

November 2006

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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
November 13, 2006**

1. Moderator Murphy officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of November 13, 2006 to order at 4:04 p.m. in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.

2. Approval of Minutes

Senator Murphy presented the minutes from the regular meeting of October 9, 2006 for review.

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Report of the President

In lieu of the report ordinarily presented by President Austin, Provost Peter Nicholls delivered remarks. The Provost announced that the Board of Trustees will meet tomorrow at the Stamford Campus. For the approval of the board, the administration of the university will present a 5.58% tuition increase for FY 08. There will be an additional tuition increase proposed for FY 09. Provost Nicholls pointed out that these increases are based on increasing operating costs for the university, not on the expansion of programs. The funds generated will permit only a "steady state" budget. In addition to the tuition request, new housing, dining, and course fee proposals also will be brought to the board for approval.

Provost Nicholls reported on Wednesday he will meet with the Board of Higher Education to discuss the university's two proposals requesting for budget in excess of current operating levels. The first proposal will be for an expansion of the Eminent Faculty program in selected technology areas and the second will be a proposal for an increase of 175 faculty positions over the next five years with a concomitant increase in support staff. This latter request represents about \$6.1M. If provided, these additional faculty would restore our student/faculty ratio to approximately 15:1 from the present 17:1.

The Provost entertained questions from the floor. Senator Zirakzadeh referenced a web site report regarding an upward adjustment of the university budget of \$4M which includes \$0.5 million for the establishment of an Connecticut Research Institute (CRI). Senator Zirakzadeh offered that he is troubled by rumors that this institute was being established outside of the formal procedures for the approval of new research institutes at the university and that administrators were being appointed to the institute in a manner contrary to existing university policy. Senator Zirakzadeh stated the opinion held by some was that the CRI was being established in this manner in response to a donor request. Senator Zirakzadeh requested Provost Nicholls clarify these issues.

Provost Nicholls responded the Connecticut Research Institute has not been formed at UConn. Provost Nicholls further stated he does not expect that such an institute will be formed and that no one from UConn has been appointed to such an institute.

4. Senator DeWolf presented the report of the Senate Executive Committee.

(See Attachment #13)

5. Athletic Director Jeff Hathaway presented the Annual Report of the Athletic Director.

J. Hathaway announced that the University of Connecticut is in mid-process with its NCAA recertification. Four committees are at work preparing self-study type documents for the submission.

The committees include both athletic and administration staff as well as numerous faculty members. NCAA certification is designed to air out and make public our processes and procedures concerning the operation of our Athletic Department. It is also designed to provide the Athletic Department and the NCAA with input from the larger university community regarding these programs. As reports and submissions become available, they will be posted on both the Athletic Department website and the President's Athletic Advisory Committee website.

J. Hathaway then discussed discipline of student athletes. There are three tiers of intervention in cases of misconduct of athletes. The legal system is of course the first tier. The Athletic Department cooperates fully with the operation of the legal system. Legal representation is not provided to athletes, although athletes may secure representation privately.

The second tier involved is the same as for all students: the university's *Student Code of Conduct*. The operation of that tier is under the direction of the Dean of Students and actions at this level parallel those in place for all students at the university.

The last tier is represented by the coaches and various team rules that are enforced by the coaching and athletic staffs. There is a general set of guidelines, *The Student-Athlete Handbook* that is in effect for all student athletes. The handbook is posted at UConnHuskies.com. In addition, individual coaching staffs have established rules governing actions for their own team members.

If misconduct causes financial aid to a student-athlete to be withdrawn, there is an appeal process available through the university that does not involve the athletic department staff directly.

J. Hathaway cautioned members of the Senate that when they encounter the NCAA graduation success rate and athletic progress rate reports on UConn student-athletes, Senators should remain aware that these reflect only *scholarship* athletes not the full 650 students participating in team sports. J. Hathaway stated the University of Connecticut has 24 teams with over 650 athletes. Approximately 275 receive financial aid from their athletic participation. It is from the 275 student-athletes that receive scholarships that the rates are generated.

Senator Strausbaugh noted that media coverage of athletics has attracted a large number of students and that our athletic events are well covered by the local and national media. Senator Strausbaugh stated that the NRC ranking of our graduate programs is currently in process and noted that some universities are touting their graduate programs at athletic events and urged UConn's athletic department do the same. J. Hathaway responded that this is usually done via Public Service Announcements (PSA's) which are 30 second videos that are produced by the university. These are shown both at athletic events and often during broadcasts as well. J. Hathaway noted the interest in the content of these PSA's and commented that he would pass along the request to Scott Brohinsky in the office of University Relations and to others in his department.

Senator DeWolf asked J. Hathaway to comment on the planned basketball practice facility. J. Hathaway stated planning has indeed begun concerning this facility. The planning has been carried out at several levels. J. Hathaway stated studies have demonstrated a need for such a facility exists if the university's basketball programs are to remain competitive. J. Hathaway also reported preliminary architectural design studies are underway and that these and any other costs for the eventual facility will be accomplished through private fund-raising. "UConn 2000" money will not be utilized. He also noted that the University facilities office is undertaking a more general assessment of our athletic facilities with an eye towards an eventual athletic facilities master plan.

It was asked where the basketball practice facility will be sited. Mr. Hathaway responded that logically it should be built near to Gampel Pavilion and that real estate in that part of campus was particularly tight. He noted that that perhaps the only place available is the old football facilities building which would have to be demolished.

6. Associate Vice Provost Keith Barker presented the annual report of the Institute for Teaching and Learning.

(See Attachment #14)

ITL is ten years old this year and now has 40 staff members in 10 units. Their mission is to support faculty, teaching assistants and undergraduate students in Storrs and at the regional campuses. K. Barker provided numerous examples of the services provided by the Institute including: assistance with course design and delivery for faculty and teaching assistants, orientation for new graduate assistants, the operation of web-based learning environments such as Vista and Blackboard, video production services, pod-casting assistance, and interactive television. Also included are services to undergraduates including the Writing and Quantitative Centers. The work of the Institute for Teaching and Learning extends even into the high schools of Connecticut through the *Early College Experience Program* which provides UConn courses for students in high schools. This provides UConn credit for these students at very reasonable cost. A large number of statistics were presented demonstrating the ubiquity of the programs of the CUE. Complete details are provided in the written report.

7. Senator Boyer presented the Annual Report of the Faculty Standards Committee.

(See Attachment #15)

8. Senator Jeffers presented the Report of the Curricula and Courses Committee.

(See Attachment #16)

I. Dropping 100s level course

The Committee recommends approval to drop the following course:

- A. HDFS 183 Courtship, Marriage and Sexuality drop course

The motion carried.

II. Special Topics courses- approval of topics

The Committee recommends approval of the following courses and topics

- A. INTD 195 Intellectual Themes and Their Historical Contexts 1 credit, honors course, spring 2007
 B. INTD 196 Issues in the News 1 credit, honors course, spring 2007
 C. INTD 298 US Foreign Policy in a Changing World 1 credit, honors course, Open to Sophomores, spring 2007

The motion carried.

III. New General Education courses forwarded from GEOC:

The Curricula & Courses Committee moves that the University Senate approve the following courses for the General Education Curriculum Content Area 4 (Diversity and Multiculturalism):

Non-International

MUSI 102	Sing and Shout!
INTD 2xx	Introduction to Diversity Studies in American Culture

AMST 165/ENGL 165/ HIST 165 Introduction to American Studies

The motion carried.

IV. For the information of the Senate, the Committee reports the following course have been approved as open to sophomores:

- A. ECON 202/W. Topics in Economic History and Thought
- B. ECON 205/W. History of Economic Thought
- C. ECON Philosophy and Economics
- D. ECON 207/W. Beyond Self-Interest
- E. ECON 213WC. Empirical Methods in Economics II
- F. ECON 214. Mathematical Economics
- G. ECON 215/W. Applied Regional Analysis
- H. ECON 216. Operations Research
- I. ECON 217. Information Technology for Economics
- J. ECON 221. Urban Development and Policy
- K. HDFS 273 Family Interaction Processes
- L. INTD 298 Controversial Social Issues
- M. INTD 298 Tutoring Principles for Quantitative Learning
- N. INTD 298 Honors Facilitation Seminar
- O. INTD 298 Queer Studies Across Disciplines

V. For the information of the Senate the committee reports that it has approved the following courses to be offered as W courses:

- A. ANSC 297W Undergraduate Honors Thesis Writing in Animal Science
- B. ECON 215W Applied Regional Analysis
- C. EKIN 236W Sport and Society
- D. ENGL 1XXW Business Writing I
- E. ENGL 1XYW Technical Writing I
- F. INTD 265W Seminar in American Studies

9. Senator Bansal presented the Report of the Nominating Committee.

(See Attachment #17)

I. We move the following graduate student additions to the named Standing Committees:

- Jason Berger to the Scholastic Standards Committee
- Alea Henle to the Student Welfare Committee
- John P. Kennedy to the University Budget Committee
- Stephen Lucasi to the Faculty Standards Committee
- R. Brooke Morril to the General Education Oversight Committee
- Anuthep Pasura to the Growth & Development Committee

The motion carried.

II. For the information of the Senate, the Graduate Student Senate has named Anastasios Maurudis and Steven Todd to membership on the Senate for a one-year term.

10. Senator Moiseff presented the Report of the Scholastic Standards Committee.

(See Attachment #18)

For the information of the Senate, the Scholastic Standards Committee has approved S/U grading for MUS 103/1103. Study, rehearsal, audience and technology skills. No credit.

11. Unfinished business – Senator Sanner asked J. Hathaway if the use of the proposed basketball practice facility was to be limited to the teams only. J. Hathaway responded in the affirmative and clarified the various uses of the new football practice facility.
12. New business – none.
13. There was a motion to adjourn.

The motion was approved by a standing vote of the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert Miller
Senate Secretary

The following members and alternates were absent from the November 13, 2006 meeting:

Anderson, Greg	Evanovich, M. Dolan	Korbel, Donna
Aronson, Lorraine	Facchinetti, Neil	Letendre, Joan
Austin, Philip	Faustman, L. Cameron	Lowe, Charles
Becker, Loftus	Frank, Harry	Marone, Andrew
Bergman, Theodore	Franklin, Brinley	McGavran, Dennis
Broadbent, Erica	Gianutsos, Gerald	Munroe, Donna
Bull, Nancy	Gine-Masdeu, Evarist	Recchio, Thomas
Callahan, Thomas	Hightower, Lawrence	Saddlemire, John
Clausen, John	Holsinger, Kent	Schwab, Richard
Croteau, Maureen	Holzworth, R.J.	Singha, Suman
D'Alleva, Anne	Kaufman, Douglas	Stwalley, William
Dashefsky, Arnold	Kehrhahn, Marijke	Taylor, Ronald
Eby, Clare	Kerntke, Michael	Thorpe, Judith
Etter, Katherine	Kerr, Kirklyn	Vinsonhaler, Charles