

university

SENATE

September 20, 2006
SC 202

Meeting convened at 3:30 p.m.

Members present (alphabetical):

Rick Bassett, Jamie Begian, Daryle Brown, Jennifer Burrows, Cindy Chuang, Sara DeLoughy, Edward Duncanson, Abe Echevarria, Gancho Ganchev, Kevin Gutzman, Carol Hawkes, Kathleen Hinga, Russell Hirshfield, George Kain, Tara Kuther, Sam Lightwood, Susan Maskel, Allen Morton, Duane Moser, James Munz, John Murphy, Vijay Nair, Bill Petkanas, Elizabeth Popiel, Jeffrey Schlicht, Stacey Alba Skar, Cigdem Usekes, Lori Wagner, Robert Whittemore, Mike Wilson, Edwin Wong, Rebecca Woodward

Guests present:

Provost Linda Rinker, Ellen Durnin, Linda Vaden-Goad, Eugene Buccini, Jerry Wilcox, B. Amyot, Paul Simon, Mary Nelson, Tom Munks, Dan Goble

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Chancellor Carter's Inauguration

Provost Rinker announced the Inauguration of Chancellor Carter on October 20, 2006 at Central Connecticut State University. Additional information is posted on Westconduit.

B. Approved Resolutions from April and May, 2006

- a. Resolution 06-03-02 The Senate shall approve the posthumous degree proposal,
- b. Resolution 06-04-02 The Senate shall accept the proposed revisions to the Reassigned time for research forms
- c. Resolution 06-04-04 The Senate approves the joint CUCAS/UPBC proposal
- d. Resolution 06-04-05 Senate accepts the proposed revisions to the description to the summer curriculum activities fund
- e. Resolution 06-04-06 Senate requests that the University Management review its policy regarding smoking on campus and study the policies regarding smoking.
- f. Resolution 06-05-02 the Senate shall approve the revised Academic honesty policy

C. Update on the Strategic Planning Committee

Dan Gobel: The strategic planning process began with Values and Visions in 2004 which was a University-wide town meeting that occurred over a year's time. This evolved into a summer retreat in the summer of 2005 when the members of the University planning and budget committee, EPAC and other faculty members and staff from across the university met and came up with some ideas and then all of last year we had six different action teams meeting across campus and once again co-chaired by an Administrative person and also a member of the UPBC and the action teams were again populated by faculty and staff from across the university. This

has really been a very inclusive process and I think everybody has had a voice to this point or at least had the opportunity to have a say. There are six basic strategic planning goals that have come out of this vision statement from the retreat in May and also the President.

The charge of the Strategic Planning Committee this summer was to take this Vision Statement, the Values and Visions notebook, and the Action team recommendations and basically start whipping out a plan.....Western Connecticut State University Strategic Planning and Steering Committee Near Term Low Cost Recommendations....What you see before you are the priority one, near term, low cost that this committee came up with over the summer and you may have some questions about these. What I invite you to do is look these over carefully and if you have comments, questions or concerns to call myself, Ellen Durnin or Mary Beth Amyot. You're looking at a draft plan and these initial recommendations, they're going to be open forums and more community feedback.

The first week in October you will see the actual draft plan which is very exciting for those of us who've been in the process for a while. So that's what's happening right now and I'm very excited about this as the member and the chair of the UPBC because we've been after a plan for a long time what does this mean? It means that there is a proposal that comes to the UPBC that involves cost, we can then look at the cost of the new program or the new course that involves funding and look and see if it fits into the plan. The beauty is the plan has been created by us. We created this, the faculty and staff and the university community. So for the UPBC that's what's very exciting about this, we don't have to make value decisions based on whatever, we can make decisions based on a plan and we're trying very hard to unite academic and strategic planning at the university and I think this is a great step. Any questions at this point?

D. Willingness to Serve.

Paula Maida, the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee forwarded the following memo: "The Willingness to Serve forms are going out tomorrow, however, currently there is no representation on Senate committees for the new school of Visual and Performing Arts and so all of the Willingness to Serve are going out to faculty based on their prior designations among the three schools."

Pres. Kuther added: Today under new business we have an item concerning how to deal with the new school in terms of Senate representation but you should disseminate to your department that these Willingness to Serve forms are going out via the old scheme, because we do have some committee slots that need to be filled now and don't yet have bylaws that include the new school.

5. Food Committee

Paul Simon: We are forming, finally, a university-wide food committee not just a student that will work with Sodexo and myself and Mark Case on the various issues. I'm looking for a faculty member from each campus to serve, we're trying to keep it small, so basically it's four students, two teaching faculty, and two support staff to work as advisory to Sodexo on both retail operations, catering, etc.

Pres. Kuther: So, you're looking for two faculty?

Paul Simon: Yes, preferably one from each campus. Let's not all raise our hands excitedly.

Pres. Kuther: Anyone want to volunteer? Jeff Schlicht and Gancho Ganchev volunteered.

II. MINUTES

The minutes of the April 2006 Senate meeting were approved without corrections (Munz/Schlicht, 1 abstention; **R-06-09-01**).

The minutes from the May, 2006 Senate meeting were approved without corrections (Munz/Echevarria; 3 abstentions; **R-06-09-02**).

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Faculty on Committees

Pres. Kuther: This item went to the Nominations and Elections Committee after the April 2006 meeting; the purpose was to discuss how to handle the issue of faculty who are absent for a period of time from committees. The Nominations and Elections Committee is revising its by-laws and so it will address that within the by-law changes

B. University Policy and Procedures: Instructional Departments.

Pres. Kuther: This arose in the April, 2006 meeting and this is regarding some issues in the faculty handbook from pages 99 to 105. A sub-committee of Drs. Moser, Munz and Kain will discuss this next month.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. March, 2007 Senate meeting.

Pres. Kuther: The March Senate meeting is scheduled during spring break, which is from 3/18-3/23. We can move it to either the second Wednesday or the fourth Wednesday.

Motion to move the March, 2007 Senate meeting until the fourth Wednesday of the month passed (Kain/Schlicht, unanimous, **R-06-09-03**).

B. Student attendance policy.

Pres. Kuther: Earlier this month faculty received a memo on approving the attendance policy. Provost Rinker is here to discuss this policy.

Provost Rinker: Hello everyone. First of all I'd like to thank all of the professors who are actively involved in taking the attendance, it does make a difference and to review the process with you, in looking at the minutes of the Senate meeting in March of this past year, you had a discussion with Roy Stewart and that discussion was about why would we take attendance and there were three important points in that particular dialog.

The first point was that in the faculty handbook on page, to be exact, 134 and I have copies of this, there is a particular piece of the policy that indicates professors will take attendance. So that piece was discussed. The second piece was that we would be taking it for the whole purpose of looking at at-risk students and thirdly that we would be looking at our finances as it relates to students who drop off and don't come back. I would add a fourth and the fourth one I would add is retention rate because I would hope that this year we are going to target a retention rate

because I would hope that this year we are going to target a higher retention rate for the end of the year as part of our enrollment management process.

Having said that, when I came on board, I read the memos that Dr. Stewart had passed on and it was a clear memo giving the Registrar the responsibility to take on the leadership to begin the process and so the Registrar and the Deans worked very closely to figure out a process for you, the teachers, to make a life a little bit easier even though we knew it was going to be hard to do this process. The committee of Deans and the Registrar worked hard to put it together and you are now working on it for the first three weeks. I might add a side bar to this. I too, am a student. I've started taking a Spanish class here and so I've learned what it's like to have the student take attendance and it's probably less than five minutes for her to do it and I might add that I felt good about that because I was worried that it might be laborious for you to do it so having said that, there is one last piece and that is the Deans and the Registrar and I are committed to give you data that we'd like to share at the end of this process on what really did happen with our students so we'll tell you about the at-risk students, we'll give you information, I'll be happy to come back and do that. So, at that point, I'll stop talking and address any questions or ideas that you would like me to know about or work with you on.

Sen. Whittemore: How many students do we realistically think this is going to have a positive impact?

Provost Rinker: A positive impact? I don't have an answer for you today but I can tell you that since I arrived at the university I've been hearing some interesting stories and some of the stories go like this, that in the first couple of weeks students do not come and do not attend class. I don't know the answer to that I know that in my own Spanish class that for the most part every student that started seems to be coming back, but again I can't measure that answer against one class and I've heard that story from our enrollment management director and I've also heard it from some of our Deans who have been hearing it from their faculty. I also am learning that we have a retention issue at the university and it's after the first semester but that's not going to capture the data that I am really looking at when I tell you this story and that is more students do not return after that first semester. So to be specific about your answer I don't know it yet but I'm willing to look at that very closely this semester and I'm willing to tell you that when I come back.

Sen. Whittemore: Second question. Supposing this policy moves forward who is designated to call the student who is not coming to class?

Provost Rinker: Actually, what has happened in the past, because I asked that question, apparently Bill Hawkins has been the person who has chatted with the student, but theoretically, in my opinion it really is the teacher. I think the teacher is responsible for those students. I would think you would be calling them. But, in the past it has been Bill Hawkins who would make phone calls about students who have not been attending class. It's an awkward situation for me at this point, but I can tell you what I've learned. The answer for you today is that I know Bill has been doing it and if you the teacher are asking bill to do it, he'll do it for you. Because he is interested in bringing the students back into the fold and I know you are, too.

Sen. Whittemore: So, if it comes from Bill Hawkins it's an enrollment issue, not a classroom issue, that is in terms of what they're doing in the classroom.

Provost Rinker: Having taught myself, if a student is absent I want to know why the student is absent and I'll make the contact, but you as the teacher get to decide if you're going to make that contact or not. I would think you would, but your answer to the question is yes, if it comes from Bill, he is looking at it from an enrollment prospective or a retention prospective. There's obviously a disconnect when a student isn't showing up in class, especially if he or she came and then didn't come back.

Dr. Nelson: How do you know if the data that you collect on the attendance is going to be accurate? The system that you have currently in place only requires a faculty member to submit information about a student who is missing and it would seem that if we're going to address the attendance issue we should have a very accurate idea of how big this issue is rather than base it on a few faculty who might be adhering to the policy.

Provost Rinker: Actually I can't talk to you on that point or debate it because you're absolutely correct but understand that this process began with a short dialog in March with then the designation to jump start a process that obviously needs to be built upon.

Dr. Nelson: Then I would argue that if in fact before a policy is put in place that we are certain we have an accurate picture of what the attendance is actually like and who is at risk.

Provost Rinker: Well, I think that we're going to give you some data and we're definitely going to come back and give you some information. We tried this semester to follow through on the ideas that emitted from this discussion, this good discussion here at Senate and I think we'll perfect that even more. So, we'll take your good thoughts under consideration and build on it, but we have to start somewhere and we have not been doing an attendance taking and I might again, remind all of us that in the handbook it clearly says that we are responsible, we as teachers are responsible to do attendance, and so we did from march forward build a process that could get us the beginnings of the data and we will build it from there. I am very sensitive to what you're saying, your point is well taken.

Sen. Whittemore: I appreciate that you're sensitive to it, but I think my questions are directed at something else, which is that: a) We don't know how many students this actually will positively affect; and b) We are taking attendance, many of us do take attendance and in fact when we turn in our grades, as I did say at that Senate meeting, you use that to designate when you last saw the student, when you turn in your mid-term grades, so by mid-term there is a designation who is and is not showing. So, my concern is that this goes beyond the handbook. It really is beginning to ask us, as faculty, to not only monitor but to call students who are not coming to class. I think some of us would argue that this a redefinition of our role in the relationship to the student because it extends beyond what the handbook says and as such it is a policy shift and it should, although certainly Roy came with several points, the discussion was not about what the next step would it be, it was this is something we're thinking about and the closing comment from the Chair was "I would assume for us to be informed of it as well as for him to gather our thoughts on it was the purpose of his coming". It didn't yet come to a vote at the Senate, it was not

reviewed as a policy shift, it was reviewed as a point of information to be discussed. So, there seems to have been a change here that I'm speaking for a number of my colleagues in my department that they're very concerned about.

Provost Rinker: Well, let me try and separate issues and decouple the issues of change in policy and let me again be more clear, if I could about the historical piece. You have a discussion, as I understand it, in March. Then there was a memo sent to the Registrar to actually start the process and that memo was sent in April. I've looked at this history to understand what was being asked of the Registrar and of course then myself and then the Deans to work together on this and what I learned was that we were going to literally look and address the policy in the handbook, which is taking attendance. Now, let me decouple a question you raised with me a minute ago and that question was phone calling students. I'm not telling you today, nor did the memo tell you today to call students. Bill Hawkins does do that. I'm not asking you to do it, I'm not giving you the idea to do it. I think you have to decide where you err on that decision, that's a separate piece of it.

Sen. Whittemore: I'm sorry, I don't want to make this a dialog, but I want to clarify but it is insofar as Bill is calling our students, it is a shift not only in our role, but in his role. If I have, for example, a student that doesn't come to a quiz or a requirement, I'm not sure that bill is the one, who even as competent and adept as he'll do this is the person who should be talking to my students about whether or not he did or did not miss a class that was important.

Provost Rinker: Here's what I understand and I'm sorry if I interrupted you, what I understand is that Bill has been doing this. He's actually made phone calls to students who aren't showing up and the question is really, you're not here are you coming back, what's going on? This is what I understand from Mr. Hawkins. This is really what he's been doing. Is he the teacher? No. Is he qualified as a teacher? Absolutely not and that is not his role and he knows that and you and I know that today, obviously. So, I'm hearing that piece, that concern and I'll keep working on it, but understand that we've been addressing an issue that we as a university have not been doing. We have not been keeping, let me back up. Some people have been keeping attendance, but I don't know where they are and I don't know that everybody in the group as the deans and all of you know who is doing it so we need the collective data. It's really, truly, it really gets out to a retention issue. I see a hand in the back.

Dr. Nelson :I would ask that when you summarize the data that you break it down by the class of student so I'd like to see the absences for freshman, separated from those who are sophomores, juniors and seniors because we used to take attendance at freshman seminar and it wasn't effective there. But if by the time you have a junior or senior and they're not coming to class I don't know if they'll ever graduate.

Provost Rinker: That's a very interesting point. First of all, I would certainly take your suggestion under consideration to do that. It would make far more sense and we could particularly look at the data. I just learned of a student today, only just three hours ago, who is a senior who wanted to take his classes, he's three classes short of graduate and he couldn't enroll because he didn't have a job and he didn't have any money and he phoned my office today and said I have my job and I have money and I need to get back in school, I need three classes. I

have to tell you that was one of the hardest things I've had to do since I've been here, try to figure it out, trying to work through it, but that's another story for another day. Other questions about students?

Dr. Nelson: One more comment. I would ask that, I don't happen to have an attendance problem, if I scare them enough then they show up, the issue is though, that if Bill is calling them about their attendance I hope that he's just encouraging them to speak with the faculty member rather than telling them it's not too late to get back in there because that then goes against the contract of the syllabus that the faculty member has listed with the class.

Provost Rinker: Absolutely and just to be sure that that suggestion is happening I will have that conversation with Bill to be certain that that is the case.

Dr. Nelson: And the reason why I say it now is because in the course of the summer somebody came to me, who flunked a class two years ago and she came to me at the suggestion of an administrator.

Provost Rinker: I hear you, I hear you.

Dr. Nelson: We get the message not to change grades then we get another message of the student coming two years later pleading her case and I basically told her it would be a terrible injustice on my part to change her grade and not everybody else.

Provost Rinker: I hear you and I will have that conversation, indeed. We're not the teachers, you are so correct. Anything else? If you have further ideas

Sen. Whittemore: There's a lot here, Linda, that's so interesting and important for all of us, for example we've begun routinely to receive emails from students two weeks into the term saying that "Oh, I wasn't able to come the first two weeks but I'll be in class the beginning of the third week can you catch me up on what I've missed?" This year I got it from two students, last semester I got it from two students. I forwarded the messages to the office of the Dean of Students asking if this is appropriate. It seems to me that there's more here than just keeping up on who is attending. It's also conveying to students from the start that coming in when it's convenient to join us is not part of what they should expect and that if they're not here for the first or second class, they're not enrolled anymore. There are universities that do this. We have this benevolent policy that strings on until withdrawal period.

Provost Rinker: Well, I have to agree with you on that, because I don't really think it makes sense for students to sort of stream in and stream out. The point you're raising is a very important point. We really want to build the academic standards at our institution and you're already doing a wonderful job of that and I have to tell you that I have been excited about the kinds of stories I've heard, but to be very specific about your point it really goes to the orientation process when we are working with our students and it goes to the advising process, both of which, incidentally are part of the President's strategic plan, which we're trying very, very hard to build and I might just do a side bar with you all today. Though I wasn't here the last week in June when you did the orientation process I have heard wonderful things and I have seen

data that indicates that it was one of the best that you've done in years. I can only believe that we can build on that and we're reinforcing policies about class attendance is extremely important Robert, as you've pointed out. I totally agree with you, connecting the student immediately in that class is what it's about. Other issues?

Pres. Kuther: I'd like to speak as a representative of my department as opposed to as Senate President. There seems to be a concern at least among department members I've spoken with that there is a shift in policy here, that it's not just taking attendance but that we're reporting attendance and there's a difference there. There's also a lot of concern over what happens next. I know that it seems that Bill is always going to be calling the students but there is a concern that it is going to spill over and somehow affect our roles as advisors and I know at least in my department we have very, very large classes and large advisement loads.

Provost Rinker: I have no plans to shift the policy and I have no plan to add more burden to the workload, in fact I'm trying very hard right now to work on an advising plan, not a policy but a plan that I think you will embrace and it has to do with some of my past experiences that I've had and I will be very happy to talk about this but I could honestly tell you today and I'd be very happy if you could put this in the minutes, I don't have anything in mind to shift a policy. I really want to stay focused on the two points that Roy Stewart mentioned in his speech with you or discussion with you in March and that was that we're looking at the at-risk students because we do have a significant population of students at risk and moreover it is a concern on the finance end of it as far as our dollars are concerned and that is always an issue in any institution, not necessarily one that you have to worry so much about. In a way you do because it depends on the amount of resources you get. So, I will tell you today, Tara, it is not the intent it is just trying to do that attendance piece so we can follow up on the students.

Dr. Nelson: This is my last comment.

Provost Rinker: You can have many comments

Dr. Nelson: If when you present the data, the summary data, if in fact you could, it would be helpful to look at the SAT scores or the entrance scores of students who are not attending maybe that will tell us that they themselves might feel more under prepared than what they are and perhaps they're not attending so when we take them and allow them to come, and be full time students we may not be doing the best thing for them.

Provost Rinker: I think you're reading my mind and the experiences I had today, you're absolutely correct. Our SAT scores, total score if I'm right is a tad bit under 1000, it's like 99 or something of that sort but today I had the privilege of meeting with the BoTs as we dealt with the Academic Affairs work and I looked at the SAT's for the entire system and we are below the US standards and we are below the state's standards as a large group, or as a system, so that's another concern which I will not take up your time, but you read my mind because I do believe some of those at risk students are the students that are the weaker students, I absolutely do believe it. And they may be students that we're bringing in at the last minute or at the 11th hour, whatever you want to term it. Thank you for your suggestion, you're right about that possibly. I will bring the data back to you, Tara, who can then decide how she wishes to disseminate it. I'm

sure you have some burning desire to talk about this some more so, I'm here so and also across the street and I'm out here, too so feel free to contact me. I appreciate you taking your time, sharing your honest thoughts and thank you again for what you're doing.

Pres. Kuther: Thank you for coming, we appreciate it.

C. Representation of School of Visual and Performing Arts on Senate Standing Committees

Pres. Kuther: As of yet none of the Senate standing committees offer representation to the new school. I would suggest that we ask our standing committees now to look back at their by-laws and determine how to incorporate the new school. Are there any suggestions?

Sen. Hawkes: Might I just offer, on some of the committees people who are representing one of the other schools Professional Studies or Arts & Science have now changed their affiliation so maybe those schools will no longer have representation. It's been [inaudible] so I think the committees do have to look at their representation in terms of all the schools, not just this school.

Pres. Kuther: Exactly, so I think it would be a matter of having all committees look back over their by laws and determine how the four schools should be represented. Are there any suggestions?

Sen. Nair: I have a motion, I can read you if you could tell me when the December meeting of the Senate is, does anybody have a calendar?

The motion is: All Senate committees shall revise their by-laws if necessary in order to provide appropriate representation to the members of the school of Visual and Performing Arts. The proposal shall be submitted to the Senate no later than December 8, 2006. The second part of the resolution, for the academic year 2006-2007 all committee memberships shall be in accordance with the practices that existed in 2005-2006.

Unidentified: I guess then the purpose of your motion is to insure that the beginning of the school year, 2007 and 2008, the new school will be represented?

Sen. Nair: So that the elections take place in the spring semester, so everything will be in place for the next academic year.

Pres. Kuther: yea, early spring the Nominations and Elections committee will usually do elections for any vacancies and so we could do all of the new elections at once. So the motion is from Senator Nair and seconded by Sen. Echevarria Discussion?

Sen. Kain: I suppose, by the way, that that motion is worded in a way that it addresses Dr. Hawkes' concern that if the current member of a committee has by virtue of their moving into the Visual Arts School creates an opening in might be Arts & Sciences, the committee needs to fill the space.

Pres. Kuther: As I read it, its not referring to the current representation in terms of bodies, instead it's referring to the representations in terms of slots so as to provide appropriate representation to the members of the School of Visual and Performing Arts. As I see it, we're not talking about the current number of bodies in a given committee; instead we're talking about the slots allotted to the school.

Sen. Kain: It does address that concern. Without having to say it, it does allow us to fill the vacant position from another school. Ok.

Sen. Popiel: I just wanted to bring up in accordance with what Dean Hawkes brought up, for instance I was just on Working Conditions Committee, I'm not any longer but if I still was who now do I represent?

Dr. Hawkes: you now represent Visual and Performing Arts

Sen. Popiel: So that means that now Arts and Sciences is not represented

Pres. Kuther: If you look at the second part of this motion, it's for academic year 2006-2007 all committee memberships shall be in accordance with the practices that existed in 2005-2006. That means that this year the school will not have representation, officially. As of now on that committee you would be part of arts and sciences, there's a transition year here, where who ever is on their committees will be representing their old schools.

Sen. Popiel: Could we just get information though as Senators on where our, like I don't know if there's anybody on working conditions committee now that would be. I'd be curious to know

Pres. Kuther: The committee roster is published. Terry Buzaid sends updates several times a semester so on the committee roster you'd be able to see who's on which committees and how that spreads out.

Sen. Popiel: Could we add something, though, that might say if anybody in the school of visual arts has any concerns they could have a way to entertain a question to a committee or concern to a committee? Just as an at large?

Sen. Hawkes: I'm concerned about having no representation on a committee, although I know we have people who are serving on the committees, that were in one school and are now in another school, I don't want to deny any other school representation but I don't think we should be condemned to having no spokesperson for the year, perhaps those people can either officially or unofficially speak for their new school as well as their own, old.

Sen. Nair: Except for the Promotion and Tenure committee, all the committee meetings are open meetings, so anyone can attend. And the Academic Leave committee.

Sen. Hawkes: Promotion and Tenure committee is still very well balanced

Sen. Nair: All the meetings are open meetings except for those two committees, so there's no reason why we could, particularly this transition year, we could ask the committee to put it on the website so if somebody wanted to go and say their piece

Pres. Kuther: Further discussion?

Sen. Kain: Would it be appropriate to perhaps notify the Senate Chairs of this particular requirement, to notify them to do this by December so that they're aware of the fact

Pres. Kuther: Yea, that's part of the plan. Once this goes through what I would do is send out a memo to all committee chairs which will be interesting because not all committees have chairs yet, to contact all committee chairs and notify them about the requirement about completing these bylaws before our December meeting.

Sen. Gutzman: is it a matter of committee bylaws whether a faculty member from one school can represent another school?

Pres. Kuther: Well, the bylaws stipulate the membership of each committee; most of them include one faculty member from each of the three schools, now four. So the issue here is to change the membership of each committee.

Sen. Gutzman: oh, I understand, my question is about the propriety of having people who were former members of some school continue to represent a school that they're no longer faculty members in that school, I was wondering whether if there's a general university policy or whether it's up to each committee to decide whether, say I as an arts and sciences professor could represent the Ansell school on a committee?

Pres. Kuther: I see what you're saying, because for example, if, Jamie Begian were now on a committee he was in Arts and Sciences now he's in the School of Visual and Performing Arts

Sen. Gutzman: Should he resign and allow an emergency election to replace him?

Pres. Kuther: See the problem is that emergency election can't be held until we know what slots are available and so these bylaws need to be complete in order to begin the process of elections. So this is really a transition year, I'm sure we'll see a lot of transitions, not just with regard to committee membership but with regard to whole lot of other issues.

Sen. Gutzman: it still gets back to the question when a committee, when a decision is made that a committee will include a faculty member from the Ansell school does that committee decide whether the representative for the Ansell school has to be a faculty member from the Ansell school or could it be somebody from arts and sciences? Do we have a general university policy about this or is it up to each committee to decide that question?

Sen. Schlicht: I was just gonna say that I assume that the definition of representative from arts and sciences means the faculty member of arts and sciences I don't know why

Pres. Kuther: If you go back to the nominations and elections committee, if we're looking for a representative for arts and sciences, for example, only the arts and sciences faculty can say that they're willing to serve on that committee and vote on that particular position, and so it does come from the school, however, I think that we need to have a little bit of latitude this because there's no other way to as far as I can see to get representation on these committees of this new school

Sen. Gutzman: my issue isn't about representatives for the new school mine is about representatives from my own school and what I'm wondering is if I were a representative on one of these committees for arts and sciences and I died would replacing me have to wait for the next school year?

Pres. Kuther: no, but what would happen is there are elections that occur twice a year, in fall and in spring. So, right now the fall elections are occurring, however, because we don't have a list of vacancies that accommodates this new school, right now the vacancies that we're filling are for Arts and Sciences and Ancell and Professional Studies or to include all faculty the faculty are being sent their willingness to serve based on their prior designations. Because as of yet, there is no school of Professional and Visual Studies in terms of committees. Does anyone have a suggestion?

Sen. Gutzman: my suggestion is the first thing that should happen is the faculty members who are no longer members of schools of which they were formerly affiliated should cease to be the representatives of those schools on these various committees, they should be replaced by people who are still on the faculties of the schools with which they were formerly affiliated. That should be a parallel process with resolving the question how to get representation for the new school on the committees, I think.

Pres. Kuther: would that be proposed as an amendment to the motion?

Sen. Gutzman – Well, I put it up for consideration. Would you consider that a friendly amendment?

Sen. Nair – not the way you phrased it. No offense made but it makes no sense. Each committee has to look at its by laws to figure out. Say that if you were elected to the committee as a member of arts and sciences and now you're the school of visual and performing arts, do you immediately resign (inaudible) that's a procedural thing, so I can not accept that amendment.

Sen. Whittemore – But isn't it the case that for whatever reason, you abandon your position on a committee the person in the last election who was in second place is then invited to fill that slot? Isn't that correct?

Pres. Kuther – If they actually met the requirements for that position in terms of the number of votes obtained and if that occurs before the next Willingness to Serve session goes out.

Sen. Whittemore – Right.

Pres. Kuther – over the summer for example, if there were a resignation then the next elected would be contacted.

Sen. Whittemore – But at this time it would be too late for that person to be brought in?

Pres. Kuther – Right. The Willingness to Serves are going out now. So the motion is all Senate committees shall revise their by laws if necessary in order to provide appropriate representation to the members of the school of visual and performing arts. The proposed revisions shall be submitted no later than December 8, 2006 for the academic year 2006-2007. All committee memberships shall be accordance with the practices that existed in 2005-2006. Further discussion?

Sen. Whittemore – Friendly amendment? Could the report from each Chair, current representation on that committee that as is constituted and to propose change?

Pres. Kuther – What would happen, as I understand it, we're asking for bylaw changes. So they would submit the by laws and traditionally when we have by law changes they submit the originals with strikeouts and additions, so we'd be able to see the actual changes.

Sen. Whittemore – Thank you.

Sen. Hawkes – Since these committee meetings are open meetings and since it s the intention by this amendment not to have any representation from the new school would the Senate be open to helping people in the new school elect people from the new school who would at least unofficially commit to attending the meetings of certain committees? They would not have a vote, I understand that, but at least they would be present at the meeting.

Pres. Kuther – As I understand it, there are already members of the new school who are sitting on these committees and maybe Sam could help me here but I think there are only a very small handful of positions that are up for election right now, correct?

Sen. Hawkes – We've been told they cannot represent our school, only their old school which they're not in close contact with anymore.

Sen. Nair – How many departments, 3, 4?

Sen. Hawkes – Only 3.

Sen. Nair – (inaudible) you don't need the Senate for that.

Sen. Hawkes – ok, so unofficially if we do this

Sen. Nair – The meetings are open meetings

Sen. Hawkes – ok, fine

Pres. Kuther – and the current willingness to serve forms are only going out for only a couple of positions anyway, so. Further discussion?

Sen. Echevarria- As an aside here, the representation here from these three departments can certainly bring the information back to their department.

Pres. Kuther – That would be great, thank you. Further discussion?

Motion: All Senate committees shall revise their by-laws if necessary in order to provide appropriate representation to the members of the school of Visual and Performing Arts. The proposal shall be submitted to the Senate no later than December 8, 2006. The second part of the resolution, for the academic year 2006-2007 all committee memberships shall be in accordance with the practices that existed in 2005-2006. (Nair/Echavaria, passed with one abstention, **R 06-09-04**)

D. Parking

Pres. Kuther: I was contacted almost simultaneously by Sen. Whittemore and Gutzman with requests to place Parking on the Senate agenda.

Sen. Whittemore –I would like to propose is motion that the parking issues that are current be discussed at the October meeting and at that time we invite Beth Amyot to join us since her understanding of some of the issues might be relevant or others who we think would be relevant. I'm thinking of a number of issues, one has to do with the new parking lot and the grounds upon which it is so clearly stated that only students can park there, that's one issue. I'm not sure, I mean I've heard the explanation but I don't quite still understand it as do many of my colleagues with whom I've spoken. The second issue in my mind has to do with the committees decision in the course apparently it was an informal ad hoc committee to come up with a way of setting out designated spaced, not reserved spaces but designated spaces for particular parties. My department was aware and felt a remarkable sense of good will when last spring the designated spaces were completely obliterated. That is all spaces were open to all parties. It created a tremendous, I think, affirmation of I think, I notice the strategic planning initiative, the notion that there are various ways to develop and strengthen connections among various community members, and it felt like that was a real act to strengthen that. Many of us who park in White Hall parking complex drove up and down that there were many open spaces behind the chain link fence and we had no access to them. So, this feels like the committee met in the summer and kind of took a step back to once again designate spaces and I would like to hear an explanation for the grounds which those spaces were designated. It looks like it has to do with perceived rank in the community. I'm not convinced that that's a sophisticated or sufficiently adequate ground for re-instituting what is a policy that separates some from the rest. I know that there are some department chairs that are uncomfortable with the fact that they've been given a slot are not entirely convinced it was a wise decision. But, I would like to hear from that committee and I would like to know the membership of the committee that made this decision. I think that bears on our talking about it. Those are two issues that are pressing that I'm bringing to the floor and would bring to a discussion in October when the parties involved both from the committee and perhaps from fiscal side would be present.

Pres. Kuther – so there's a motion that we take up the issue of parking, specifically the two fold issue of the new garage and an explanation of the commuter student status and then secondly regarding the committee, correct? The membership of the committee as well as the process and who would you invite?

Sen. Whittemore – Beth Amyot and members of the committee or a representative.

Motion: The University Senate will invite Beth Amyot to attend the October senate meeting for the purpose of discussing University parking regulations. (Whittemore/Nair, passed with one abstention, **R 06-09-05**)

E. 2005-2006 Annual Reports

1. General Education Committee Annual Report

Received without comment

2. Institutional Review Board Annual Report

Received without comment

3. Research & Development Committee Annual Report

Received without comment

4. Graduate Council Annual Report

Senator Whittemore – I noticed that one of the items on the report was a late registration fee. In an effort to avoid needlessly canceling courses due to insufficient enrollment a fee for late registration will be effective with the spring 2006 semester. Does the rest of the university have a late registration fee?

Pres. Kuther – I don't know, can anybody speak to that?

Sen. Whittemore – I think that's a really interesting idea. But I'm curious the graduate council made this decision, have they made a formal proposal to this effect? Has it passed through which channels?

Pres. Kuther – What I will do is contact Dr. Tesch. So, it has started in August and it's been implemented. What I could do is contact Dr. Tesch and request that he come in October.

Sen. Whittemore – yea, the passive voice makes me nervous, it's being implemented.

Pres. Kuther – well apparently now it is being implemented.

Sen. Whittemore – isn't this a policy shift? I mean if we haven't done it at the university at large isn't this a substantial and important perhaps interesting shift for the rest of us to consider, but doesn't this have to go through regular channels to just be instituted?

Pres. Kuther – I honestly don't know, but I'll start by asking Dr. Tesch exactly how this came to be

Sen. Begian – that's just regarding graduate courses, not undergraduate?

Pres. Kuther – yes, this comes from graduate council

Sen. Whittemore – understand that my point is only that the graduate council makes this decision and I want to be sure it's gone through the channels to be considered and if it has to learn from that so that if the rest of the university wants to consider this we have a chance to discuss it.

Pres Kuther – ok, so it would be a matter of asking him how this came to be and has it gone through the channels, what are the channels?

5. Assessment Committee Annual Report.

Jerry Wilcox – Just to say that I wrote an entire page of verbiage and I'm willing to stand behind it. For those who are curious about the workings of the committee if you have the time tomorrow afternoon we'll be meeting in room 228 of this building starting at 2:30 and it is an open meeting, anyone is welcome to attend. Any questions?

6. CUCAS Annual Report

Received without comment

7. Media & Library Policy Committee Annual Report

Received without comment

V. OTHER BUSINESS

None received

Motion to adjourn (Munz/Gutzman)

Meeting adjourned 4:55

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Popiel – Senate Secretary

Linda D'Aurio – Recording Secretary

SENATE RESOLUTIONS

September 20, 2006

THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL, 2006 SENATE MEETING (Munz/Schlicht, 1 abstention; **R-06-09-01**).

THE SENATE SHALL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY, 2006 SENATE MEETING (Munz/Echevarria; 3 abstentions; **R-06-09-02**).

THE MARCH, 2007 SENATE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH (3/28/07) (Kain/Schlicht, unanimous, **R-06-09-03**).

ALL SENATE COMMITTEES SHALL REVISE THEIR BYLAWS, IF NECESSARY, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS. THE PROPOSAL SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8, 2006. FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2006-2007, ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRACTICES THAT EXISTED IN 2005-2006. (Nair/Echavaria, passed with one abstention, **R 06-09-04**)

THE UNIVERSITY SENATE WILL INVITE VP BETH AMYOT TO ATTEND THE OCTOBER MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING UNIVERSITY PARKING RESOLUTIONS (Whittemore/Nair, passed with one abstention, **R 06-09-05**)