



## UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE RECORD

The April 2007 meetings of the University Faculty will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 and, if needed, on Tuesday, April 24, 2007, in the Langone Center Forum beginning at 12:00 p.m. and running until 12:52 p.m. or the conclusion of business, whichever comes first. Professor Martin Ligare, Chairperson of the Faculty, will preside. Any corrections to the March 2007 minutes should be sent to Faculty Secretary Jamie Hendry prior to the meeting.

### AGENDA

- 1. Amendments to and approval of March 2007 minutes**
- 2. Announcements and remarks by the President**
  - Remarks from Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Robert Midkiff
  - Questions for the President and his staff:
    - Question from Mike Prince, directed to President Brian Mitchell and the Committee on Assessment: At the open governance forum I suggested, and Brian supported, the idea of having a more formal procedure in place for faculty to provide broad feedback to the administration. I know that the Committee on Assessment has begun at least tentative discussions. Could we have an update on the status of this work and when the faculty might see a recommendation?
    - Anonymous question from a faculty member: I would like to better understand the role of the newly appointed Chief of Staff David Myers. What is his role in the administration relative to the role of the Provost? Has he been given tenure or a faculty appointment? Does he have any authority over members of the faculty? How was Bucknell able to fund this search and hire?
- 3. Announcements and remarks by the Chair of the Faculty**
  - Nominations for Faculty Committees and for Faculty Representatives to Board of Trustees Committees appear in the Appendix. The floor will be open for additional nominations.
- 4. Committee Reports:**
  - a. Committee on Planning and Budget**
    - The written report of the Committee on Planning and Budget appears in the Appendix to this agenda.
  - b. Committee on Instruction**
    - The written report of the Committee on Instruction, including a motion the committee will be introducing, appears in the Appendix to this agenda.

- c. **Committee on Faculty and Academic Personnel**
    - The Committee will be presenting a report on Faculty Merit Scores. The report is not available at the time of publication of this agenda.
  - d. **Committee on Complementary Activities**
  - e. **Committee on Staff Planning**
  - f. **Committee on Faculty Development**
  - g. **Committee on Honorary Degrees**
  - h. **University Review Committee**
  - i. **Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**
- 5. **Unfinished business**
  - 6. **New business**
  - 7. **Adjournment**
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## APPENDIX

### **Report from the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB), April 2007**

CPB has been reviewing the university budget for Fiscal Year 2007/2008 (FY '08). The Finance Office has consulted extensively with the different constituencies in the university, and has managed to identify sufficient savings and enhanced revenue projections from several sources to eliminate what had been previously predicted to be a \$1.7 million deficit for FY '08. This can be done without any reductions in allocations to technology and infrastructure reserves. Despite the *significant* increase in utility costs next year and despite the additional costs of the first round of hires for the course-load reduction, a balanced budget for FY '08 will be presented to President Mitchell and to the Board of Trustees for final approval in April.

The savings realized for FY '08 also have the effect of cutting in half currently projected deficits for the FY '09 budget. Even accounting for the *second* round of new faculty hires – which, along with a third round for FY '10, has already been included in the budget – current projections show a deficit of less than 1% of the budget for FY '09.

At this point, budgets for FY '08 and beyond do not include either costs of funding for major strategic initiatives (other than the course-load reduction) or additional revenue from the upcoming comprehensive campaign. As the campaign gets underway, the plan is to add a line to the budget for funding of strategic initiatives.

### **Report from the Committee on Instruction, April 2007**

The Committee on Instruction (CoI) discussed a proposal by Marj Kastner that the current

deadline for late withdrawal from courses be extended from the end of the ninth week to the end of the tenth week. Many faculty members give two exams during the semester and a final exam. The second exam often is given during the ninth week of classes. As a result, students often need to make late drop decisions based only on poor performance on the first exam; they do not have an opportunity to see if they've made sufficient improvement to pass the course. In some cases this leads students to delay the drop decision, only to request permission to drop after the deadline. Further, the ninth week deadline falls at the start of the advising period. As a result, some students make decisions about late course drops before they've discussed it with their advisors.

CoI recommends moving the late drop deadline to the end of the tenth week. We see no obvious problems with such a move. It has the benefit of allowing students in courses with exams in the ninth week to get better information before making the decision to drop a course. In addition, it moves the deadline later in the advising period, thus making it more likely that students will have met with their advisors before making such a decision.

Motion by the Committee on Instruction

*The Committee on Instructions moves the deadline for late withdrawal from courses be extended from the end of the ninth week to the end of the tenth week of the semester. The other conditions for late withdrawal remain unchanged.*

**Nominations for Faculty Committees and Faculty Representatives to Board of Trustees Committees, April 2007**

**Faculty Council**

- Natural Sciences and Mathematics
  - Ben Marsh
  - Chris Daniel
- Engineering
  - Jeff Evans
  - Mike Toole

**Committee on Planning and Budget**

- Natural Sciences and Mathematics
  - Karl Voss
  - Charlie Clapp
- Social Sciences
  - David Jensen
  - Nancy White

**Committee on Instruction**

- Humanities
  - Roger Rothman
  - Julian Bourg

## **Committee on Complementary Activities**

- At-large
  - Bill Flack
  - Carmen Acuna

## **Committee on Faculty and Academic Personnel**

- Tenured at-large (2 positions)
  - Geoff Schneider
  - Sue Ellen Henry
  - Jack Gallimore

## **Committee on Staff Planning**

- Humanities
  - Catherine Payn
  - Paula Buck
- At-large
  - Mary Beth Gray
  - Ben Vollmayr-Lee

## **Committee on Faculty Development**

- Engineering
  - Steve Buonopane
  - Steve Shooter
- Natural Sciences and Mathematics (one-year replacement)
  - Pam Gorkin
  - Dave Rovnyak

## **Committee on Honorary Degrees**

- Natural Sciences and Mathematics
  - Howard Smith
  - Ken Field
- At-large
  - Maria Antonaccio
  - Lois Svard

## **Faculty Hearing Committee**

- Humanities
  - Bill Kenney
  - Harold Schweizer
- Social Sciences
  - Paul Susman
  - Andrea Halpern
- Engineering (one-year replacement)
  - Bill King
- At-large (one-year replacement)
  - Mark Bettner
  - Glynis Carr

### **Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

- Nominations from the CAFT Nominating Committee will be published separately.

### **Faculty Reps to the Board**

- Board Committee on Complementary Activities
  - Beth Capaldi
  - Mike Coyne
- Board Committee on University Relations
  - Janice Mann
  - Jeff Csernica