

All-Campus Meeting, 8/21/09
Bruce Simon, Chair, University Senate

Hello, everyone, and welcome back. Thanks to President Hefner for giving me the opportunity to speak with you all today on behalf of Fredonia's University Senate. I'd like you to join me in thanking the outgoing members of the Executive Committee for their years of service and leadership: Chair Ana Maria Klein, Faculty Secretary Vince Courtney, and University Faculty Senator Cheryl Drout. I've learned a lot from each of you and hope to make you proud this year. Our current representative to the SUNY-wide UFS Reneta Barneva is out of the country and Secretary Sandra Liggins is out of town, but I can introduce the other members of this year's Executive Committee, Vice Chair Dale Tuggy and Governance Officer Charlie Davis. It's going to be a great year, guys. Joseph Straight will continue as our Senate Parliamentarian and Gloria Hobbs will continue to provide secretarial support. Please join me in thanking them. Finally, will the chairs of Senate committees please stand and be recognized? Christopher Taverna, Faculty and Professional Affairs; Kevin Kearns, Graduate Council; Kathleen Gradel, Planning and Budget; David Herman, Student Affairs. Thank you very much for continuing to serve. I'm looking forward to working with you even more closely this year.

The Academic Affairs and College Core Curriculum committees will be voting soon to select their chairs, so be on the lookout for an announcement on that, but I'd like to take the opportunity now to thank Joe Straight and Rhea Simmons. Both played crucial roles, not only in leading their respective committees last year, but also during the long and involved process of revising our Senate by-laws. There's one last change to the bylaws I want Senate to discuss in our first meeting the Monday after Labor Day: synchronizing committee chair elections during the spring semester so that all new chairs can hit the ground running when their terms begin on July 1st. Once Senate approves this last revision, I'll be contacting the campus about ratifying the suite of editorial and substantive changes we approved last spring in Senate. Our bylaws are a combination of constitution and operating system for the Senate.

The Executive Committee did a lot of behind-the-scenes work all last year to ensure that governance runs effectively and efficiently at Fredonia; ratifying the bylaws is the culmination of these efforts.

This year, we aim to expand our efforts at communication and collaboration, both within Senate and between Senate and the campus. Sandra's in charge of revising our web site and reorganizing our ANGEL space, I'll be experimenting with blogging and microblogging between meetings, and Charlie's going to be looking into online voting for elections. Thanks are already due to Jonathan Woolson and Janet Mayer on the communication front and to Chris Taverna for spearheading our collaboration efforts. He worked with UUP President Bridget Russell and me this summer populating the four subcommittees with joint faculty, union, and administrative representation that are charged with making recommendations on personnel policies to the Faculty and Professional Affairs Committee. Thanks to Rob Deemer for chairing the Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty Subcommittee, Helen Reddy for chairing the Adjunct Faculty Subcommittee, Barbara Kittle for chairing the Librarians Subcommittee, and to Chris himself for chairing the Professionals Subcommittee. In addition to personnel policies, we have a full plate this year, with Middle States reaccreditation, Faculty Handbook revisions, administrative review of University Advancement this fall and Academic Affairs in the spring, and our contributions to the SUNY-wide strategic planning efforts mentioned by Chancellor Zimpher during this week's visit to campus on the horizon—not to mention the normal work of our very active committees. But I encourage you to contact me or any member of the Senate if there's anything we can do to help you and this campus. Governance matters because you make it matter.

I invite everyone to attend this semester's Senate meetings in S-104 of the Williams Center on September 14th, October 5th, November 2nd, and December 7th. It's my pleasure to cede the mike to Bridget Russell, the new UUP President. Best wishes to her and to all of you for a fantastic academic year.

Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty Subcommittee

Rob Deemer, chair (Music)
Adrienne McCormick (English)
Ann Carden (Communications)
Michael Jabot (Education/Science)
Samantha Kenney (Theatre & Dance)
Ray Belliotti representing UUP (Philosophy)
John Staples representing Department Chairs (History)
Beez Schell representing Administration (PDC)

Adjunct Faculty Subcommittee

Helen Reddy, chair (Language, Learning, and Leadership)
John Staples representing Department Chairs (History)
Christopher Taverna representing FPAC/UUP (ITS)
Beez Schell representing Administration (PDC)

Librarians Subcommittee

Barbara Kittle, chair (Archives and Special Collections)
Jeremy Linden (Archives and Special Collections)
Darryl Coleman (Reference and Instruction)
Beez Schell representing Administration (PDC)

Professionals Subcommittee

Christopher Taverna, chair (ITS)
Shari Miller (Purchasing)
Jefferson Westwood (Rockefeller Arts Center)
Idalia Torres representing UUP (ITS)
Beez Schell representing Administration (PDC)