Committee Reports

Fall Plenary Meeting
College of Environmental Science & Forestry
October 23-25, 2014
Charge: The Committee on Diversity and Cultural Competence will concern itself with issues pertaining to equity, inclusiveness and access, as they are reflected in the curriculum, student body, and personnel of the State University. Among the activities of this committee will be collecting and disseminating information, organizing periodic meetings and workshops, and providing guidance and recommendations to the Senate so that it may act with the best intentions of all people in mind.

2014-15 Committee Members:

Chair: Noelle Chaddock Paley, SUNY Cortland
Timothy Gerken, Morrisville
Beth Hinderliter, Buffalo State
Sunil Labroo, Oneonta
Lauren Lieberman, Brockport
Gloria Lopez, System Affirmative Action Officer
Carlos Medina, System Chief Diversity Officer

2014-15 Committee Members:

Jeany Melendez, Student Assembly
Cathy Parker, Albany
Nand Relan, Stony Brook
Gloria Viboud, Stony Brook
Carl Wiezalis, Emeritus
Miriam Vincent, Downstate
Aimee Woznick, Empire State
Ruhan Zhao, Brockport
Jie Zhang, Brockport

Committee Goals for 2014-15:

- The committee aims for a successful proposal of the System-wide LGBT Athlete Ally resolution with follow up and implementation of supportive Athlete Ally behaviors, programs, and commitments across the SUNY system. The committee would like to see the SUNY System to be the first academic system in the country to have every campus actively hosting an athlete ally commitment program.
- The committee is happy to facilitate the system wide diversity survey in January 2015 with a report to the senate body at the Fall 2015 plenary
- The committee is excited to see the system wide diversity conference come to fruition on November 12-13 at the Making Diversity County: Ensuring Equity, Inclusion, Access and Impact Conference. Registration is still open but space is becoming more limited as the date nears.
- The committee is planning training for the CDCC on diversity, equity, inclusion, and access in Spring 2015 and making a recommendation for an executive committee and senate body training with the same focus in Spring or Summer 2015. The committee will research and propose both trainings in Fall 2014.
- The committee will be working to establish an articulation of the scope of system-wide and local need around marginalized populations that would benefit from the consideration and resources of the CDCC including but not limited to veterans, international students, non-majority faith and non-faith identities. These populations will be integrated into the ongoing conversations and initiatives of the committee.
- The committee will be following up with the senate body on the status of the Making Diversity County recommendations on their campuses.
Committee meeting dates (include type of meeting):

- The committee is having monthly telephone conference calls starting on November 3rd.
- The committee hopes to have one face to face meeting during Spring 2015

Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:

- Planning and participation in the Making Diversity Count: Ensuring Equity, Inclusion, Access and Impact Conference – committee members will be volunteering and presenting at the conference
- Finalizing the diversity survey
- Drafting of the System-wide LGBT Athlete Ally resolution (Thank you Timothy Gerken)
- Increasing interest in and membership of the committee – we are very excited to have had double the interest in our committee this year! Kudos to the founding members of this committee for the good work and reputation which attracted so many people from across the system.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:

- Please make sure to review the survey instrument and get feedback to noelle.paley@cortland.edu by November 30, 2014.
- Please make sure that your campus governance body is continuing to review and consider the Making Diversity Count and its recommendations – the committee will be formally requesting feedback from campuses on this item but feedback before that time is welcome as well. Please send feedback to noelle.paley@cortland.edu
- Please remember to register for the November 12-13 Making Diversity Count: Ensuring Equity, Inclusion and Impact Conference. There is a special session for senior administrators – please remember to invite them to attend the conference with you.

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments:

- Resolution as stated above
- Diversity survey instrument as stated above
Committee On Ethics and Institutional Integrity
Presented October 25, 2014 Fall UFS Plenary
At SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse NY

Charge: The committee will study and make recommendations to the SUNY University Faculty Senate President regarding issues of professional behavior, ethical conduct and institutional integrity as they relate to faculty, students, administrators and other personnel in SUNY and higher education. The committee will gather information and serve as a resource for the Senate and the University.

The Committee will not serve as a disciplinary body nor will it take part in judicial proceedings.

The Committee’s area of activity and interest will be quite broad and will include but not be limited to the following areas as they pertain to the State University of New York:

- Curriculum, Academic honesty, Research, scholarship and creative activity, Instructional, institutional and operational policies and practices, Personal integrity, Electronic communication, Confidentiality, Use of university resources, Conflicts of interest and commitment, Financial transactions, Impact on the environment, Hiring and admissions practices

Committee members: Rochelle Mozlin—Chair, Chuck Moran, Pamela Wolfskill, Joshua Altemoos, Robert Olick, Charlie Phipps, Sharon Boyce, Julee Miller, Kathleen Powderly, Bill Robins, Joe Marren, Reneta Barneva, Camilio Rojas, Andrew Fitz-Gibbon

Committee Goals

1. Develop guiding principles document expressing commitment to the development of an ethical framework for SUNY.
2. Survey of academic ethics activities across the campuses.
3. Bullying Hazing document in collaboration with Student Life Committee
4. Academic freedom document in collaboration with Governance Committee
5. Academic integrity education/policy, possible project in collaboration with Student Assembly.
6. Development of Electronic Privacy policy in collaboration with System and SUNY Counsel

Meetings: Sept 18, 2014 (Planning Meeting), October 10, 2014 (conference call)

Update on activities/goals

1. Continuing to work on draft document, begins with statement of SUNY’s mission, will try to incorporate core values from strategic plan (student centeredness, collaboration, community engagement, diversity, integrity. Hope to have this ready for winter plenary.
2. Survey of academic ethics activities across the system: the survey has been sent to all senators and is to be completed by senators!! Please take the time to do whatever it takes to obtain the appropriate information, and then complete and return the survey. DO NOT PASS THE SURVEY ONTO ANOTHER PERSON BECAUSE THE CHANCES OF IT BEING COMPLETED WILL DROP TO ALMOST ZERO.
3. Bullying Hazing document is being reviewed and we will focus on working with Student Life Committee, hope to have more definitive document by winter plenary.
4. Academic freedom document is being reviewed and we will focus on working with Governance Committee, hope to have more definitive document by winter plenary.

5. Will work with Student Assembly and focus on their needs to identify meaningful collaborative project.

6. Development of electronic privacy policy is in its infancy, will reach out to appropriate persons at System, including Counsel’s office. Goal is to have a draft policy for the spring plenary.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee: Please respond to Survey on Academic Ethics Initiatives directly. **Do not pass the survey onto another individual.**

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments: The Committee will focus on the Guiding Principles document as a priority and hopes to have this ready for the winter meeting.
Committee Charge: 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.

Committee members: Chair, Peggy A. De Cooke - Purchase College; Phillipe Abraham - University at Albany; Dale Avers – Upstate Medical; Bryant Barksdale- SUNY Student Assembly; John Beckem - Empire State College; Ross Borden – Cortland; Justin Giordano-Empire State College; Norman Goodman - Stony Brook University; Fred Hildebrand - System Administration Liaison; Mark Meirowitz - SUNY Maritime; Wendy Ravitz – System Administration; Daniel Ryan – University at Buffalo; Daniel Smith – SUNY Polytechnic; Ron Sarner-SUNY IT; Julia Shaw – Empire State College; Nina Tamrowski - Onondaga Community College; Jeffrey Walkuski - Cortland

Committee Goals for 2014-15:

1. To finalize a resolution concerning the timely presentation of resolutions to the Executive Committee for evaluation and inclusion on the UFS agenda.
2. To examine the basic tenants of academic freedom with the goal of expanding the scope of a committee document drafted last year (e.g., what is/is not academic freedom, the freedom to speak on governance issues, separation of roles – that of private citizen versus that of University employee). The committee will work with past Governance Committee Chair S. Mozlin.
3. To address the role of contingent faculty in shared governance, and provide guidance to campuses on constitution of fair service (e.g., whether and how contingent faculty should be afforded the option to give their time in governance service) and level of involvement in campus governance (e.g., within programs or departments or at the institutional level, how votes should be counted).
4. To respond to concerns raised on several campuses about the role of faculty consultation in administrative searches (excluding Presidents)

Committee Meeting Dates:

9/18-19/2014: Committee Planning Meeting (face to face)
12/2014: Committee Meeting (Electronic) (TBD)
02/2015: Committee Meeting (Electronic) (TBD)
03/2015: Committee Meeting (face to face) (TBD)
04/2015: Committee Meeting (Electronic) (TBD)
Committee Accomplishments since previous UFS Spring 2014 Plenary

The Committee has a new chair who is also a new member to the committee. The Fall planning meeting was well attended, and the Chair thanks the committee members for their graciousness in bringing her up to speed on the work of the committee. The committee had a lively discussion about the goals//issues identified above, allocated the work to move these initiatives forward, and looks forward to reporting concrete progress at the Winter Plenary.

Requests to UFS Senators from the committee:

Nothing at this time.

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments:

The committee has finalized wording on the timing resolution and looks forward to presenting this issue to the Executive Committee and UFS for consideration.

The committee is developing brief surveys to explore the role of contingent faculty on system campuses and to document campus procedures for administrative searches. Surveys will be distributed to Senators prior to the Winter 2015 Plenary.
Graduate Academic Programs and Research Committee
Report Date 10/08/2014
Presented at: 10/23/2014 UFS Plenary

Charge:

The Committee serves as a source of professional advice and guidance to the Senate on matters relating to the quality, operation, and encouragement of graduate programs and research. To these ends, the Committee may be concerned with the procedures, criteria, and support of existing and new graduate programs within the University. The Committee may review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and graduate studies and other matters involving the furtherance of research and graduate studies within the University.

2014-2015 Committee Members

Chair: Rosalyn Rufer (Empire State College)
Members (name, institution, years on the committee, subcommittee- see goals below)

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Committee Goals for 2014-2015 (or subcommittees*)

1) 2015 Graduate Research Poster Session February 10
   - Committee: Scott Goodman, Justin Shanley, David Allen, Chris Connor, and Josh LaFave plus Tim Tryjankowski and Jim McElwaine as suggested by Carol
   - Purpose – to showcase graduate research completed during the 2014 calendar year.
   - Objectives
     - Outreach to legislators
Work jointly with Undergraduate Committee to address how/whether event should be modified, evaluate effectiveness of program

2) Liaison to RF Undergraduate Research Symposium
   • Liaison – Scott Goodman
   • Purpose – to report back to our committee best practices and ways in which we can support undergraduate research

3) Complete Graduate Student engagement in NYS
   • Committee – Rebecca Marinoff and Martin Kaczocha working with Kathleen Caggiano-Siino, Taya Owens, and Phil Ortiz
   • Purpose develop a best practice report on how to keep our Graduated Students employed in NYS
   • Objectives – to increase response rate from Alumni Surveys with the help of Pete and CGL
   • Objective – to survey deans to identify what is currently being done and after the data is analyzed write up a best practice report

4) White Paper on how we teach our graduate students to teach
   • Committee: Rebecca Marinoff and David Allen
   • Purpose – report for the bulletin
   • Objective – identify what are the current practices for teaching our graduates to teach and develop a white paper on the subject.

5) Feasibility of System-wide or multi-campus IRB
   • Committee: Kathleen Caggiano-Siino, Taya Owens, Rosalyn Rufer, and Shishir Singh
   • Purpose – identify the feasibility for a campus wide IRB
   • Objective – identify system wide IRBs and see if what they are doing can be applied to SUNY and the Research Foundation

6) Create a Student Handbook on Grant Writing
   • Committee: Rosalyn Rufer, Jian Cao, Rebecca Marinoff, Anthony Hay, Martin Kaczocha, Subrata Shaa, Lu-Ru Zuao, Kathleen Caggiano-Siino
   • Purpose- Engaging graduate students to apply for NSF, NIH, and other fellowships;
   • Objective - work with RF to create a booklet on how to obtain grants; share with undergraduate programs and policy committee. (expect two year completion)

7) Work with Operations Committee to better “define” postdoctoral students
   • Committee: Lu-Ru Zuao Kathleen Caggiano-Siino
   • Purpose: Current postdoctoral students fall in the gray area as neither a student nor an employee
   • Objective – better define the position and identify the best compensation packages.

Committee meeting dates:

    September 18th – Fall planning meeting
October 6th 9:30AM phone meeting to update and share milestone table for above subcommittees and create report for UFS Plenary

January 5th – 12:00 noon phone meeting to update status of each subcommittee and create report for UFS Plenary

February 9th face to face meeting in Albany from 5-7:30 review current status of initiatives

April 6th noon – phone meeting to create report for UFS Plenary

**Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:**

Since the last Plenary, we began collecting data for engaging graduate students in NYS. The preliminary results from the alumni responses are found below:

SUNY Graduate Student Alumni Survey

Survey and Sample Design:

The following questions were sent to graduate Alumni via institutional research leaders at all 64 campuses, via survey monkey. It was requested that this link be sent to all Alumni since 2004: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7N95Z87](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7N95Z87) However we received only 52 responses.

A possible solution is to follow up with the institutional research leaders to ask that they send out a reminder to their graduate alumni since 2004 with the link in case they have forgotten, to see if there is an increase in response rate.

Results based on the limited response rate:

The full results are found in a separate report and will be presented at the next UFS Plenary. However to summarize the key findings, the following charts have been created:

Of the 52 responses A total of 45 respondents (86.54%) most recently received a Master’s degree, 5 respondents most recently received a PhD or Professional Degree (9.62%), and 2 respondents received a Professional Degree (3.85%).
Types of Degree Earned:

Out of the 45 respondents who identified as most recently completing a Master’s Degree 29 respondents selected one of the provided responses. 11 (24.44%) respondents said their degree was in education, 4 (8.89%) respondents received a degree in biology, 3 (6.67%) respondents said their degree was in history, and 3 (6.67%) respondents received a degree in accounting. Two respondents (4.44%) received a degree in each of the following degree programs: public health and sociology. One respondent (2.22%) received a degree in each of the following degree programs: business administration, mathematics, psychology, and social work.
For PhD and professional degrees:

Out of the 5 respondents who identified as most recently receiving a PhD or Doctoral degree, 4 students selected one of the provided responses. Each of the following degree programs received one selection: Biology, Business, Computer Science, and Psychology. One respondent selected “other degree program.” One who obtained a professional degree said it was in Pharmacy.

All PhD students found a job within one year and 75% of those found jobs in New York State. However only 25% found their job through an initiative offered at their institution, which was through an industry partnership.
Outcomes varied among the master level students as seen below:

**Masters in Accounting**

*Employment within 1 Year*

*Note — no initiatives for finding jobs.*

**Masters in Biology**

*Employment in 1 Year*

66% found employment within NYS; 25% of these found employment through an internship
Masters in History

Employment within 1 Year

100% of those employed found employment in NYS; However there were no special initiatives for job placement

Masters in Education

Employment within 1 year

100% Employed found a job in NYS; However only 10% found employment through a special initiative such as an internship
Conclusions:

Sociology

Employment within 1 year

50% of those employed found employment within NYS; While 100% participated in employment initiatives, only 1/3 found it helpful in finding jobs in NYS.

Masters in Public Health

Employment within 1 year

Of those that obtained employment it was within NYS and did participate in an internship though not specific to employment in the state.
While it is difficult to make recommendations based on our limited sample size, some trends are supported by the data. It appears that when employment initiatives are offered they help our students find jobs within New York State. On the other hand our students in most areas except for the masters in accounting found employment in their field within one year of graduating. It is important to note that the data indicates that approximately 66% of our graduates found jobs in New York State in the field of biology; much higher than expected. However our limited response rate failed to address the employment success for other sciences. Thus it would be prudent to contact the institutional research leaders to ask them to send a follow up letter to their alumni since 2004 to ask them to fill out the survey if they have not done so to date.

We will compare our final alumni results with the results from campus deans (survey to be sent out in one week). Our expectation is to have a best practice report to be shared across SUNY for engaging graduate students in NYS.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:

We request that UFS Senators to contact their institutional research leaders to ask them to send a follow up letter to their alumni since 2004 to ask them to fill out the survey if they have not done so to date. We would appreciate if this could happen by the end of October 2014.

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments:

1) February 2015 Graduate Research Poster Session (Scott) We have a name for the showcase and will be sending out information to the campuses.
2) Engaging graduate students in NYS after they graduate (Rebecca and Martin) – Dean survey will be sent to the graduate deans with a cc (for support purposes) with Jason and Taya by October 15th.
3) White Paper on what we currently do to teach our graduate students to teach and what are the best practices Rebecca within the week will reach out to deans to find out what they currently do if anything; this will be synthesized by Rebecca and David for best practices.
4) Central IRB (Kathleen has some updates for us) - it appears that the Networks of Excellence and corporate compliance committee (staffed by RF and campus compliance teams) and our team. We will coordinate with them in order to not duplicate resources in November
5) Student Guidebook for grant writing (Martin) We now have an outline. we are assign parts and will begin compiling the content. We anticipate this being a two year project.
Charge: Proposed Charge approved by Operations Committee pending approval by the University Faculty Senate:

The Committee shall generate relevant reports and recommendations for the University and its institutions concerning:

- the development and administration of budgets, strategic planning, and operations;
- matters related to libraries, educational technology, and forms of instructional delivery; and,
- personnel policies, as they pertain to budget, operations, diversity, equity, affirmative action and delivery of a high quality SUNY education.

2014-15 Committee Members:

Chair: Thomas Sinclair, Binghamton University

Members: Kevin Caskey, New Paltz; Mete Cetiner, Empire State; Henry Flax, Downstate; Pamela Mahon, Upstate; Heather Maldaonado, Buffalo State; Joe Petrick, Alfred State; Edward Shepard, Binghamton; Stephen Weiter, ESF; Ezra Zubrow, U Buffalo. Ed Warzala, Empire State, Past Committee Chair. Carey Hatch and Ade Somide, System Administration Liaisons.

Committee Goals for 2014-15:

A white paper on budget transparency. Despite the size and complexity of SUNY’s budget and those of its campuses, the practices related to publishing budgeting and finance information vary widely across the system. The Operations Committee will examine current practices within SUNY and compare them with established best practices used by other public universities. Addenda will evaluate the financial stresses on the system’s libraries and discuss financial transparency issues related to university foundations.

Study on the composition of SUNY faculty. Periodically, the Operations Committee has conducted a study of the composition of faculty on SUNY campuses and we will undertake a similar activity this year. As methods of instructional delivery and types of programs change, the mix of full- and part-time faculty and their respective roles may also change. Impacts on the gender and diversity of campus faculty will also be reviewed.

SUNY-Excel, a performance measurement system proposed for all campuses. The Committee will closely monitor the proposed adoption and implementation of a performance measurement system by SUNY system and its campuses. Of particular interest will be the role of faculty governance organizations in the process.
Continuing discussions on other topics. Developments with respect to Start-Up NY, SUNY’s budget and OpenSUNY will be matters of continuing discussion by committee members in the coming year.

Committee meeting dates (include type of meeting):

The Committee has scheduled monthly telephone conference calls at 9:00 AM on the last Monday of each month.

Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:

Prepared revised Committee charge and drafted a proposed resolution on performance measurement.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:

1) Approval of Proposed Charge
2) Approval of Draft Resolution on Performance Measurement (Attached)

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments:

Prior to the Winter University Faculty Senate Plenary Session, the committee anticipates completing its white paper on budgetary transparency. The study on the composition of faculty should be completed by the end of the 2014-15 academic year.
SUNY University Faculty Senate  
Operations Committee Proposed Charge  
September 29, 2014

Background

During the Summer, 2014 planning session, Operations Committee Chair Ed Warzala proposed revising the Operations Committee Charge. After thorough discussion at the September 2014 planning meeting and further discussion and vote during a September 29, 2014 conference call, the following charge was approved by a vote of 6 ayes, and 1 nay with three members absent and not voting.

The Operations Committee is proposing that the University Faculty Senate Executive Committee adopt the following language as its new charge.

Proposed Charge

The Committee shall generate relevant reports and recommendations for the University and its institutions concerning:

- the development and administration of budgets, strategic planning, and operations;
- matters related to libraries, educational technology, and forms of instructional delivery; and,
- personnel policies, as they pertain to budget, operations, diversity, equity, affirmative action and delivery of a high quality SUNY education.
Charge: The Committee promotes the educational and scholarly interests of SUNY faculty through the development and strengthening of University-wide programs, grants, and awards.

2014-2015 Membership
Robert Booth               Fredonia                booth@FREDONIA.EDU
Valentin Brimkov          Buffalo State           brimkove@BUFFALOSTATE.EDU
Francisco Colon           Stony Brook             francisco.colon@STONYBROOK.EDU
Yenisel Gulatee           Albany                  ygulatee@UAMAIL.ALBANY.EDU
Bruce Leslie (Chair)      Brockport               bleslie@brockport.edu
Dennis Showers            Geneseo                 showers@GENESEO.EDU
Mark Warford              Buffalo State           warformk@BUFFALOSTATE.EDU
Ryan Yeung                Brockport               ryeung@BROCKPORT.EDU

Committee College Liaison
Iris Cook                 Westchester CC          iris.cook@SUNYWCC.EDU

SUNY Staff Liaisons
Bob Kraushaar             SUNY System            Robert.kraushaar@SUNY.EDU
Yvette Roberts            SUNY System            yvette.roberts@SUNY.EDU

Committee Goals for 2014-15:

Programs Sub-Committee will review the Conversations in the Disciplines (CiD) program toward possibly recommending major reforms for 2016-2017 award criteria.

- Review the 40+ year record to consider whether its original purpose is still relevant as the program was designed to bring former teachers college faculty up to speed in their discipline on as many campuses as possible.
- Examine the existing policy of identical $5000 awards and consider a variety of Awards. Fewer awards of larger amounts might provide more ‘bang for the buck’. Electronic communication provides possible ways to increase participation and impact.
- The original ban on pedagogical topics will be reconsidered with the possibility that topics integrating disciplinary knowledge and pedagogy be made eligible.

Awards Sub-committee (Mark Warford, Chair) will examine administration of Chancellor’s Awards

- Due to concerns as to whether faculty input is adequate in some campus nomination processes, it will gather information thru GCLs.
- Once campus feedback is evaluated, the Committee will consider whether any policy or procedural changes are necessary.

Oversee administration of the Conversations in the Disciplines (CiD) program

- The Committee will review the current procedures with an eye to clarifying language to correct problems observed last year.
- Raise the CiD profile, especially with a goal of a more timely rollout this year and finding ways to communicate directly to faculty rather than through administration.

Review the policies and procedures for Chancellor’s Awards & Distinguished Professorships
• For the 2015-2016 cycle, review DPs. No problems are apparent, but there are areas in which language could be clarified.

• For the 2015-2016 cycle, review the first administration of the CA for Adjunct Teaching. As a new program, lessons need to be learned. In particular, there is confusion about defining ‘adjunct’ including an apparent error that bars full-time non-tenure track faculty and leaves them as the only group ineligible for any CA.

• For the 2015-2016 cycle, review the first administration of the Senate’s new CA for Shared Governance. As another new program, and one totally under Senate purview, it needs to be reviewed carefully.

• For the 2016-2017 cycle, review the CAs for Scholarship & Creative Activities, Teaching, Faculty Service, Professional Service, and Librarianship. Once the subcommittee on faculty participation in CAs reports, the Committee will consider possible policy recommendations on procedural changes.

Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:
Met on May 9 to evaluate 19 proposals for 2014-2015 Conversations in the Disciplines. Nine awards were made.
First Shared Governance Award and Excellence Award for Adjunct Teaching were given.
Committee agreed to evaluate concerns about campus procedures for Chancellors Award and Distinguished Professorship nominations.
Committee agreed to consider fundamental changes to the Conversations in the Disciplines.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:
If you have thoughts about the Conversations in the Disciplines program, please contact Bruce Leslie (bleslie@brockport.edu)
If you have concerns about the faculty role in nominations for Chancellor’s Awards or Distinguished Professorships, please contact Mark Warford (warformk@buffalostate.edu)

Anticipated upcoming actions/accomplishments:
Revision of CiD CfP and distribution by December 8
By the Winter Plenary a response to concern about the procedures for CAs & DPs
By the Spring Plenary a report and possible recommendations on reconstituting CiDs
**Student Life Committee**

**Report Date:** October 15, 2014  
**Presented at:** 168th 2014 UFS Plenary

**Charge:** The Committee will be concerned with significant educational, developmental, social, cultural and recreational policies, programs, issues and services that affect the quality of student life and the campus environment of the State University of New York.

**2014-15 Committee Members:**

- **Chair:** Kelley J. Donaghy, College of Environmental Science and Forestry
- **Members**
  - Marsha Cornelius, Morrisville; Bill Godfrey, Stony Brook; Anne Larrivee, Binghamton; Tom McElroy, Empire; Louis Scala, Farmingdale, Jan Trybula, Potsdam; Laura Valente, Stony Brook; Lori Mould, Student Assembly; Elizabeth Droz, SUNY Administration; Jim Campbell, SUNY Administration

**Committee Goals for 2014-15:**

The committee has resolved that there are two primary aspects of their charge, student completion and student health and safety. The following goals fall into one or the other of these categories.

1. **Textbook Affordability**
   - The committee will continue to advocate for affordable solutions to the high prices of print textbooks.

2. **Student Working Hours**
   - A fall Human Resources document limited the number of student assistant working hours to 29 hours per week. The committee is concerned that this may decrease student persistence.

3. **Drugs and Alcohol**
   - At the fall meeting the committee met with a Department of Health representative to learn more about the rise of Heroin usage. The committee plans to disseminate helpful information throughout the year to faculty on how they can help combat student heroin usage.

4. **Sexual Assault**
   - The committee plans to work with SUNY in the development and implementation of effective and fair policies and procedures to meet the goals of the October 2, 2014, Board of Trustees resolution.

5. **Hazing and Bullying**
   - A “white paper” is expected in time for the January Plenary, this is being jointly written with the Ethics Committee.

6. **Workshop on the Role of Faculty in Student Life**
   - Upon meeting with the Chief Student Affairs Officers in June, the committee realized that there is a great deal of variety with respect to the faculty involvement in student life. To better understand the role of faculty in student affairs, a workshop involving faculty, student affairs professionals and students will be organized for spring of 2015.

7. **Veteran’s Affairs Survey**
• Recognizing the larger number of veterans that will be returning to SUNY campuses, the committee expects to deploy a survey intended to focus on student support services designed for student veterans in November 2014.

Committee meeting dates:

Fall 2014 Meetings

9/18-19/2014 Committee Planning Meeting, Syracuse
9/26/2014 Committee Meeting, Conference Call
10/3/2014 Committee Meeting, Conference Call
10/15/2014 Committee Meeting, Conference Call
12/15/14 Committee Meeting (face to face) 11:00PM-3:00PM

Spring 2015 Meetings

To be determined

Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:

Goal #1: The committee has drafted a resolution asking that the Chief Academic Officers encourage faculty to author and utilize low-cost textbooks.

Goal #2: The committee has drafted a resolution asking that the limits on student working hours be lifted and that the Chancellor seek to have students exempted from the Affordable Care Act restrictions.

Goal #3: The committee invited Mr. Richard Cotroneo to our Fall Planning Meeting. He spoke about the rise of heroin and pointed out the most problematic times and situations when heroin overdose is most likely. He provided materials to the committee that will be distributed through the SUNY Shared Governance site.

Goal #6: The workshop is being planned for May of 2015. The Chair met with the Chief Student Affairs Officers in early October and they were optimistic about combining their last spring meeting with this workshop. The December meeting will be used to clearly plan out a proposal for this workshop.

Requests to UFS Senators and Campus Governance Leaders from committee:

1. Please talk to your faculty about finding low cost alternatives to textbooks. E-books, used books, open resource books are all gaining in popularity. Encourage them to consider allowing late versions of the textbook that are easily obtained on amazon. There is evidence that students are using textbooks as a determining factor for what courses they will take.

2. Combat Heroin – please encourage your faculty to learn all they can about combating heroin, when are students at highest risk of overdose, the signs to look for of drug and alcohol abuse generally, who on campus to contact if you suspect a student of engaging in risky behavior and to learn who no campus has access to naloxone (the antidote to opioid overdose).

3. Please forward the names of faculty, students or professional staff that might be interested in participating in our workshop on the role of faculty in student life.
Undergraduate Academic Programs and Policies Committee  
Report Date: October 25, 2014  
Presented at: Fall, 2014 UFS Plenary

Charge:

The Committee shall provide advice and guidance to the Faculty Senate on matters relating to undergraduate programs and policies throughout the University. To these ends, the Committee may review such areas as existing and proposed curricula, standards for academic degrees, undergraduate academic assessment, teaching techniques and evaluation, special undergraduate programs, articulation among units of State University of New York and the various aspects of international education and development.

2014-2015 Committee members

Chair: Daniel D. White, SUNY Polytechnic Institute

Members alphabetically by Name:

Barbara Brabetz, Cobleskill  
Anant Deshpande, Empire State  
Kathleen Kieler, UB  
Linnea LoPresti, SUNY  
Art Lundahl, FCCC  
Janet Nepkie, Oneonta  
Phil Ortiz, SUNY  
Ramona Santa Maria, Buff State  
Rebecca Smith, Brockport  
Margaret Souza, Empire State  
Diane Tice, Morrisville  
Scott Turner, SA  
Amitra Wall, Buff State  
Angela Wright, RF  
Andrea Zevenbergen, Fredonia

Committee Goals for 2014-2015

1. Review and revision of the Internship guide  
2. Undergraduate Research: analysis of what we do and how we do it  
3. Service learning: analysis of what we do and how we do it  
4. Competency-based assessment: development of resources for broader understanding

Committee meeting dates

October 17, 2014: Internship subcommittee meeting  
November 3, 2014: Teleconference to review progress (full committee)  
March 26, 2015: Face to Face in Buffalo (full committee)
Committee accomplishments since planning meeting:

- **Review and revision of the Internship guide**: The Undergraduate Committee has been charged by the UFS President and Executive Board to review and revise, where appropriate, the Guide to Undergraduate Internships completed in 2007. All of the information in this guide is still accurate but a number of changes have occurred within SUNY and higher education that have prompted our leadership to revisit this important opportunity for students. The Chancellor has set a goal to involve all SUNY students in an applied learning experience before they graduate. Internships and cooperative education fall under the umbrella of applied learning and both will be explored in the updated Guide. The subcommittee met on October 17, 2014 to continue working. Janet Nepkie from SUNY Oneonta is leading a sub-committee of the Undergraduate Committee to develop a survey and revise the guide.

- **Undergraduate Research**: Involving undergraduate students in real, meaningful research is a powerful pedagogical tool that leads to enhanced learning outcomes and student persistence. The undergraduate research subcommittee has submitted a resolution for the UFS to consider at the fall plenary encouraging our colleagues and administrations to support more undergraduate research and to develop creative ways to infuse more research into our established curricula. We are also collecting information from campuses to establish a baseline understanding of what we do and our best practices within the system. Dan White (SUNY Poly) is leading this subcommittee.

- **Service learning**: Service learning is another form of applied learning that many of our programs and campuses offer to students. We are developing a baseline understanding of programs and best practices within the system. We plan to interview appropriate faculty and staff from around the system to get a broad perspective of service learning within the system. Our service learning subcommittee is being led by Andrea Zevenbergen (SUNY Fredonia).

- **Competency-based assessment**: Competency-based assessment is a growing trend in higher education. In response to interest from the state and federal government, the State Education Department has developed a task force on competency-based learning which includes Sue Deer (Provost Rockland CC). The task force will be providing a report this fall. SUNY Empire State has also received funding to explore competency-based assessment. The competency-based assessment subcommittee is exploring ways to educate the broader faculty about the potential benefits and challenges of a system that removes seat-time from the credit equation. This subcommittee is being led by Margaret Souza (SUNY Empire State).

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:

UFS Senators are asked to provide contact information for your campuses efforts in the following areas: Undergraduate research (send information to Dan White ddwhite@sunycnse.com) and Service Learning (send info to Andrea Zevenbergen Andrea.Zevenbergen@fredonia.edu).

Anticipated upcoming actions/ accomplishments:

We will have a new internship guide, a report/white paper on undergraduate research, and a report on service learning in the system by the spring plenary.