

Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 3:38 PM with reading of the Land Acknowledgement Statement

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with addition of Chemistry handout.

II. Approval of Sept 14, 2020 Minutes

The minutes were approved as distributed.

III. FA Chair's Report – Liz Schmitt

Voting faculty lists were received on 10/3, I have sent them to department chairs for review.

A reminder, after 6 consecutive semesters, VAPs and adjuncts are given limited voting rights. Under Article I:

“Faculty with limited voting status may participate as voting faculty in all aspects of department and College-wide governance except on committees that make personnel recommendations.”

SCMA Dean Review

Two weeks ago, a call for nominations went out for an SCMA Dean Review Committee for 2020-21. This is the re-election of a review committee because the committee was unable to complete the review last May.

As a result, a member of the committee that left mid-review, Katherine Thweat, is very upset about what she feels is my disregard for the Bylaws, the work of the committee and data collected. She reached out to me and the committee last week. The committee affirmed by consultation and decision to begin fresh in Fall 2020. She has reached out to the faculty of SCMA asking them not to participate in a new review and to have the data collected in March 2020 used or reported to the Provost.

I should have reported this failed review to the FAEB and the SCMA chairs. Let me offer some explanation about the events of Spring 2020 and the decision to re-constitute a review committee.

In October 2019, the SCMA Review Committee was elected and convened. Membership included:

Fehmi Damkaci	Ola Kraszpuska
Todd Graber	Lisa Langlois
Trevor Jorgensen	Katherine Thweat

Katherine was selected as chairperson, and their work went forward, including the drafting of the survey.

In February of 2020, Katherine took personal leave for the rest of the semester, and in consultation with Jessica Reeher, Joe Stabb was asked to serve as her replacement on the committee. Lisa Langlois and Todd Graber stepped up to co-chairs.

The survey deployed on March 5th. While the invitation came from IR&A, the survey itself was hosted through a Qualtrics account held by Katherine Thweat.

Todd reached out to me in late March/early April about the survey status and Lisa was to follow up. I did not check in on the work of the committee for the rest of the semester. The SOE Dean Review Committee finished their work and submitted their report in May.

In early June, I reached out to Ola and realized that a report was not in the works. I sent an email to the committee asking if a report could be salvaged, or would it be better to start fresh in Fall 2020.

In the responses that followed, including one from IR&A, it was not clear where the data was or who had access. This discussion did not include Katherine, as she was no longer on the committee. However, in hindsight, surveys and data should probably be hosted by IR&A and not one member. The members of the committee UNANIMOUSLY agreed that it was best to re-elect a new committee and start fresh in the Fall. In a series of emails in October of 2020, Katherine expressed here disagreement with disregarding the data collect in March 2020 and beginning with a new review committee.

I would note that Scott and Julie did NOT weigh in on this decision at all, viewing it as a faculty matter, and I agreed. Given the disagreement with Katherine, I did inform him of my stance on this matter in recent weeks and he agreed:

“As you are aware the SCMA Dean review that was supposed to occur last year was not completed. I know that you have moved to reconstitute the SCMA Dean review committee with the goal of restarting this process now with a report to be provided to me later in the academic year. As the person that received this review, I am supportive of this action.

I am also aware that some survey data was collected last year as part of this initial process. I expect that a new survey will be conducted as part of the reconstitution of the committee and the restarting of the process. Data collected from the survey conducted last year should not be utilized.”

Keep in mind that the search and review committees are covered in Appendix A of the Bylaws. There are not explicit provisions for a failed review, but if we mirror the practices in searches, we re-elect a new committee.

Despite a pandemic, our institution and its mission need to move forward. However, as we quickly pivoted to remote, in so many aspects of our work and life, things got harder, and fatigue was real. We all prioritized in our lives, and some things got pushed aside. Still, this review is worth doing. It provides valuable formative feedback to the Deans, and the regular review of academic officers is an opportunity not given to all SUNY campuses, so we should take it seriously. I hope you will extend me some good faith (and hope that I have earned it) to move this process forward.

Task Force and Ad hoc committee updates

Ad hoc committee on distressed/disruptive student procedure

- Committee met in the Spring to discuss how to improve process and resources

Ad hoc committee on textbook costs

- We are waiting data on Fall 2020 textbook costs
- Report to address OER, Inclusive access, and other possible publisher agreements; Campus data on textbook costs; A communication plan

Task Force on Evaluating Assessment Practices

- Committee has not convened but all elected members are still willing to serve. We need to elect an SOE representative and then I will convene the committee.

Looking ahead to Spring 2020

- Provost update: Scott will update us today.
- Syllabus language: Faculty should use their experiences this Fall to make any needed updates to their syllabi.
- Modality communication plans: We will be looking at guidelines for hybrid offerings and craft some suggested language for communicating to students.

IV. Reports of Councils, Committees, and Task Forces

- **General Education – Chris Lalonde**

The Council has received and is currently reviewing and deliberating on the suggestions regarding the proposed new General Education required category titled Diversity, Identity, and Social Justice in the United States. Six (6) departments sent comments, questions, and concerns to the Council, as did the CLAS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee and an individual faculty member.

The Council plans to have a Whereas/Therefore be it Resolved resolution to FA for presentation on 9 November and for a vote by that body on 23 November.

- **Academic Policies Council – Eve Clark**

APC met on Friday, September 18, by Zoom. APC is reporting out that for the newly change Public Relations Major the original note “Students majoring in any degree program in Communication Studies are required to earn at least a C- (C minus) in all core and elective courses credited to the major. Students earning less than a C- should seek advisement before repeating any course.” Should be continued to apply to students in the major. APC also approved changes to the Chemistry BS Track II and the proposal is on the floor for review. APC is also reporting out a changes to several programs in relation to the Honors Program equivalency of ENG 204 and HON 204.

APC approved changes to the following programs for HON 204:

- Major in English BA (090)
- Major in Creative Writing BA (097)
- Major in Childhood Education 1-6: English BS (383)
- Major in Adolescence Education 7-12: English (457)
- Minor in English (555)
- Minor in Creative Writing (545)

We approve the removal of this equivalency in the following programs and the proposed catalog change to the English Major and Minor, Creative Writing Major and Minor, and, Adolescence Education Major. The catalog change to their core should read: ENG 204 or HON 204. We will meet again this Friday, October 17 at 3:30pm by Zoom Meeting

- **Priorities and Planning – Linda Rae Markert**

The Priorities & Planning Council met virtually on Friday, September 25th

1. On 9/25, Council members reviewed SUNY Oswego's proposal to offer its current graduate program in Human Computer Interaction fully online. We unanimously approved the proposal.
2. Also on 9/25, we discussed the Honors Program Director's proposal to eliminate the equivalency between two courses: HON 204 and ENG 204. Once UCC approves this proposal, several undergraduate programs will need to be revised, and the Council will review those program changes at that time.
3. We did not have any business to discuss on 10/9.
Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday 10/23 at 3:30 – 5:30 PM

- **Undergraduate Curriculum Council – Minjung Seo**

Approved courses

none

Updates

HSC 470 HP Program Implementation
ECE 335 Digital Signal Processing
CRJ 305 History of Policing in America

- **Research Council – David Sargent**

The Research Council met on Friday, 9/25.

Lisa Glidden is chair. Dave Sargent is FA reporter.

We will be recommending bylaws changes. Some of it is cleaning up the language. The biggest change is we are recommending to remove the clause put forward as an amendment when FA approved the Council to have this Council do the President's and Provost's Awards for SCA. We discussed that although the Awards for Faculty and Professional Staff Service are determined by PPC, which created the awards, the Pres and Provost's Teaching awards are decided by COLT. The Pres and Provost's research and scholarly activity awards were decided by SCAC. Those processes were set up to mirror each other. The service award was created by FA, so it's a little different. The vote to support removing that responsibility was 8 in favor to move it back with SCAC, 1 in favor of keeping it with the RC, and one not sure. The Council meets again on Friday, October 23 at 2:15.

- **Graduate Council – Isabelle Bichindaritz**

The Council has approved a new program BHI MS in Syracuse.

We approved two courses:

CHE 557 Organometallic Chemistry
MBA 588 Social Entrepreneurship

We also approved the HCI MA Online program.
Our next meeting will be on 10/22/2020

V. Elections

Research Council – Humanities Seat – No nominations this meeting

PPC at large seat – Dorothy Shedlock

ITC FA seat – No nominations this meeting

Task Force on Assessment Practices – Michelle Duffy

VI. Action: Art Department Name Change

Approved: Unanimously

VII. Action: BHI MS in Syracuse

Approved: 80% - Yes 4% - No. 17% - Abstain

VIII. Action: Spring 2021 Calendar Revisions

Approved: 58% - Yes 23% - No 19% - Abstain

IX. Academic Affairs Update – Scott Furlong

COVID tests ongoing, positive numbers are under control, no positives for faculty. Spring semester is currently in planning stages more information to follow. Middle States prep visit (November 2) will keep you updated.

X. New Business

No new business this meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:43 PM.