

February 2006

## Minutes February 13, 2006

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

1. Senator Spiggle officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of February 13, 2006 to order at 4:03 pm in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.
2. Approval of Minutes

Senator Spiggle presented the minutes from the regular meeting of December 12, 2005 for review.

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. The Report of the President was presented by Senator Austin.

President Austin presented an update on the Fenton River drought problem that occurred in the fall of 2005. Dr. Glenn Warner of the Department of Natural Resources, Management and Engineering led the group to study the Fenton River problem. The drought of 2005 was the most serious this area has experienced in decades and the study group recognized that a management plan should have been in place. However, President Austin noted that the situation could not have been dealt with differently due to the arrival of 20,000 students to campus at that time. The new water pipe construction to the Willimantic River is approaching completion. Similar problems should not be encountered. President Austin formally thanked Dr. Warner and his colleagues.

President Austin commented on the announcement of the state budget, noting it is \$4.5 million less than what it should be for UCONN. He hopes to add another \$4.5 million to the state budget to replace this deficit as well as \$5.2 million to add more faculty in order to accommodate the increased student enrollment (engineering, technology and basic sciences will receive 50%, the remainder will support undergraduate requirements, economic development and expansion). President Austin stated that UCONN needs to reduce the student to faculty ratio from 17:1 to 15:1 with 150 additional faculty lines over a five-year period. The recent hire of 51 new full time faculty positions, not all of which are tenure track, has helped, albeit not much.

President Austin addressed the ongoing construction problems on campus and issues with the contractors for Husky Village, Hilltop and Charter Oaks. Husky Village is completed and corrections for compliance have been completed at the contractor's expense. UCONN has not been forced to pay the estimated \$7 million in renovations. Approximately half of the construction for Charter Oaks has been completed. Negotiations are ongoing for Hilltop. President Austin discussed the interim arbitration decision reached in the dispute over the 2000 termination of the contract with HRH Atlas, the contractor for the Biology/Physics Bldg. After obtaining \$25 million in a suit against this contractor, a countersuit of premature termination of the contract was filed. After an extended period of arbitration, an interim decision has been reached that states UCONN was within its rights to prematurely terminate this contract. This action likely saved the University \$45 million.

The NEASC accreditation of UCONN is due in just over one year. A mission statement for UCONN should be updated. The UCONN self-study is "on target" thus far. President Austin offered a formal thank you to Karla Fox for her efforts in this matter.

President Austin concluded with a brief discussion of animal research at the Health Center. A small colony of rhesus monkeys were in use at this campus under an NIH funded grant. PETA objected to this project and held a demonstration on the Storrs campus. The president appointed Dr. Decker to review policies and procedures related to this project. A final report found that all protocols were followed, appropriate federal officials contacted and requirements satisfied. Senator Austin supports continuation of this project.

Rachel Rubin, Director of Compliance, presented the Code of Conduct and the Code of Ethics. UCONN has been instructed by statute to formalize the laws of the Code of Conduct for the entire university system. This new draft is considered a "work in progress" that will be revisited annually. The second initiative required by state statute is

an Ethics Statement, or Code of Ethics. This policy has been required and has been in use at UCONN since 1997, although it has not been updated since then. Director Rubin stressed that awareness of state-level policies is important with regard to the Code of Ethics, now formally known as the Guide to the Code of Ethics. She stressed that faculty should consider situations with respect to this guide and call her office for guidance prior to acting.

4. The Report of the Senate Executive Committee was presented by Senator Kendall

(See Attachment #24)

Senator Altobello asked what the net increase of faculty is after the addition of 45 new faculty and departures from the previous year are considered.

Senator Kendall responded that this is the net number.

5. The Report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Senator DeWolf

(See Attachment #25)

**a) Motion: In light of the recent restructure, the Nominating Committee recommends the University Senate repeal its decision of May 13, 2002 which added the College of Continuing Studies to the Senate's constituencies.**

**The Motion carried.**

**b) Motion: Also in accordance with the recently approved restructuring of the University, the Nominating Committee recommends the Laws, By-Laws and Rules of the University of Connecticut be updated as follows:**

Article X. The University Senate

A.1. – “Three administrative officers elected by and from a group composed of the deans of the schools and colleges which are Senate electoral constituencies, the Dean of the College of Continuing Studies and the Director of Library Services. Members of this group and the *ex officio* members listed above are not eligible to vote in or to be elected from any of the constituencies listed in Section B.2. or 3. below.”

- The Dean of the College of Continuing Studies is to be removed because there is now a Director in charge of the Division of Continuing Studies.
- The Director of Library Services is to be removed because that position is now an *ex-officio* member of the Senate (and therefore can not be elected to the Senate).

**The Motion carried.**

- c) The following two motions were presented together:

The Nominating Committee moves the following undergraduate deletion from the named committee:

Shawn Logue from the Student Welfare Committee

The Nominating Committee moves the following undergraduate addition to the named committee:

Shannon O'Reilly to the Student Welfare Committee

**The Motion carried.**

6. The Annual Report on Financial Aid and Retention & Graduation was presented by M. Dolan Evanovich, Vice Provost of Enrollment Management.

(See Attachment #26)

Vice Provost Evanovich highlighted several items of note in the attached packet. UCONN has supported \$5.8 million in merit aide and \$26 million in need-based aide as state funding has decreased. The average debt for a student that borrows is \$19,000.

Senator Lowe noted that faculty are expected to provide three different types of advising: 1. Academic major advising; 2. Job placement; 3. Personal. Senator Lowe asked whether students are made aware that there are other sources on this campus for these advising types.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that freshman orientation has been changed to help facilitate students to proper advising for personal and professional needs.

Vice Provost Evanovich noted that in statistics for the last ten years, we can see an increase in UConn's ranking with a view to move into the top 5-10 universities in the country.

Senator Zirakzadeh expressed concern over the question presented to students regarding for course availability. Many sophomores and juniors stated that major and general education courses are not available. The senator asked whether these statistics represent the Storrs campus alone.

Vice Provost Evanovich answered that these statistics are only for the Storrs campus. The Center for Survey and Research conducted this analysis over ~80 courses and including ~1000 students.

Senator Zirakzadeh responded by asking whether it is made clear to the students queried that W courses are among the general education courses.

Vice Provost Evanovich stated that there is a bottleneck in the sophomore/junior years. While \$2.5 million in additional resources has been allocated, with thanks to Vice Provost Makowsky, to make some of these courses available, UCONN needs new faculty to address this problem.

It noted the Nutmeg Scholarship is only 63% of what it has been in previous years and asked what the funding, size and future of this program will be.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that this scholarship was designed in the early 1990's and was supported by private funding. Three years ago this scholarship fund was reduced due to a lack of private philanthropy. Typically only 15 are offered to entering students with a yield of 5 acceptances. Vice Provost Evanovich recommended this be included in the Capital Campaign to support the offer of 40 scholarships. Likewise, Merit Scholarships help to increase our ranking in the US and this fund is also in need of more financial support.

Senator Faghri queried why we are behind as a university in national ranking yet we appear to have a higher ranking according to these tables.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that the schools in the top five include those in the University of California system. The demographics for our state and region do not work like they do for California. Therefore, the top 5% is an unrealistic goal, however the top 10-15% is good goal for UCONN.

Senator Faghri noted that according to tables presented in this report, UCONN is within the top 20 however we are not nationally ranked in the top 20 universities.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that marketplace representation is not growing as fast as our statistics are. Gary Lewicki, Director for Research and Assessment, Enrollment Management and a member of the Retention and Graduation Task Force, added that if reputation is not included in national surveys, UCONN climbs 10 positions in the ranking.

Senator Faghri followed by asking how we fix this reputation lag.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that there appears to be solicitation at the time of the US and World News Report ranking. UCONN faculty and deans are now charged with the task to build that reputation and change this perception.

Senator Schultz asked whether the increase in tuition and indebtedness is a major factor in recruitment or retention.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that in fact UCONN represents value for the cost of tuition. Students are making a marketplace decision in applying, as evidenced by 20,000 applications this year, double that of 10 years ago. Surveys showed that aide/cost were not the reason for departures from UCONN but that a lack of a town or community was the major reason for retention problems for out of state students. In-state student responses indicated that our classes and the university as a whole are too large.

Senator Cantino asked for statistics with respect to what happens to students after graduation.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that this information is available through the Alumni Association.

Senator Altobello asked what percentage of the student body consists of transfer students.

Vice Provost Evanovich answered that there are approximately 600 students at the Storrs campus and 200 at the regional campuses. Approximately 2/3 of the transfers to the Storrs campus are from other four-year universities, primarily those students from CT who left and came back to state. The other 1/3 represents community college transfers.

Senator Kendall commented on the gender differences represented on page 16, specifically that more females left with higher GPAs than males, and asked what were the trends and basis for this difference.

Vice Provost Evanovich agreed that this is a statistically significant finding. This is a concern and this information has been shared with the Commission of Women. To date, there is nothing to report from that group.

Jonna Kulikowich, Consultant for the Retention and Graduation Task Force, added that when comparing departure and retention rates as split by gender, overall females score better.

Gary Lewicki stated that the Task Force will look very carefully at the new phone surveys and will get more information on these statistics.

Senator Bansal asked for available information on our success with Merit Aid compared to other universities, specifically questioning whether UCONN is aggressive enough in this regard.

Vice Provost Evanovich responded that this is not accessible information. He noted that UCONN is likely average and commented that we are likely not offering enough for the upper high-end, but hope to cover that area with the Nutmeg Scholarships. UCONN certainly needs more money for this and must be realistic and strategic with the money in hand.

7. The Annual Report of the Scholastic Standards Committee was presented by Senator Moiseff.  
(See Attachment #27)
8. The Scholastic Standards Committee presented a Motion on the Removal of Transfer Credit Restrictions.  
(See Attachment #28)

**Motion: To recommend that the Provost consider revising the requirements for Minors by removing the existing 3-credit restriction placed on the application of transfer of credits for courses equivalent to University of Connecticut courses towards Minors. The suggested revision would read:**

Minors. A minor is available only to a matriculated student currently pursuing a baccalaureate degree. While not required for graduation, a minor provides an option for the student who wants an academic focus in addition to a major. Completion of a minor requires that a student earn a C (2.0) grade or better in each of the required courses for that minor. The same course may be used to meet both major and minor course requirements unless specifically stated otherwise in a major or minor. A maximum of 3 credits toward the minor may be transfer credits of courses equivalent to University of Connecticut courses. Substitutions are not possible for required courses in a minor. A plan of study for the minor; signed by the department or program head, director, or faculty designee; must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar during the first four

weeks of the semester in which the student expects to graduate. The minor is then recorded on the student's final transcript. All available minors are listed in the "Academic Degree Programs" section and described in the "Minors" section of this Catalog.

Senator Moiseff presented some additional background information. In 1996, minors were presented as an option by fiat from the Provost and were not included in the by-laws. As such there is no author to demand change. The Senate Scholastic Standards Committee will request a change from the Provost as per the motion.

Senator Lowe noted that six credits may be transferred to the major, meaning that 17% of courses applied to the major can be taken elsewhere. Three credits represents 20% of minor. More seems inappropriate for credit not taken in residence at UCONN.

Senator Moiseff responded that for the minor you may not substitute courses, which is not the case with the major. The prevailing thought was that the minor is an option therefore a lack of flexibility may be appropriate. Without restrictions on transfers, a minor may be obtained with no UCONN credits.

**The Motion carried.**

9. The Report of the Curricula and Courses Committee was presented by Senator Jeffers.

(See Attachment #29)

- a) Change to 100 level courses:

The committee recommends prerequisite change to the following courses:

1. MATH 114Q Introductory Calculus III ( add MATH 136 as shown)

Either semester. Four credits. Four class periods. Prerequisite: MATH 113. Recommended preparation:

A grade of C- or better in MATH 113. Note: MATH 115 is not adequate preparation for MATH 114. Not open for credit to students who have passed MATH 116, 121, or 136.

**The motion carried.**

- b) Reported for information to Senate: Change to existing W skill category course:

1. EGEN 295W. Seminar/Clinic: The Student in the School Context change credits from 1 to 3 credits

Existing copy:

EGEN 295W. Seminar/Clinic: The Student in the School Context. Second Semester. One Credit.

Prerequisite: EGEN 294. Open only to students in the Integrated Bachelor's/Master's Teacher Preparation Program. Integration of concepts of social and community issues, and exceptionality with clinical experiences. Prerequisite –Freshman English.

Revised Cat Copy: EGEN 295W. Seminar/Clinic: The Student in the School Context. Second Semester.

Three Credits. Prerequisite: EGEN 294. Open only to students in the Integrated Bachelor's/Master's

Teacher Preparation Program. Integration of concepts of social and community issues, and exceptionality with clinical experiences. Prerequisite –Freshman English.

- c) Reported for information to Senate: Changes to 200s Open to Sophomores

1. COMM 231W Media Literacy and Criticism add: Open to sophomores
2. COMM 244W Communication Law and Policy add: Open to sophomores
3. PLSC 213 Physiology of Economic Plants drop open to sophomores
4. PLSC 250 Soils drop open to sophomores
5. PLSC 251. Soils new open to sophomores
6. PLSC 252. Soils Lab new open to sophomores

- d) Reported for information to Senate: Changes to 200s level courses open to sophomores:
1. MCB 218. Heredity and Society editorial change in prerequisites  
New prerequisite: Open to sophomores or higher. May not be counted toward majors or minors in Biological Sciences, EEB, MCB, PNB, or Structural Biology and Biophysics.
- e) New General Education courses forwarded from GEOC not covered above  
The Curricula & Courses Committee moves that the University Senate approve the following courses for the General Education Curriculum:

1. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 1 (Arts and Humanities):

ARTH 123	Introduction to Western Art II: The Renaissance to the Present, a World Perspective
ARTH 141	Introduction to Latin American Art
MUSI 1XX	Honors Core: Music and Nature, Music and the Environment

**The motion carried.**

2. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 2 (Social Science):

LING 150	Introduction to Sociolinguistics of the Deaf Community
URBN 140W	Exploring Your Community

**The motion carried.**

3. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 3 (Science and Technology):

EEB 202	Evolution and Human Diversity
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NOTE: EEB202 should include “open to sophomores”

**The motion carried.**

4. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in Content Area 4 (Diversity and Multiculturalism):

May be used to satisfy the International requirement:

ANTH 106	Introduction to Anthropology
ARTH 123	Introduction to Western Art II: The Renaissance to the Present, a World Perspective
ARTH 141	Introduction to Latin American Art
EEB 202	Evolution and Human Diversity
WS 255W	Sexual Citizenship

May NOT be used to satisfy the International requirement:

LING 150	Introduction to Sociolinguistics of the Deaf Community
NURS 1XX	The End of Life: A Multicultural Experience
URBN 140W	Exploring Your Community

NOTE: EEB202 should include “open to sophomores”

Senator Freake noted that the addition of EEB 202 represents the first course to be included in Areas 3 and 4.

**The Motion carried.**

5. GEOC recommends approval of the following courses for inclusion in the W skill code:

DGS 234W	Diagnostic Molecular Technologies
ENGL 140W	Literature and the Creative Process
ENGL 279W	Advanced Study: Drama
ENGL 280W	Advanced Study: Poetry
ENGL 281W	Advanced Study: Prose
ENGL 282W	Advanced Study: Literary Criticism and Theory
ENGL 283W	Advanced Study: British Literature
ENGL 284W	Advanced Study: American Literature
ENGL 287W	Advanced Study: Ethnic Literature
ENGL 288W	Advanced Study: Anglophone Literature
ENGL 289W	Advanced Study: Literature of Australia, Canada, Ireland, and New Zealand
ENGL 290W	Advanced Study: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Literature
GEOL 297W	Undergraduate Research Thesis in Geology and Geophysics
MT 280W	Seminar in Medical Technology
PHYS 292W	Research Thesis in Physics
URBN 140W	Exploring Your Community
WS 245W	Sociology of Sexualities (already included in Gen Ed program as SOCI 245W)
WS 255W	Sexual Citizenship

6. GEOC recommends to Senate C&C approval of the following course catalog changes and Senate C&C reports approval to the senate:

**HIST 200W**

Current Catalog Copy: 200W. Senior Thesis in History.

Either semester. Three credits. Hours by arrangement. Open only with consent of instructor and Department Head. Independent study authorization form required. Prerequisite: Three credits of independent study and/or and advanced seminar; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250.

Proposed Catalog Copy: 200W. Senior Thesis in History.

Either semester. Three credits. Hours by arrangement. Open only to Honors students with consent of instructor and History Honors advisor. Prerequisite: HIST 211 and either HIST 299 or HIST 297W; ENGL 105 or 110 or 111 or 250.

**The Motions for items 5 and 6 carried under one vote.**

7. For the information of the Senate, the following courses were recently added to the GEOC list of courses approved for teaching in the intersession:

a. The following courses have been approved for teaching in Intersession:

LING 110Q	The Science of Linguistics
NURS 213W	Nursing Research
PP 223W	Cases in Public Policy

b. The following course has been given provisional approval for teaching in Intersession:

PRLS 220/ HIST 278	History of Latinos/as in the United States
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8. For the information of the Senate: C&C and GEOC have approved to drop the following cross-listings:

AASI 214	Medicinal Plants of Asian Origin and Culture drop the AH cross-listing
AASI 215	Critical Health Issues of Asian Americans drop the AH cross-listing
AASI 216	Asian Medical Systems drop the AH cross-listing

9. For the information of the Senate: Report of Cross-listed Skill Courses that have not appeared in Senate Minutes:

All approvals have been made by the appropriate Departments and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

AFAM/ PSYC 270W	Black Psychology
AFAM/ ENGL 276W	Black American Writers I
AFAM/ ENGL 277W	Black American Writers II
HIST/LAMS 233W	History of Migration in Las Américas
SOCI/WS 245W	Sociology of Sexualities

10. For the information of the Senate: Report of Cross-listed Content Area Courses that have not appeared in Senate Minutes:

All approvals have been made by the appropriate Departments and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Content Area 2.

<b>AFAM</b> /ANTH 275	Race, Ethnicity, and Nationalism
<b>HRTS</b> /POLS 125	Introduction to Human Rights

Content Area 4.

<b>AFAM</b> /HRTS/SOCI 236	White Racism
<b>AFAM</b> /POLS 248	African-American Politics
<b>AFAM</b> /PSYC 270/W	Black Psychology
<b>AFAM</b> /ANTH 275	Race, Ethnicity, Nationalism
<b>AFAM</b> /ENGL 276W	Black American Writers I
<b>AASI</b> /ENGL 274	Asian American Literature
<b>HIST</b> / <b>LAMS</b> 233W	History of Migration in Las Américas
<b>SOCI</b> / <b>WS</b> 245/W	Sociology of Sexualities

Content Area 4. – International

<b>ANTH</b> / <b>HRTS</b> 228	Indigenous Rights and Aboriginal Australia
<b>HRTS</b> /POLS 125	Introduction to Human Rights

Note: **red** font indicates the new cross-listing

10. The Presentation of the Second Language Report as per the GEOC subcommittee report on second language. The specific recommendation was presented by Senator Jeffers.

(See Attachment #30)

The Senate Curricula & Courses Committee recommends adoption of the Second Language Report from the GEOC. This includes the specific recommendation provided for reference here:

“A student meets the minimum requirement if admitted to the University with three years of a single foreign language in high school, or the equivalent. When the years of study have been split between high school and earlier grades, the requirement is met if the student has successfully completed the third-year high school level course. With anything less than that, the student must successfully complete the second semester course in the first year sequence of college level study in a single language.”

Senator Vinsonhaler moved to change the motion to remove “successfully completed” and replace this phrase with “passed”.

**The Motion to Amend carried.**

Amended recommendation:

“A student meets the minimum requirement if admitted to the University with three years of a single foreign language in high school, or the equivalent. When the years of study have been split between high school and earlier grades, the requirement is met if the student has successfully completed the third-year high school level course. With anything less than that, the student must pass the second semester course in the first year sequence of college level study in a single language.”

**The Motion as Amended carried.**

11. Unfinished Business – none
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 5:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rachel O'Neill  
Senate Secretary

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

Anderson, Gregory  
Anderson, Thomas  
Armstrong, Lawrence  
Aronson, Lorraine  
Bergman, Theodore  
Bramble, Pamela  
Bull, Nancy  
Burton, Aaron  
D'Alleva, Anne  
Darre, Michael  
Dashefsky, Arnold  
Domoff, Sarah  
Eby, Clare  
English, Gary  
Faustman, L. Cameron

Franklin, Brinley  
Gianutsos, Gerald  
Humphreys, Nancy  
Jevitts, John  
Kaufman, Douglas  
Kay, Richard  
Liu, Benjamin  
Majumdar, Suman  
Marsden, James  
McCarthy, Robert  
Muirhead, Deborah  
Munroe, Donna  
Murphy, Brenda  
Ndoye, Abdou  
Ogrean, Tracy

Palmer, David  
Ravishanker, Nalini  
Roe, Shirley  
Saddlemire, John  
Smith, Erling  
Sopcak, Amy  
Strausbaugh, Linda  
Taylor, Ronald  
Thorpe, Judith  
Tiberio, David  
Tilton, Robert  
Williams, Michelle  
Zinn, Steven