Chair’s Report
Academic Senate General Meeting
Thursday, 21 October, 2010

Announcements

Senate Membership

I am pleased to announce that Bill Lee, Professor of Economics and Chair of that department, has agreed to appointment to the Academic Senate’s SEBA seat, formally filled by Phil Perry. Professor Lee will serve through the balance of the present academic year, commencing with the General Meeting of 21 October. I wish publicly to extend my personal thanks, with those of the Senate and faculty at large, for Professor Lee’s willingness to serve at some real personal inconvenience.

Committee Memberships

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Jyoti Bachani to the seat reserved on the Library Committee for a ranked member of the graduate faculty. Professor Bachani will serve a two-year term, commencing immediately and terminating with the close AY 2011 – 12. Again, I wish to add personal thanks to those of the Senate and faculty at large for Professor Bachani’s generosity.

Remarks on the Agenda for 21 October, 2009

Reports

C. Past Academic Senate Chair, Tom Poundstone, will report on the October 14 – 15 meeting of the Board of Trustees, which produced the welcome responses to Br. Ronald’s recommendations for amendments to the 2010 – 11 operating budget that were reported in the Campus Bulletin for 18 October: restoration of the 8.25% contribution to TIAA-CREF; a 10% increase in the College’s contribution to health benefits; one-time salary relief for members of the staff. Faculty-Board relations are a key to the College’s negotiation of on-going volatility in the academic world, as in the economy at large. Senator Poundstone will take questions ad libidum from the Senate and the floor.

D. In my character as Senate liaison to the UEPC, I would report that apart from the Consent items noted on the Agenda, UEPC’s 11 October meeting produced the following actions of note to the Senate and Faculty at large:

- an ad hoc subcommittee of the UEPC is at work preparing up-dated guidance to the preparation of sabbatical proposals;

- on advice of the UEPC, the Chair approved an experimental course in Dance Anatomy and Kinesiology, to be offered under the auspices of the Department of Performing Arts;

- conditionally upon receipt of satisfactory answers to questions concerning review by the Dean, possible pre-requisites, and its place in the overall Department
curriculum, UEPC advised the Chair to approve “Principles of Strength Training and Conditioning” as an experimental course in the Department of Kinesiology;

UEPC deferred to the 1 November meeting action on proposed reorganization of the Art History major in the Department of Art and Arts History.

_I would refer the Senators and the faculty at large to the final section of the present Chair’s Report, Prospective on Up-coming Agenda, where the calendar agreed—among the Chairs of CCIC, UEPC and the Senate—for action on the revised core undergraduate curriculum is detailed._

F. The yearly Report from the Athletic Department, postponed from the 30 September General Meeting, will be delivered by Athletic Director, Mark Orr, who will also take questions _ad libidum_ from the Senate and the floor.

G. Vice Provost Michael Beseda will report on enrollments, _viz._: on the record enrollments for Fall, 2010 which delivered much-needed budget relief, and on enrollment policy for the out-going years. It need hardly be said that enrollments are a key to stable College budgeting. See:


for a summary of the data with which the Vice Provost will be dealing. Again, questions _ad libidum_ from the Senate and the floor will be entertained.

_Prospective on Up-coming Agenda_

CCIC is rapidly approaching the delivery of a set of crucial reports—cum-recommendations to the UEPC, which is in its turn preparing to send the resulting business to the Academic Senate, with dispatch. Lest, then, we be lulled by the “tranquility” of an October Agenda devoid of New and Old Business, I want to alert the Senate and the faculty at large to the wave of business impending as the CCIC moves (1) to propose the shape—the membership and the charge—of a permanent Core Curriculum Committee and (2) to propose the concrete learning outcomes that will motivate curricular decision-making by that new Committee, and as, in turn, the UEPC advances final language on these matters to the Senate.

Please note the following calendar, which has been agreed among the Senate Executive Committee, and the Chairs of the UEPC and CCIC. It details the timing and the sequencing of core curriculum business, from the adoption of proposed language in the CCIC, through proposals finalized by the UEPC, and finally to the _initiation_ of a long process of final approval of the proposals—or their return for revision, to the UEPC—through votes in the Senate.
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<td>Mon., Nov. 1: review Outcomes &amp; Rationales-- Critical Thinking; Shared Inquiry; Social, Historical &amp; Cultural Understanding</td>
<td>Mon., Nov. 22: report Charge &amp; Composition, Core Curriculum Committee to Senate</td>
<td>By Mon., Jan. 24: Final language, Pathways to Knowledge, Engaging the World, Habits of Mind, Goals, Outcomes, Rationales, with Comprehensive recommendation on Core plan, to Senate</td>
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**Senators and Faculty at Large:** Please note the Special General Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, January 12 (evening) and Wednesday, January 13 (noon hour). Senators, please plan for attendance as for a matter of senatorial duty. Please note also the **November 22** meeting of the **UEPCC** (Galileo 113, 3:30 – 5:30pm): this meeting will be devoted to a single agendum: a report and recommendation to the Senate on the composition and charge of the permanent Core Curriculum Committee; it is most
desirable that as many Senators as possible attend the discussion. So, too, with the UEPC meetings of November 1, 10, and 22, devoted primarily to Learning Outcomes language under the Model 1 Goals. Reminders will be forthcoming from the Chair.

**Senators, Committee Chairs, and Faculty at Large:** Please note that the Senate Agenda for February (General Meeting the 10\(^{th}\)), March (General Meetings the 3\(^{rd}\) and 24\(^{th}\)) and—possibly—April (General Meeting the 14\(^{th}\)) will be dominated by Core Curriculum business of the highest importance. As the faculty is principally responsible for curricula, so the Senate must attend to Core implementation ahead of most occasional business. Kindly consider how action items arising in the ordinary course of governance may be timed for referral to the Executive Committee by November 2 (for the November 11\(^{th}\) General Meeting), or January 4 (for the January 12\(^{th}\) General Meeting).

Respectfully submitted,

S. A. Cortright, Chair
Academic Senate