

**Academic Senate Meeting  
December 5, 2008  
JFT 1010**

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2008 meeting
2. Announcements
3. Report of the OC:

**A. Standings Committees of Academic Affairs**

**Proposal One: To collapse the three standing committees of the Academic Affairs Committee into a single standing committee, to be called the Standing Committee on Scholarship, Academic Appeals, and Academic Standing (SAS).**

**Proposal Two: To change the manner by which the voting membership of the new committee (SAS) is constituted, from decanal appointment (and confirmation by the Academic Affairs Committee) to college-wide election.**

**Proposal Three: To limit the terms of service for voting members on the new committee (SAS) to two consecutive two-year terms.**

**Proposal Four: To require that the new committee (SAS) report annually to the Academic Affairs Committee.**

All proposals offered with the recommendation of the Organization Committee, December 2008.

**B. GE Board Proposal**

4. Report of the Provost  
    Questions and action items from the floor
5. Report of the Presiding Officer  
    Questions and action items from the floor
6. Unfinished business: None
7. New business
8. Adjournment

**Meeting of the Academic Senate**  
Minutes – December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Members present:** Jacqueline Andrews (Institutional Research & Planning), Carlos M. Aponte (Graduate Studies), Peter P. G. Brown (LA&S), Karanja Carroll (LA&S), Kerry Carso (F&PA), Shafiu Chowdhury (S&E), Christine De Lape (Budget, Goals, & Plans Committee, F&PA), Francois Deschamps (F&PA), Jackie DiStefano (VP, Finance), Laurel Garrick Duhaney (Academic Affairs), David Eaton (VP, Enrollment), Tabitha Holmes (LA&S), Lisa Jones (Professional Faculty), Mary Kahl (LA&S, Organization Committee), Peter Kaufman (LA&S), David Lavalley (Provost's Office), Jae Lee (Business), Bernadette Morris (Academic Affairs), Simin Mozayeni (Presiding Officer), Ben Olsen (Academic Affairs & Governance, Student Association), Steven Poskanzer (President's Office), Rose Rudnitski (Education, University Senator), Scott Saccomano (Nursing), Nancy Saklad (F&PA), Spencer Salend (Education), James Schiffer (LA&S), Edward Sullivan (Education), Heather Whalen Smith (Library), Shelly Wright (President's Office)

The meeting was called to order at 3:15pm.

**1. Minutes.** Minutes were approved without corrections.

**2. Announcements**

The Executive Committee passed the following Resolution:

Whereas Provost David Lavalley has served the College ably during the last decade and possesses a wealth of knowledge about our academic environment and related operations, here is resolved that he remain as Provost to shepherd SUNY New Paltz through these difficult economic times.

The Provost thanked the Executive Committee for their vote of confidence but he plans to return to full time teaching. He assured the Senate that he will stay on for an additional semester if there is difficulty securing a new provost and that he will be willing to assist the new provost once he or she is appointed.

**3. Report of the Organization Committee:**

**A. Restructuring the Standings Committees of Academic Affairs**

Proposal One: To collapse the three standing committees of the Academic Affairs Committee into a single standing committee, to be called the Standing Committee on Scholarship, Academic Appeals, and Academic Standing (SAS).

Proposal Two: To change the manner by which the voting membership of the new committee (SAS) is constituted, from decanal appointment (and confirmation by the Academic Affairs Committee) to college-wide election.

Proposal Three: To limit the terms of service for voting members on the new committee (SAS) to two consecutive two-year terms.

Proposal Four: To require that the new committee (SAS) report annually to the Academic Affairs Committee.

All proposals offered with the recommendation of the Organization Committee, December 2008.

It was noted that the Academic Affairs committee currently has three subcommittees: Academic Appeals, Academic Standing and Academic Scholarship. These committees comprise of a total of 32 appointed representatives. The proposed single standing committee will do the work of these three committees and will be composed of elected representatives rather than appointed. Currently the service terms for these standing committees are six year terms that may be renewed at the will of the dean. The Executive Committee was concerned that proposals may result in a disproportionate representation in Scholarship. As the committee of Academic Scholarship currently stands, it is represented by direct representation. The Executive Committee's amendment adds a standing subcommittee on scholarship.

There was concern within the Academic Senate that by creating a standing subcommittee on Scholarship may create undue burden or the impression of an undue burden to those that might sit on the subcommittee. (As standing on SAS will also mean standing on the Academic Scholarship subcommittee).

The Organization Committee will consider these issues and bring back this proposal for the Senate's consideration and approval.

## **B. GE Board Proposal**

The complete text of the GE Board Proposal may be found in Appendix A. This proposal has passed in the Curriculum Committee and is currently in the Organization Committee and will be presented to the Academic Senate early 2009. This will move the GE Board into faculty governance.

It was suggested that it be written in the proposal that the GE Board reports to the Curriculum Committee.

## **4. Report of the Provost**

The latest cut to the SUNY system budget was \$71 million. This makes a total \$146 million cut to the SUNY system budget this fiscal year. Next year this number increases to \$169 million, or 5% of our operating budget.

To generate more income:

1. The college will create a January term for the 09/10 college year. This will be composed of online courses during a 3 ½ week period, on-site off-campus classes held at special locations, and on-campus classes that may serve international students.

2. Online master certificate or degrees will be explored where the cohort of students will be best served by it, for example master programs in schools of Business and Education.

3. Summer sessions may also be restructured.

To save money:

1. Raising Pre-registration limits. Courses required for graduation or those classes that require smaller class sizes will be protected.

2. Careful limiting the number of full pay sabbaticals granted.

3. Many of the one year contracts hired to cover the larger number of freshman this year will not be renewed or emergency resignations.

4. Half of the new faculty searches have been canceled.

The Provost welcomed ideas for savings.

It was asked if lecturers were vulnerable. If lecturers are not teaching at the required amount to time, they may be vulnerable. If there are lecturers in a department that have reassigned time, make sure it has been formally reassigned.

It was clarified that while the decreasing fuel costs have saved the college some money, electricity rates have been increasing. Saving electricity and turning off lights and computers when not in use can save the college some money.

## **5. Report of the Presiding Officer**

The Presiding Officer has been working with the Organization Committee on restructuring the Standing Committees of the Academic Affairs. The Presiding Officer has been in discussion with the Executive Committee about her conversations with the President about the college budget. The Central Committees list has a few changes among them a few committee chairs still need to be decided. The Presiding Officer continues to be involved in the provost search and will be reviewing 44 files this weekend. There is currently little activity in campus governance on the SUNY system-wide level. There was a request to moving the Faculty meetings from Wednesday to Fridays (starting the fall of 2009) and the matter will be further discussed in the spring.

**6. Unfinished Business:** None

## **7. New Business**

None.

**8. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Whalen Smith

Appendix A.

Proposed SEQ CHAPTER \h \r 1 By Laws of the General Education Board

What's the reason for our proposal?

The General Education III Task Force was convened in 1998 to review and revise our General Education program at SUNY New Paltz. Their Final General Education III Proposal was approved by the Curriculum Committee on 4/4/02, by the Academic Senate on 4/5/02 and by the Faculty on 4/12/02. This proposal included the creation of a General Education Board “as a standing sub-committee of the Curriculum Committee.” While the GE Board has been operating since that time, this document is a proposal to get the General Education Board in the By Laws of our campus governance system.

What is the function of the GE Board?

According to the Final General Education III Proposal passed by the faculty: “The GE Board will report to the Curriculum Committee and minutes of GE Board meetings will be sent to it. The GE Board would be charged with the ongoing oversight of general education and would assist in the process of course development and leverage opportunities for faculty development and mentoring (e.g. workshops, guest speakers), in concert with The Teaching and Learning Center. The General Education Board and the College Curriculum Committee will jointly develop a set of course approval guidelines. The Board, whose sole focus would be the goals of the GE program, its pedagogy, and curriculum development, would also be charged with the continuous assessment of the General Education program and would propose modifications to the GE requirements, as the need arises.”

Who are the members of the GE Board?

According to the Final General Education III Proposal passed by the faculty: “Two members of the Curriculum Committee should serve on the Board; the Board should be representative of the college divisions and the knowledge areas of the General Education Program.”

A key academic support area has been represented as well (Library, 1 seat). Four ex-officio members represent Academic Advising; the Teaching/Learning Center, the Office of Institutional Research, and the Provost's Office. Ex-officio members serve in advisory capacities. All full-time or part-time faculty members of the College have been eligible to serve.

Like the Undergraduate Academic Standing committee, our members have been recommended by deans or volunteer to serve. As part of faculty governance, however,

this would change to faculty being elected. Since our GE assessment cycle is three years, our members would serve for renewable three-year terms from the semester they join the Board.

What should be revised in the existing faculty by-laws?

Current:

“4. have jurisdiction over the General Education Program”

Recommended:

4. have jurisdiction over the General Education Program in consultation with its standing committee, the General Education Board.

(a) The General Education Board shall do the following:

- (1) consult with departments/colleges on assessment plans for their components of the GE curriculum
- (2) review and endorse plans that reflect best practices in curriculum assessment
- (3) create opportunities for GE faculty development and mentoring.
- (4) propose modifications to GE requirements to the Curriculum Committee.
- (5) develop GE course approval guidelines in conjunction with the Curriculum Committee.

(b) The composition of the GE Board shall be composed of 19 members representing academic units and support services. Representatives of the academic units shall serve for renewable three-year terms through faculty governance election. All full-time or part-time faculty members of the College are eligible to serve. These members shall be distributed among the academic units as follows: Education (1 seat), Liberal Arts (6 seats), Science and Engineering (2 seats), Fine and Performing Arts (2 seats), Business (1 seat), Library (1 seat), Curriculum Committee (2 seats). Four ex-officio members represent Academic Advising, the Teaching/Learning Center, the Office of Institutional Research, and the Provost's Office. Ex-officio members serve in advisory capacities.

(c) Minutes from the GE Board meetings will be distributed to the Curriculum Committee, Provost, Registrar, faculty governance secretary, and Academic Computing.

**Academic Senate Meeting**  
**November 14, 2008**  
JFT 1010

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the October 3, 2008 meeting
2. Announcements
3. Report of the Provost  
Questions and action items from the floor
4. Budget Update: VP of Finance, Jackie DiStefano  
Questions and action items from the floor
4. Report of the Presiding Officer  
Questions and action items from the floor
5. Unfinished business  
Election of Vice President of the Academic Senate
6. New business
7. Adjournment

**Academic Senate**  
Minutes – November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Members present:** Jacqueline Andrews (Institutional Research & Planning), Kerry Carso (F&PA), Thais B. P. de Canha (Education), Shafiul Chowdhury (S&E), Mary Beth Collier (Provost's Office), Nancy Cooney (Academy Computing), Lia Cornella (Student Association), Christine De Lape (Budget, Goals, & Plans Committee, F&PA), Francois Deschamps (F&PA), Jackie DiStefano (VP, Finance), David Eaton (VP, Enrollment), Ghader Effrekhari (S&E), Salvatore Engel-DiMauro (LA&S), Clara Enuma (Student Association), Kathryn Hall (Student Association, Academic Affairs), Tabitha Holmes (LA&S), Lisa Jones (Professional Faculty), Mary Kahl (LA&S, Organization Committee), Beth King (Professional Faculty), David Lavalley (Provost's Office), Bernadette Morris (Academic Affairs), Lucien Mott (Academic Advising), Simin Mozayeni (Presiding Officer), Ben Olsen (Academic Affairs & Governance, Student Association), Steven Poskanzer (President's Office), David Rooney (Student Affairs), Scott Saccomano (Nursing), Nancy Saklad (F&PA), Spencer Salend (Education), Edward Sullivan (Education), Heather Whalen Smith (Library), Shelly Wright (President's Office)

The meeting was called to order at 3:05PM.

**1. Minutes.** Minutes were approved without corrections.

**2. Announcements**

None.

**3. Budget Update: VP of Finance, Jackie DiStefano**

The \$96 million SUNY wide budget cut initially proposed in July has been lessened to \$71 million. The allocated budget cut for SUNY New Paltz will be \$1.8 million. When added to the previous budget cuts this year, the total budget reduction for SUNY New Paltz is \$2.4 million. These budget cuts not only effect the FY09, but also FY10.

It is not currently known if and how funding will be made for salary increases, how increasing utility costs will be covered or how the continuing economic down-turn will affect the SUNY system.

It has been proposed by the Governor that a forth budget cut of \$66 million SUNY wide be made and balanced by a tuition increase. The proposed tuition increase will cover the proposed budget cut by over \$7 million dollars.

**4. Report of the Provost**

Due to budgetary reductions, the academic budget will need to be reduced. Full time faculty searches are being reviewed. Some academic searches may be delayed. Searches

held over from last year or caused by failed reappointments will be given top hiring priority.

Class sizes will have to be maintained closer to 25-30 students in size. Pre-registration numbers will be studied closely to determine the class size. The current cut off is 15 but may be raised. This will be able to save the college money. Exceptions will be made for those classes needed for graduation, writing intensive courses, capstone courses and other courses that, due to their nature, require smaller than average class sizes.

Due to the economy, predicting yield on applicants will be difficult. Care will be taken by enrollment to come as close to target numbers as possible. There is slightly more flexibility in the graduate programs. More offerings in online graduate classes for business and education may benefit those seeking a graduate degree in those programs while generating more revenue for the campus.

Creating a January term in which to offer winter classes is currently being explored. A number of students are either local or stay on campus during the winter break and may benefit from a one month winter session. Three potential types of classes are; on campus, site specific (e.i. political science course in Washington D.C.) and online courses. There is also the potential for one or two credit courses.

Modular courses are current exempt from faculty review. It is planned that next year module courses will not be funded and scheduled unless they are reviewed first. Exemptions will be made next year for those classes in which the application is already submitted to the committee but has not yet been reviewed.

Online course policy is extremely restrictive and cumbersome. There is no provision for submitting a proposal for a class in either format (online and in-person). This is a concern brought to the administration by faculty members. The online course policy will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee. The Provost will make a presentation to the committee on behalf of the Deans.

Middle States is coming up. Working committees will start forming in the Spring semester.

## **5. Report of the Presiding Officer**

The central committees list is nearly complete. There are very few vacancies. Committee chairs are being filled.

The Presiding Officer has been invited to cabinet budget briefings.

She has asked the Organizational Committee to consider restructuring the standing committees of the Academic Affairs (Academic Appeals, Academic Standing and Scholarship) by consolidating them and shortening the term of service to 2-2 as for other

committees. Currently, these committees take up 32 Academic and Professional Faculty seats, each with six-year terms, which are renewable for the second term.

The Presiding Officer has met with the Academic Affairs committee. They plan to continue working on revision of SEIs, online SEIs and assessment of advising.

The GE Board has made a proposal for revising its bylaws with the purpose of becoming a formal committee of the Faculty Governance. The proposal has moved to the Curriculum Committee for their consideration before it moves on to the Senate and then to the full faculty for consideration.

#### **6. Unfinished Business: Election of Vice President of the Academic Senate**

Mary Kahl was unanimously re-elected as Vice President of the Academic Senate.

#### **7. New Business**

Ben Olsen and the Student Association were recognized for creating a campus bus system as well as his work in filling in student vacancies in faculty governance committees.

**8. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Whalen Smith

## **Proposed By Laws of the General Education Board**

### What's the reason for our proposal?

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(b) The composition of the GE Board shall be composed of 19 members representing academic units and support services. Representatives of the academic units shall serve for renewable three-year terms through faculty governance election. All full-time or part-time faculty members of the College are eligible to serve. These members shall be distributed among the academic units as follows:  
Education (1 seat), Liberal Arts (6 seats), Science and Engineering (2 seats), Fine and Performing Arts (2 seats), Business (1 seat), Library (1 seat), Curriculum Committee (2 seats). Four ex-officio members represent Academic Advising, the Teaching/Learning Center, the Office of Institutional Research, and the Provost's Office. Ex-officio members serve in advisory capacities.

(c) Minutes from the GE Board meetings will be distributed to the Curriculum Committee, Provost, Registrar, faculty governance secretary, and Academic Computing.

11-10-08

**Academic Senate Meeting**  
**October 3, 2008**  
JFT 1010

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes of the September 5, 2008 meeting
2. Announcements
3. Report of the Provost  
Questions and action items from the floor
4. Report of the Presiding Officer  
Questions and action items from the floor
5. Unfinished business
  - a. Election of Vice President of the Academic Senate**
  - b. Election of Secretary of the Academic Senate**
6. New business
7. Adjournment

**Academic Senate**  
Minutes – October 3, 2008

**Members present:** Carlos Aponte (Graduate School), Karanja Carroll (LA&S), Kerry Carso (F&PA), Mary Beth Collier (Provost's Office), Nancy Cooney (Academic Computing), Lia Cornella (F&PA), Thais B. P. da Cunha (Education), Christine De Lape (F&PA, Budget, Goals & Plans), Jackie DiStefano (VP, Finance), Laurel Garrick Duhaney (Academic Affairs), Ghader Eftekhari (S&E) Salvatore Engel-DiMauro (LA&S), Clara Enuma (S&E), Kathryn Hall (LA&S, Student Association, UPAAG), Lisa Jones (Professional Faculty), Peter Kaufman (LA&S), Beth King (Professional Faculty), Jae Lee (Business), Bernadette Morris (Academic Affairs), Simin Mozayeni (Presiding Officer), Ben Olsen (Academic Affairs & Governance, Student Association), Steven Poskanzer (President's Office), Dave Rooney (Student Affairs), Rose Rudnitski (Education), Nancy Saklad (F&PA), Heather Whalen Smith (Library), Shelly Wright (President's Office)

The meeting was called to order at 3:14PM.

**1. Minutes.** Carlos Aponte and Bernadette Morris' names were added to the list of members presented. The Minutes were approved as amended.

**2. Announcements**

The University Faculty Senator announced that Faculty Senate is holding a plenary meeting in September where a proposal for seamless transfer of 100 and 200 level class credits within the SUNY System will be voted on.

**3. Reports of the Provost**

The Provost was unable to attend the Academic Senate meeting however Laurel Garrick Duhaney was able to share a few updates on his behalf. A search committee has been formed for the position of Dean of Fine and Performing Arts, previously held by Kurt Daw. The position will soon be advertised. Representatives from Witt/Kieffer were on campus in September to meet with campus constituents. Two faculty meetings with the search firm representatives were held. It is the aims of the search committee to have candidates visit the campus in February.

**4. Report of the Presiding Officer**

The central committees list is near completion. LA&S, Education and Student representation is still in the process of being filled. Candidates for the position of Provost are expected on campus during the weeks of February 16 and 23. The Executive Committee is working on two new entities, one on the public arts and the other on environmental standards. They will most likely be subcommittees of the Budget, Goals and Plans Committee. GE Board is informally structured as it is not in the bylaws. The Graduate Council is also not currently incorporated into faculty governance. Both are

interested in becoming part of the governance structure and faculty governance will be working with the GE Board and the Graduate Council to do so. The Presiding Officer attended the first meetings of the College Council and College Foundation. The Presiding Officer asked for suggestions from the Senate for governance issues that they wish to be addressed in 2008-2010.

**5. Unfinished Business**

The election of Vice President of the Academic Senate was postponed to the next meeting.

Heather Whalen Smith was re-elected as Academic Senate Secretary.

**6. New Business** None.

**7. Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 3:32pm.

## **Academic Senate Meeting**

September 5, 2008

JFT 1010

### AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the May 2, 2008 meeting.
2. Announcements.
3. Report of the President  
Questions and action items from the floor.
4. Report of the Provost  
Questions and action items from the floor.
5. Report of the Presiding Officer  
Questions and action items from the floor.
6. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
  - a. Election of Vice President of the Academic Senate.
  - b. Election of Secretary of the Academic Senate.
8. Adjournment.

**Academic Senate**  
Minutes – September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Members present:** Peter D. G. Brown (LA&S), Kerry Carso (F&PA), Thais B. P. de Canha (Education), Christine De Lape (Budget, Goals, & Plans Committee, F&PA), Francois Deschamps (F&PA), Jackie DiStefano (VP, Finance), David Eaton (VP, Enrollment), Salvatore Engel-DiMauro (LA&S), Tabitha Holmes (LA&S), Lisa Jones (Professional Faculty), Mary Kahl (LA&S, Organization Committee), Peter Kaufman (LA&S), Beth King (Professional Faculty), David Lavalley (Provost's Office), Jae Lee (Business), Lucien Mott (Academic Advising), Simin Mozayeni (Presiding Officer), Ben Olsen (Academic Affairs & Governance, Student Association), Steven Poskanzer (President's Office), Rose Rudnitski (Academic Senator), Spencer Salend (Education), , Heather Whalen Smith (Library), Shelly Wright (President's Office)

The meeting was called to order at 3:08PM.

**1. Minutes** of May 2 were approved as submitted with one revision which changed the "Report of the Presiding Officer" to "Report of the President."

**2. Announcements**

None.

**3. Report of the President**

1) Provost Search

The Provost Search Committee has been formed and is composed of: Michael Adams (co-chair, S&E), Jan Schmidt (co-chair, LA&S), Laurel Garrick Duhaney (Graduate School), Chui-chun Lee (Library), Simin Mozayeni (LA&S, Faculty Governance), L. David Rooney (Student Affairs), Hadi Salavitabar (Business), Shelly Wright (President's Office), and one yet to be appointed member from the School of Education. The search committee was formed over the summer and they choose Witt/Kieffer as a search firm. A search firm will be used in order to obtain a broader, deeper more diverse pool of candidates. Opportunities will be arranged for the campus community to meet with both the search firm and the candidates.

2) Budget

The state has imposed a series of budget cuts since March. The first cut reduced the SUNY System budget by \$38 million. This cut took place during the formation of the State budget for the year. The second budget cut (of \$109 million) was implemented by the new Governor to all State agencies, SUNY included. These first two budget cuts would likely translate to a cut of around \$470,000 to \$500,000 (shortly after discovered to be \$660,000) to the SUNY New Paltz Budget. A third potential budget cut was announced late July/early August. This cut will reduce the budget by \$96 million dollars on top of previous budget cuts. This could translate to a cut of around \$2.8 to \$2.9 million dollars to the base budget for the current year at SUNY New Paltz. The only way the President sees the SUNY System accommodating such a budget cut would be with a mid-

year tuition increase. The President also explained that these budget cuts are much less dramatic for the community colleges, CUNY or private colleges. Twenty nine campuses are being asked to bare the brunt of these cuts. The President is not implementing severe budget cuts until the financial situation becomes clearer.

#### **4. Report of the Provost**

The college's 32 new faculty members representing people from Alaska to New Zealand. This includes nine new teaching positions. Due to the four-year closure of Old Main for renovations, twenty percent fewer classrooms are available. This year's student body contains 250 to 300 additional freshmen which is balanced out by 250 to 300 fewer transfer students. Some faculty members switch from teaching upper-level classes to lower-level classes to accommodate the change in the student body.

The summer installation of air conditioning in Humanities and JFT has created a cooler and quieter teaching environment in those buildings. The Career Resource Center will move to first floor Humanities this spring to be closer to the students. Eighteen classrooms were upgraded into electronic classrooms over summer. Once Old Main is back online, it will contain electronic classrooms too. By then 95% of the classrooms will be electronic. The school of education has been moved to the South Faculty Building for the next three years. The high temperature hot water lines should be back online by November. Planning is underway for renovating the Sojourner Truth Library and Wooster Science Building. Wooster renovations will include research space need by the psychology department, space for faculty to work one-on-one on projects with students, well-equipped flexible space, and additional office space. The new science building will contain the departments of Physics, Geology, Mathematics and Computer Science.

LA&S has a new dean, James Schiffer. Ann Minnick has left the college and Mary Beth Collier will be filling in as Dean of Academic Advising until a permanent replacement is found. A search committee will soon be formed to search for a new dean for F&PA as Kurt Daw has left the college. Joe Ramos will serve as the interim dean. The DSI recipients will be announced in three to four weeks and will be reflected in November paychecks. An investigation into the possibility of making DSI an electronic process is underway.

Some discussion was held about a recent email on returning classrooms to a row setting.

It was clarified that once the repairs to the HTHW lines were finished that work on Mohonk Walk will begin. The replacement of the HTHW lines has torn up the ground in part of the stretch that will be formed into the Mohonk walk so it is cost effective to create Mohonk Walk while covering the HTHW lines.

#### **5. Report of the Presiding Officer (Appendix A)**

The President has invited the Presiding Officer and Glenn McNitt, President of UUP, to budget briefings of the cabinet. Faculty hiring has been given the highest priority. The Faculty Governance secretary has retired and the Presiding Officer has been working with Human Resources on hiring a new secretary. The Organizational Committee is working to certify the recent elections. Once the list of committee members is complete, it will be conveyed to last year's committee chairs. Over the summer, the Presiding Officer met with Jackie Andrews and the Provost to discuss the experimental online summer SEIs. As a result of that discussion, a briefing session has taken place the day before. The Presiding Officer was invited to meet with the new Vice President of Finance, Jacqueline DiStefano. The Presiding Officer participated in the New Faculty Orientation and was given a chance to talk to the new faculty members and invite them to participate in faculty governance. She also represented governance at the convocation and welcomed the incoming class. The Associate Provost, Laurel Grrick-Duhaney and Professor Rose Rudnitski, Chair of the GE Board, met with the Presiding Officer to Plan for GE4.

Professor Mary Kahl, Chair of the Organization Committee, clarified that those individuals that served on a central committee representing LA&S but have since moved to School of Science and Engineering will serve out their term representing the school they were originally elected to represent.

#### **6. Unfinished Business**

None.

#### **7. New Business**

The elections for new Vice President and Secretary of the Academic Senate have been deferred to next meeting to allow representation of the newly elected members of the Senate.

#### **8. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heather Whalen Smith

## Appendix A

*Report of the Presiding Officer to Academic Senate: 9/05/08*

Governance did not stop over the summer. The highlight of my activities and major issues facing governance this summer are as follows:

- 1. The Budget:** The President invited Glenn McNitt and me to three cabinet briefings on the budget. I am happy to report to you that faculty hiring has been given the highest budgetary priority. The President has authorized 28.50 faculty lines for the coming year, four of which are for searches failed in 2007.
- 2. Governance Secretary:** As I communicated in an email yesterday, the governance secretary has retired. I have been working with the Human Resources to determine a suitable candidate.
- 3. The Provost Search Committee:** The President consulted with me in the process of empanelling the committee, and appointing its co-chairs. The committee met several times, mostly in July, to develop the timeline. Campus visits will start in February.
- 4. Online Summer SEIs:** Over the summer I met with the Provost and Assistant Vice President Jackie Andrews to discuss the experimental online Summer SEIs. As you may have heard through an email from them, a briefing session was organized for late summer, which was held yesterday afternoon. At the briefing, Jackie and her staff and I had an opportunity to discuss the outcome, and address some minor changes the vendor has made to the text of questions. Jackie will inform the faculty who were involved in this project.
- 5. New Vice President of Finance and Administration:** Jackie DiStefano reached out to governance by inviting me to meet with her and offered to work with us.
- 6. New Faculty Orientation:** I attended the New Faculty orientation event on August 20th. I hope you get a chance to meet our new colleagues and see for yourself the amazing wealth of intellectual capital they bring to our community.
- 7. Convocation:** I participated in the Convocation ceremony on August 22, and was on the program to welcome the incoming class. The energy and excitement in the room was wonderful to see.

8. **GE IV Planning:** Associate Provost Laurel Garrick Duhaney and Professor Rose Rudnitski, the Chair of the GE Board, and I met on Wednesday this week to plan for GE IV.
  
9. **Central Committees Membership List:** I am expecting the Organization Committee to certify the elections of various divisions by the end of next week. Upon their approval, the revised list will be communicated to present committee chairs.

I look forward to a productive year, and ask for your full support for delivering an effective shared-governance.

Simin Mozayeni