

Report of Governance Committee for the *Spring 2009 UFS Plenary* at University at Buffalo.

2008-9 Governance Committee members:

Sharon Cramer, Chair (Buffalo State)*; Tom Barthel (Herkimer CC; Community College Liaison)*; Susan Camp (Oswego)*; Nan Carroll (Albany); Melody Eldred (Cobleskill); Marti Ellermann (System Administration liaison)*; Deborah Firestone (Stony Brook); Jim Grillo (Alfred State; ex officio member of committee as Convener of the Campus Governance Leaders, or CGLs and member of the Executive Committee); Fred Hildebrand (System Administration Liaison)*; Joe Hildreth (Potsdam)*; Eric Johansson (Maritime); Yoav Kaddar (New Paltz)*; Student member Garret Komariski, Buffalo State; Shelly Mozlin (Optometry); Adam Ryburn (Oneonta)¹; Dennis Showers (Geneseo).

*: Second year committee member

Link to Governance page on the UFS web site:

http://www.suny.edu/facultySenate/gov_com.cfm

Charge to the Governance Committee:

The Committee shall concern itself with University-wide governance and shall provide guidance on matters of campus governance. The Committee shall interact with local governance leaders of the University.

The committee is responsible for the publication of the Governance Handbook and will review and update it every four years (next will be 2011-12).

Since the Winter Plenary, the University Faculty Senate Governance Committee met in person at SUNY System on 2-27-09 and via conference call several times as subcommittees. The committee also met twice in advance of the Plenary while in Buffalo (before and after the webinar); an additional meeting has been scheduled for Syracuse for July 13/14, following the recommended “four meeting” model proposed by President Wiezalis last spring.

The focus of the work of the committee this year has been to advance initiatives center primarily around the topic of “Leadership.” The initiatives are:

- **Leadership for University Faculty Senate Senators and Campus Governance Leaders**
In-person and Webinar delivery.

Changes were required due to the cancellation of the original speaker. The committee members worked with the speakers identified by President Wiezalis, and it appears (in advance of the session) that the original goals of the event will be achieved:

- *Explore the roles and expectations of governance leaders.*

¹ Resigned from Committee, 3-09, due to planned relocation out of NY in 9-09.

- *Examine strategies for engaging in dialogue around the challenges, and building networks and communities of support through developing and implementing action plans, and establishing new cultural expectations for faculty leaders.*

Pending the outcome of the evaluations of the session, the committee will pursue a request to the Executive Committee for follow up to the session during 2009-10, and a U.U.P. grant to fund the follow up.

Section B: Resources for Governance Leaders and Future Leaders Progress on these guides has been made since the last Plenary, but no additional documents are available for review at this time. There is an expectation that these items will be available in advance of the start of the academic year, for use by individuals new to these roles.

Note that these guides and materials, when completed, will be available on the UFS website, incorporated into the next edition of the Governance Handbook, as well as being published as separate documents:

- **Orientation Guides for new University Faculty Senators**
Members of the Governance Committee involved in this task:
Eric Johansson (PowerPoint); Joe Hildreth (text outline); Yoav Kaddar
(a “family tree” for SUNY Governance, to enable new UFS Senators, as well as new CGLs to understand their “roots”)
- **Orientation Guides for new Campus Governance Leaders:**
Members of the Governance Committee involved in this task:
Susan Camp (draft of Table of Contents), Grillo, Dennis Showers, Melody Eldred.

It was agreed that there would be a section of Guide that would provide suggestions about seeking out/using campus expectations, and a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

- **PowerPoint directed at newly tenured faculty members** (about the University Faculty Senate) Deferred until 2009-2010.

Section C: Recognizing “shared governance” role models

- **In-depth interviews with several SUNY presidents who practice informal and formal “best practices” related to shared governance** Deferred until 2009-2010
Nan Carroll, Deborah Firestone and Yoav Kaddar are members of the subcommittee working on the interview guides. An intended pilot of the in-depth interview has not taken place. The goal to create/post interviews on the UFS web site during 2009-10 will be examined.

- **Providing support for a panel of SUNY presidents (a representative nominated by each UFS Sector) to discuss this topic at the Spring 2009 UFS Plenary** Thanks to Nan Carroll, Deborah Firestone and Yoav Kaddar for developing questions discussed at the 2-27-09 Committee meeting; they will be used at the panel during the lunch hour at the Spring 2009 Plenary. John Clark will serve as the moderator.

Section D: Establish supports for/outreach to Parliamentarians for UFS Campus Governance

Organizations, including inviting them to participate in the CGL-sponsored web-cast of Ed Alfonsin's presentation on Parliamentary Procedures (taking place on 10-16-08), and establishing a list serv for campus parliamentarians

Project deferred overall until 2009-10 with two small goals to be achieved prior to the start of the 2009-10 year:

- It is hoped that Joe Hildreth and Walt Conley (Potsdam) can work on the development of a Parliamentary Procedure PowerPoint with Ed Alfonsin (UFS Parliamentarian, Potsdam), in time for the Fall 2009 Plenary. Newly elected CGL Melody Eldred will work on this, as will Fred Hildebrand.
- **Posting of the Roberts Rules link on the UFS website** TBD, when time permits. Link is www.robertsrules.com

Making use of the names of Parliamentarians gathered in Potsdam to create a listserv
Defer until 2009-10

Section E: The Governance Committee was also asked to review the current Guidelines for Presidential Searches, which will be done during this year. **Project deferred overall until 2009-10.**