as needed, with multiple senators, some of whom have terms that are ending in 2008 (e.g., 4 Academic Schools, Professional Staff Caucus, student senators); both Library Faculty and Support Staff have Senators whose terms end later than 2008.
 - By-Laws Referendum of recommended changes
- *Voting Group: 2008-9 College Senators² (following caucus to be held on May 9, 2008)*
 - Election of Officers
 - Chair
 - Vice Chair
 - Committee Chairs (and Vice Chair of Student Welfare) of the Senate:
 - Academic Plan: Chair
 - Budget & Staff Allocations Committee (BSAC): Chair
 - By-Laws & Elections: Chair
 - Curriculum: Chair
 - Faculty/Staff Welfare: Chair
 - Instruction and Research (I&R): Chair
 - Standards for Students: Chair
 - Student Welfare: Chair³
 - Vice Chair

² Note 3: Only Senators who will be members of the College Senate in 2008-9 are eligible to run for, or vote in, these elections. All elections of units should be completed in advance of this date, and nominations (including self-nominations) for all positions should be forwarded to the Chair of the By-Laws and Elections Committee (or designee) by the Caucus. Uncontested elections will be resolved at the May 9, 2008 meeting, and contested elections (including student senators, if they are officially identified by May 9, 2008) will be held via electronic ballot within the month of May. Note that all terms of office are one year, with no limitations on re-election.

³ Note 4: As per By-Laws, the Chair of Student Welfare must be a student senator. As per By-Laws, the Vice-Chair of Student Welfare must be a non-student senator.

Motion I of the Ad Hoc Committee Graduate Issues on Graduate Student Representation.

Whereas the College Senate is “the official agency through which faculty and students engage in governance of the College,” and

Whereas graduate students represent a significant component of the College’s student body, and

Whereas graduate students have issues and perspectives which differ from the undergraduate student body, and

Whereas the current By-Laws and policies of the Senate make no formal provision for representation of graduate students on the Senate,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Agenda and By-Laws Committee present the following amendment of the College Senate By-Laws to the Faculty. The amendment provides for formal representation of graduate students on the Senate. [Note: the earliest implementation of the amendment would be for Spring 2009 elections.]

Amendment of Article III section C and D of College Senate By-laws.

(Additions are indicated by **bold underlined text**, deletions are indicated by ~~strikethrough~~.)

By-laws Article III

C. Faculty members shall be the majority membership of the College Senate. The College Senate shall only include the following groups: faculty (consisting of the four schools and the library), professional staff members, support staff members, students (**undergraduate and graduate**), and administrators (non-voting), with specific members as follows:

1. The President of the College, ex-officio, non-voting; and
 2. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs ex-officio, non-voting, the Vice President for Student Affairs ex-officio, non-voting, and the Vice President Finance and Management ex-officio, non voting; and
 3. Seven* members of the College Faculty (Article II, Section A and B) elected at large by a majority vote of the College Faculty; and
 4. Six members elected at large by a majority vote of the professional staffs of the Instructional Resources, Student Affairs, and other professional groups not otherwise represented; and
 5. Six members elected from each of the approved Faculties (School of Arts and Humanities; School of Education; School of Natural and Social Sciences; School of the Professions) and other Faculties recommended by the Senate and approved by the President; and one member from the Butler Library Faculty. Each of these Faculties shall determine how its senators shall be elected; and
 6. Two University Faculty Senators elected by the College who must be full-time faculty members and an alternate University Senator appointed by the Chair for a one year term to serve in case of need by the elected Senators, who must be a full-time faculty member.
 7. ~~Twelve~~ **Ten undergraduate** students elected by the student body whose terms of office and method of election shall be determined in accordance with the United Students’ Government constitution; and
 8. **Two graduate students elected by the graduate student body whose terms of office and method of election shall be determined in accordance with the policies of the Graduate School; and**
 9. One member of the college support staff elected as determined by the support staff.
 10. Two members ex-officio, non-voting appointed by the President.
1. The term of office for an elected senator shall be three years for all senators who are not students. **Terms of office of undergraduate student and graduate student senators will be in accord with the United Student’s Government By-Laws and in accord with Graduate School Policies respectively.** ~~Student senators are elected by the United Students’ Government in accord with its By Laws.~~ However, the elections and the by-laws committee of each unit, as well as the College Senate By-Laws and Elections committee shall arrange terms so that approximately one-third of the elected members shall be elected each year.
 1. No elected member of the Senate shall be eligible to succeed himself after serving two consecutive terms.
 2. The total term of office for any student member of the Senate (**as either an undergraduate or graduate student representative**) shall be no more than three years.

VII. Motion II of the Ad Hoc Committee Graduate Issues on membership of Chair of Graduate Advisory Council on Senate Agenda Committee.

Whereas the Graduate Advisory Council plays an important role in governance of graduate programs, and

Whereas the governance and oversight of graduate programs can be improved by more affective interaction between the Graduate Advisory Council and Senate leadership, and

Whereas the Senate Agenda Committee “advises the Chair of the College Senate on the dispatch of Senate Business,”

Therefore be it resolved that the Standing Rules of the College Senate and the College Senate Handbook be amended as follows. The amendments provide for membership of the Chair of the Graduate Advisory Council on the Senate Agenda Committee.

1. Amendment to College Senate Standing Rules section 1.2. (Addition is indicated by **bold underlined text**)

“*Agenda Committee.* The Vice Chair, an elected student senator, **the Chair of the Graduate Advisory Council** and the Senior University Senator shall be members of the Agenda Committee. Further details about the Agenda Committee are provided in *The College Senate Handbook*, Section III. The Agenda Committee shall advise the Chair of the College Senate on the dispatch of Senate Business to insure that matters submitted for Senate consideration shall be properly included under one or another of the headings in the Order of Business. The Agenda Committee shall make no determination as to the merits of matters received for consideration of the Senate.”

2. Amendment to the College Handbook under Standing Committees (pg 6). (Addition is indicated by **bold underlined text**)

“The Agenda Committee is chaired by the Chair of the Senate and includes the Vice Chair, an elected student senator, the Senior University Senator, **the Chair of the Graduate Advisory Council** and at least three other members of the Senate appointed by the Chair. The duties and obligations of the Agenda Committee are addressed in both the Standing Rules and the College By-Laws.”

VIII. Motion III of the Ad Hoc Committee Graduate Issues on graduate faculty representation on Senate Standing Committees

Whereas the College Senate, as the “principle deliberative and advisory body of the College,” has a role in reviewing issues related to graduate students and the Graduate School, and

Whereas the governance structure of the College Senate relies on eight Standing Committees, and

Whereas issues of importance to graduate students and the Graduate School span the charges of the eight Standing Committees, and

Whereas the ability of Standing Committees to review issues related to graduate students and the Graduate School would be facilitated by representation of Graduate Faculty on the committees,

Therefore, be it resolved that the College Handbook be amended as follows. The amendment provides for representation of graduate faculty who participate graduate programs on all Standing Committees and for graduate faculty status to be indicated on Committee rosters.

Amendment to College Senate Handbook (pg 6). (Addition is indicated by **bold underlined text**)

“***Committee Chairs.*** Committee Chairs have the responsibility of developing a list of members for presentation to the Senate. Committee membership is limited to fifteen (15); the Senate has the right to strike, but not add, names which are proposed to it. Chairs are urged to exercise care and common sense in developing committee membership lists. Specifically, Chairs are urged to:

- A. be aware of the size limitation on committees;
- B. make every effort to see to it that all Schools and Professional Staff are represented in approximately equal proportions (e.g., approximately two professional staff members and two representatives from each of the Schools).
- C. consider librarians as either faculty or staff and, by tradition, and include on each committee;

D. make every effort to insure that one or more of the committee members are on the Graduate Faculty and are in a graduate program.

E. include at least one student representative (a student Senator should be considered);

F. accept the appointment of a non-voting administrative liaison; and

G. make sure that at least one other member of the committee is a Senator.

Members of standing committees are appointed to serve two year terms of office. Ideally, terms of committee members are staggered, so some continuity can be maintained. When a committee roster is presented to the Senate (by tradition, committee rosters are presented at the first meeting of the Senate, for approval), the following information should be included: name, unit the individual represents, **Graduate Faculty affiliation**, office address and phone number, e-mail address, specific years of term of service on the committee.”