Pres. Ken O’Brien reported that for the first time in over a decade the SUNY budget is fairly stable and predictable & the system is devising new formulas to distribute state monies to campuses. The President also discussed the 6 big ideas found in the administration’s “Power of SUNY.”

Salient features of the “Power of SUNY”

1. Improving student mobility (transfer of student credit hours)
2. General Education Reforms – Chancellor wants “complete transfer of a SUNY AA or AS degree to satisfy Gen. ed. Requirements” in a couple of years – this has forced a reevaluation of Gen Ed requirements to facilitate that.
3. SUNY, charter schools & Educational Pipeline – it is a little known fact that the SUNY system has created more charter schools that any other agency (this is important because of Race to the Top funds from federal government) but nobody knows much about this whole process including the Senate.

Assessment is a key point in all of the above points but calculating it is a troubling process.

In the SUNY University Sector meeting, issues for the Chancellor (Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo & Stonybrook)

1. Consultation with faculty on choosing leadership & subsequent evaluation of leaders by faculty (surveys etc.,)
2. Issues of distance learning
3. Student mobility & transfer student quality
4. Shared governance

The above items were also addressed by the SUNY Vice Provost along with the the Master plan, strategic enrollment statistics, review of COACHE survey and issues relating to the status of librarians on certain issues like faculty awards, etc. as well as increasing Grad student funding

CUNY reported that its student mobility efforts has stalled and faculty are thinking about a lawsuit due to administration’s behavior on the issue.

Resolutions passed by the faculty senate on April 21 included:

1. A new chancellor award (includes librarians)
2. Shared governance award
3. Honor deceased Prof. Ed Alfonsin (English), SUNY, Potsdam