Attendance Tuesday, October 16th

Present:
President: Greg Woodward
Provost: Fred Sweitzer
Reference Librarian: Jillian Maynard
College Bookstore Manager: Melissa Elliot
A&S: Kristin Comeforo, Larry Gould, Nels Highberg, Anne Pidano
Barney: Jerry Katrichis, Onur Oz, Narendar Sumukadas
CETA: Seth Holmes, Saeid Moslehpour
ENHP: Adam Goodworth, Sarah Hart, Claudia Oakes, Michael Wininger
Hartt: Steve Davis, Tracey Moore, Peter Woodard
HAS: Cat Balco, Andy Wollner
Hillyer: Paula Alderette, Jon Daigle, Mari Firkatian
SA: Ben Ide
SGA: Zoey Zimber

Absent:
A&S: Joanna Borucinska, Al Dichiara, Natalie Politikos
Barney: Irina Naoumova,
CETA: Paul Slaboch, Akin Tatoglu
Hartt: Warren Haston, Carrie Koffman
HAS: Michael Vahrenwald

Tuesday, October 16, 2018
12:15 Call to Order
<AP calls to order, 12:15pm>

12:20 Provost: Fred Sweitzer:  https://ensemble.hartford.edu/Watch/Qb9e5KMg
1. CETA Dean search: Progressing nicely
2. Two technology contract renewals in near future
   a. Capital Education Services online-learning content partner: considering re-negotiation to fee-for service model where some services are provided in-house
   b. Blackboard learning management software: contemplating Canvas as alternative
3. Block schedule: Adoption postponed from Fall 2019 to likely Fall 2020

4. Annual faculty evaluations
   a. Will review first 2 years’ implementation with working group developers
   b. Objective: Uniform structure for assessing merit, with deliberate flexibility
      Q: Please speak to subjectivity of “meets” versus “exceeds” expectations
         FS: Allows for discussions of merit to be well-informed and reasonably objective. Creates mechanism for annual collegial feedback. Some units create a rubric, which helps define a performance plan.

5. Provost’s Office: Will look soon for new Dean of Undergraduate Studies; may re-align roles to support role-filling

6. Part-Time faculty agreement: Contract remains In Progress

12:40 President: Gregory Woodward: https://ensemble.hartford.edu/Watch/Gn48FfWp

1. Recruitment
   a. Applications for new programs are at or above expectations as yet
   b. New web-site
      i. Will facilitate recruitment by search for major via menu cf. search
      ii. Timeline postponed from Jan. 1, 2019 to Feb. 1, 2019
   c. New student qualifications (SATs, GPAs) at all-time highs
      i. Note SATs are no longer required reporting, so possible bias
   d. Graduate student enrollment up 282, mostly due to partnerships with area employers
      i. Graduate student rate of return outsized by Undergraduate 3:1 or 4:1

2. Retention
   a. Increased >3% over last year, now at 74-76% (depending on analysis pool)
      Q: Does attrition have a different etiology by College?
      GW: Yes, due to the different student bases and nature of programs
      Q: President should be aware of accreditation of Computer Science & Engineering (ABET)
      GW: Noted
      Q: How many transfers do we anticipate?
      GW: We define recruitment targets at a Program-level to aid with projections. Will re-calibrate our budgets to match true accrual rate and to reflect timely expectations of programs
   b. 173 students with marginal financial need supported by $500K; up to $900K. Low response rate to University inquiry, but high projected rate of return.
      Q: Please confirm high-rate of return, and also $400K left unspent
      GW: Confirmed; we can do better next time

3. Diversity
   a. Should be a major aspect of new Strategic Plan
   b. There are two faculty members on President’s Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Jane Horvath and Ted Sawruk.
   c. Diversity Office will eventually have a physical space; just don’t have the funding at present.

4. Inauguration: Attendance optional; all welcome. Intentionally low-key, low-cost

5. Budget
   a. Merit awards and faculty increments are in doubt due to change in budget picture
   b. Complete budget overhaul in process
      i. Identifying projections/assumptions/parameters that were inaccurate or missing
ii. Identifying gaps in budget coverage or communication
iii. Effort to reduce spending is exhausted: no known areas of excess/largesse remain
iv. Board of regents will be asked to allocate funds from cash reserves

1:00 Questions for the President
<Taken in-kind, as above>

1:10 Reference Librarian: Jillian Maynard- Open Education Resources:
https://ensemble.hartford.edu/Watch/Pi4s5S7R
<Start: 1:15pm>
1. Open Education Resources Five-Rs: (Retain, Revise, Remix, Reuse, Redistribute)
2. OER saved UHart students estimated $220K in text book expenses in AY 2017-2018
3. OER materials are owned by faculty forever when adopted
4. OER improves retention by reducing cost of attendance
5. UHart is only private institution invited to participate in Open Stax OER program
6. JM is starting a student advocacy group with Student Government Association
   Q: Please clarify intellectual property and ownership versus merely perpetual access
   A: No rights are surrendered when a faculty member publishes their own content as OER
   Q: Are all materials in OER reserves peer-reviewed?
   A: Not all materials in OER are peer-reviewed.
7. JM welcomes outreach and will do whatever possible to facilitate adoption

1:25 College Bookstore Manager: Melissa Elliot- Textbook Rental Program:
https://ensemble.hartford.edu/Watch/Zq59Byd6
<Start: 1:30pm>
1. In past 5 years, 30-60% of textbooks were rented cf. purchased from UHart bookstore
2. Electronic rentals: Can print up to 60% of the book
3. Rental saves up to 70% versus purchase price, are property of the student until last day of class
4. Can return book unless cover missing or badly water-damaged
5. Cengage: flat fee for access to all books in their holdings ($119/semester or $179/year)

1:33 Announcements in Closure
1. Robert’s Rules of Order Cheat Sheets available in hard-copy or through Blackboard
2. Interest among Senate Executive Committee to add structure to the extent reasonable
   a. Wait to speak until recognized by presiding officer
   b. No speaking twice on a given topic until all first-time speakers have been exhausted
   c. Maximum two speaking opportunities per topic
   d. Best practices in making a motion

1:40 Adjourn
Motion to adjourn: SH. Motion seconded.
<Adjourn: 1:35pm>

Attendance Thursday, October 18th

Present:
Thursday, October 18, 2018

12:15 Reconvene
   <AP calls to order, 12:15pm>

12:20 DISCUSSION AND SCHEDULED VOTES:
   September 2018 Minutes
   Minutes approved: 23-0-1 (clicker vote)

   October Curriculum Committee Report
   JD provides brief overview of Curriculum Committee report; Committee recommends approval
   Report approved: 25-0-0 (clicker vote)

   Grievance Committee Nominations
   Review of candidate biographies. Slate approved: 23-2-0 (clicker vote)

   Floor discussion as to the rationale for a slate vote versus separate vote.
   Motion to vote separately for all future Committee nominations (Alderette).
   Motion seconded.
   Hand vote: Ayes noted; no nays; abstentions noted. Motion carries.

   Motion to revisit vote for Grievance Committee as a separate vote by candidate (Moore).
   Motion seconded.
   Point of clarity: Any vote can be re-visited by two-thirds majority.
   Hand vote. 12-3 Yea-Nay; many abstentions. Motion carries.

   Paper vote on Christensen for Grievance Committee: 24-4-1.
   Paper vote on Cummings for Grievance Committee: 21-4-1.
P&T Committee Nominations
Paper vote on McCloskey for P&T Committee: 23-2-0.
Paper vote on Cotei for P&T Committee: 22-3-0.

Benefits Task Force Nomination
Review of candidate biographies.
Clicker vote on Shertukde for Benefits Task Force: 21 Yeas
Clicker vote on Kovacic for Benefits Task Force: 6 Yeas

New Program Review Committee Nominations
Need Senator to sit on committee in review of Exercise Science Program.
Experienced Senators describe commitment at 2-3 meetings, likely in November.
Senators from the College typically recuse.
Tracey Moore – Hartt- volunteers.

12:40   SGA Representative: Liam Bernier
SGA anticipates Hawktober Weekend and First Flight (open of Basketball season).
SGA exploring resolution with regard to University’s status as a sanctuary campus.

12:45   Staff Representative: Ben Ide
The Staff Association is doing a fundraiser for staff professional development. Please contact Staff Association members before Oct 23 if you are interested in placing orders for braided pastry and cookie dough.

Our revised Constitution and Bylaws are still with General Counsel. Meanwhile, we are lining up community representatives for the switch to Staff Council. We'll keep the representatives as we already have, but there are historically underrepresented groups of staff on campus.

Ten staff members have been selected to serve on the President's Staff Advisory Council. Five were chosen by the Staff Association from a pool of 55 volunteers, the other five selected by President Woodward. The first meeting will be in November.

Lisa Belanger-Buoniconti, the Executive Director of HRD, talked about health insurance open enrollment changes. The big change is that the University is switching to Aetna for all health care, not just dental. We should get the enrollment packets (it's paper-based again this year) at the end of the month, and there will be town hall meetings for more information.

12:50   Committee Reports

Student Affairs Committee
—Will assess roster to ensure presence of a non-voting student member.

Awards & Nominations
—As yet only 7 Coffin grants, although may see more submitted at deadline.
Discussion as to how awards are decided. Some awards are through the Committee (i.e. faculty/peer); some awards are through Provost’s Office (i.e. administration); others are through the funder (boards, e.g. Women’s Advancement Initiative). Discussion as to the role of candidate merit versus ensuring non-repeats from the same college. Observation that University’s awards page may need updating; speculation that this has been noted by University Communications and will be updated with the new site in February.

Environment and Sustainability

—Two platforms anticipated this year: 1) Sustainability master plan, and 2) Waste Management plan, with an interest in exploring single stream recycling; anticipated that this will require coordination and proper messaging to campus constituents.

—LG reads statement expressing disavowal of Committee’s master plan for its predication of an anthropogenic cause. Announces resignation from Committee.

Remarks to the Faculty Senate at its meeting of October 18, 2018 by Laurence I. (“Larry”) Gould, Professor of Physics, A&S

I received, from the Chair of the Environmental and Sustainability (E&S) Committee, the recent Minutes and PDF of his presentation last May. I’ll skip replying to the invalid and improper attacks on me and on one of the organizations to which I belong.

I will, however, mention that I already addressed certain issues regarding the E&S Committee [see, e.g., archive of Faculty Senate Minutes; Tuesday, May 15, 2018, Auerbach 326 12:15-1:40 and Thursday, May 17, 2018, 1877 Club Noon-1:45pm, under “New Business”]: Namely, suggestions of promoting collegiality in discussions of issues on which we don’t agree, application of critical thinking to those issues, and my view that the scientific base of the E&S Master Plan is fundamentally flawed. The literature that I distributed to the E&S Committee was apparently (as I have said) not looked at; if it had been, then one could have seen the arguments that the claims of “Consensus” are false.

I have been involved in studying and researching Anthropogenic Global Warming (AGW) for over 14 years and have given three critical thinking courses on AGW here, at the University of Hartford, as well as speaking to various classes on campus. I have given over 65 talks both in the US and overseas. And I have publications on the AGW topic. I have also been an amicus on a US Supreme Court case of the State of Connecticut versus an Electric Power company.
The premise on which the E&S Committee is based, that there is dangerous AGW, is pseudoscience and has been causing, through AGW-related policies, widespread suffering around the world. For this and the above reasons I cannot justify continuing to serve on the E&S Committee and I am resigning from it, effective immediately. I request that my remarks be included in the Minutes for today’s (October 18th) Faculty Senate meeting.

Faculty Affairs

FA Friendly Amendments to Appeals FPM Revision
—P&T Appeals operations amendment to FPM: Committee has three Friendly Amendments to propose to Provost’s Office. Anticipate progression to a vote for November Senate meeting (as a first read)
—Short-term disability amendment to FPM: Committee seeks greater clarity from Provost’s Office before item can be considered further. AP notes that the Provost is aware of the Committee’s concerns and is pleased to meet to discuss further.
—Committee shall prepare a Senate By-Laws revision to support motion (September Senate meeting) related to the pre-review of document amendments by the relevant Committee, i.e. FPM, MAPP and Curriculum. Committee expresses concern about the bringing of items to the Senate for consideration without routing to Committee first.

1:20 Old and New Business

Inquiry as to the Senate Officers’ selection of 5 representatives to the President’s Advisory Council.

AP: President solicited Senate Chair to gather Officers for nominations. Officers reviewed all applications and collaborated to identify 5 names that diversified academic rank, college representation, and demography, whilst prioritizing faculty with no other exposure to the President. A list of 5 additional names were provided as suggestions for President’s personal selections. Suggestion was made to stagger appointments, rather than wholesale replacement annually.

Point of Information: Final selections were recently published in UNotes.

Point of Information: AP solicited opinion of Officers on selecting on behalf of Senate; Officers agreed it was tenable.

Motion that Senate shall create rubrics for how members are chosen for the President’s Advisory Council. (Moslehpour)

Point of Order: Can the Senate vote on an item pertaining to a request by the President?
JK: Yes; can vote on anything.

Motion seconded.

Discussion:
—It may not be per se that every selection process needs to go to the Senate floor, but that the implications of a Committee selection may change depending on whether it is a full Senate selection versus selection of the Officers
 - Officers were selected as representatives of the Senate; analogy to Senators as representatives of the faculty at-large
 - Officers might consider consulting the Senate body as analogy to discussing ‘First Reads’ at College meetings
 - Senate may wish to put forth motion that President’s Advisory Council may be selected by Officers without consultation of Senate
—Request was made before first Senate meeting of the new academic year; note that Officers are empowered to make decisions over the Summer on behalf of the Senate
—Speculation that this selection will occur infrequently
—Suggestions of alternatives to a rubric
   - Vote over email with deadline to respond (otherwise: abstention)
—There are other vehicles for faculty access to President, other than this Advisory Council. Council appointment is short-term and meets only a few times per year. Council is not a decisioning deciding body, but rather an advisory body.
—Want to avoid the appearance that members are hand-picked by administrators
—A rubric does not address the root concern of consultation of Senate

Point of Information: No other appointments considered by the Senate utilize rubrics

—A rubric for the President’s Committee would need to be created by the President, not by the Senate
—Perhaps the Senate should make friendly inquiry with President about his opinions on the matter
—It seems that the Senator making the motion may prefer a guidelines, but we should aspire to flexibility rather than prescription
—Concern that process could be opaque, including President’s vision for the Committee activities or composition

Point of Information: Confirmation that Committee is strictly advisory and not a decisioning body

Point of Clarity: Given late hour (1:40pm), several Senators have departed. Do we still have quorum to Call to Question?
Motion to postpone the vote on President’s Advisory Council suggestion until November Senate Meeting. (Holmes).
Motion seconded.

AP solicits Senators to provide perspective on the difficulties in recruiting candidates for Committees.

1:40 Adjourn
Motion to adjourn (Gould)
Motion Seconded.
Unanimous to adjourn.

2018-19 Committee Chairs:

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<th>SENATOR</th>
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<th>COMMITTEE</th>
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<td>Pidano, Anne</td>
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<td>Haston, Warren</td>
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<tr>
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Bylaw 4.a “Faculty Senate meetings are open to all full-time and part-time (adjunct) faculty. Administrators, staff, and others having proper business with the Faculty Senate may attend meetings as observers, upon invitation of (or approval of petition to) the Chair or the Executive Committee. Observers may not, during the meeting, petition the Faculty Senate Chair for the right to address the Faculty Senate, although the Faculty Senate Chair may invite observers to address the Faculty Senate from the floor on specific points of business. Only elected Senators have voice and voting privileges.”