**Upstate Faculty Annual Meeting**

**Minutes**
May 8, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Victoria Meguid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Chair</td>
<td>Dale Avers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Richard Veenstra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Support</td>
<td>Patty Gooden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>318 Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Videoconference</td>
<td>Binghamton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attachments**
Upstate Faculty documents can be found on the website: [http://www.upstate.edu/facgov/intra/council_minutes.php](http://www.upstate.edu/facgov/intra/council_minutes.php)

### AGENDA ITEM
**Welcome and Report – Vicki Meguid, Chair, Upstate Faculty**

**Achievements:**
- Writing and passing the new bylaws for the Upstate Faculty.
- Four committees arose as part of the changes and were appointed to inform the Faculty Council. Each committee works with an appropriate administrative liaison – a good example of shared governance.
  - **Academic Affairs**: Stephen Glatt, Administrative Liaison
    - Had an extensive discussion about the merits of the P/F grading proposal for the first two years of medical school, and provided their collective wisdom and thoughts on the matter back to the administration.
  - **Faculty Affairs**: Bill Grant, Administrative Liaison
    - In conjunction with the Upstate Medical Staff Executive Committee, we are beginning to explore how to effectively support the aging workforce, particularly faculty members. While issues surrounding the aging physician are receiving increased attention across the country, less focus has been placed on the aging non-physician faculty, although many of the issues and alternatives are similar. Many older faculty have significant contributions to make to the academic community but it may be necessary to provide alternative means of doing so.
    - We are exploring other institutional efforts to determine what alternatives might be available to capitalize on the benefits of these faculty. In addition, how and who determines honorary degrees endowed by the institution and where these are provided and at what venue(s) the honoree presents. This entire process is determined by specific SUNY-wide policy and is the responsibility of the specific institutional president.
    - Another inquiry asked for assistance understanding “hooding” rules at the various graduations. This is guided institutionally. Individuals with specific requests or inquiries should direct those to the appropriate college dean.
  - **Operations**: Steve Youngentob, Administrative Liaison
    - Nominations for Senators and for Council officers are being handled by this committee.

**DISCUSSION**
Upstate Affairs: Joan O’Brien, Administrative Liaison

- Issues discussed by the committee included the appropriate response of faculty to gun violence, the way in which decisions affecting all colleges are disseminated to all of the faculty, and the security of Silverman Hall (a proximity reader is in the process of being installed).
- This year there was a full slate of senators for the SUNY senator elections. The results were announced by Sue Miller later in the meeting as follows:
  - Two new senators: JC Trussell and Jay Brenner
  - Four new alternates: Vicki Meguid, Bryan Margulies, Maria Wheelock, and Robert Lebel.
- The first year of the new structure has been a year of learning what issues are important to the faculty, and we need faculty to continue to let us know. We have had presentations from different areas of the institution. To highlight a few:
  - Win Thurlow, University Counsel, presented the use of background checks in admitting students. This is occurring in all colleges.
  - Mike Lyon, the UUP representative, has updated us on ongoing contact negotiations at the state level.
- Vicki thanked her colleagues on the Faculty Council for their continued support of the University. She also thanked Dr. David Smith and his administration for promoting shared governance at Upstate.

AGENDA ITEM

Faculty Senators Report – Dale Avers, Vice Chair, Upstate Faculty

- Bob Lebel and Allen Silverstone are leaving their senator positions.
- There were three state plenaries held this year.
- Issues at Downstate:
  - Support of colleagues and viability.
  - Support of Academic Health Science Centers
  - New York is better because of our Health Science Centers and is interested in this resolution.
- Last fall there was an inaugural meeting to share ideas.
- Campus and system wide data is publicly accessible on the website.
- New guidelines for grade reporting are being addressed by Lynn Cleary’s office.
- New award approved for shared governance.

AGENDA ITEM

Legislative Issues, Hospital Finances, and Downstate – David Smith, President

**Legislative Issues:**
- The legislative session was disappointing this year. The legislation is not inclined to increase funding for SUNY.
- Restore cuts (reduction of $28M):
  - How best to finance this?
  - Savings through furlough days of UUP employees – this is not ratified yet.
  - Request for $99M and an additional $35M and we will continue to fight.
  - Tried to obtain added flexibility but this was defeated.

**Hospital Finances:**
- Going through books at end of June with a $28M positive bottom line.
- We are down 200 employees at the hospitals. There have been no layoffs, but positions have not been filled as they become vacant.
- Senior management took pay decreases.
- Revenue Cycle team in from Grant Thornton (EPIC in the hospital).
- Community General Hospital is ramping up since we took it over.
Pension costs are self paid on the hospital side.
Additional work on revenue cycle volume is needed.

**Downstate:**
- There is a bigger Medicaid population.
- Different faculty model, cost structures are different.
- Going through $12M per month.
- Our first concern is to preserve the academic setting as there has been a proposal to close LICH. This has to be approved by the Department of Health.

**Questions:**
- A question was raised about the status of the new Academic Building. This is on hold at the present time. Our hope is that building will begin starting in the fall.

### AGENDA ITEM
**Academic Issues: Interprofessional Education, Online Offerings, etc. across colleges – Lynn Cleary, VP for Academic Affairs**

**DISCUSSION**

**Interprofessional Education:**
- Paul Grover has taken the lead on Middle States accreditation.
- There are five committees that relate to accreditation standards.
- We are currently identifying ways to work across colleges regarding interprofessional education.

**Online Offerings:**
- There have been major advancements in technology.

- Commencement is scheduled for May 19, 2013.

### AGENDA ITEM
**Introduction – Rosemary Rochford, VP for Research**

**DISCUSSION**

- NIH just announced cuts to grants across the board.
- We should take advantage of the strengths we have, i.e. faculty, State-line funding.
- There are seven grants going out for SUNY-wide Research collaborations.
- Research Administration will resume Hot Topics and offer new discussion opportunities.
- Dr. Rochford will be visiting with Dept. Chairs and faculty to discuss policies and related questions.

### Schedule of Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 20, 2013</td>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Room 318 of the Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15, 2013</td>
<td>12:00 – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Room 318 of the Library</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>