Minutes of the November 2019 CAS Senate meeting
104 Gore
November 18, 2019


Also Present: John Jebb (acting as parliamentarian), Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz, Rachael Hutchinson

1. Call to order at 4pm
2. Unanimous consent for J. Jebb to act as parliamentarian today.
3. L. Duggan made an objection to the plans of another senator to use Powerpoint slides during the Ed Affairs discussion. The parliamentarian advised that the objection should be made at the time relevant, and that the presiding officer (Senate President) should make a ruling at that time.
4. The agenda was approved.
5. The minutes of the October 2019 meeting were approved.
6. Remarks of Senate President (B. McKenna)

He thanked everyone who serves on committees. People are passionate about their work. We should trust the Senate as a deliberative body.

7. Remarks of the Dean (J. Pelesko)

The Dean visited every department last year. He does not plan to visit every department this year, but he has a standing offer to visit any department. Position planning requests have been submitted by all department chairs. The college’s hiring plan is due to the provost at the end of January. The university budget model is evolving. An open town hall is planned for December 4 in Trabant Theater at 4pm. Undergraduate recruitment is very important. The University of Delaware, and about 60% of colleges in the US, missed enrollment targets this year. The Dean has provided department chairs with updated set if information about undergraduate recruiting that they have not had access to before. For example, the chair can now see the fraction of admitted students in department majors who enroll at UD. A revision to the budget model now has 75% of incremental revenue to the instructor college of record, instead of the 50% previously proposed. The Dean is encouraged by this change. There is also a new proposed way to calculate incremental graduate tuition revenue. The original proposal was to calculate graduate tuition changes at the university level – which had the consequence that if one college’s graduate enrollment dropped, it might cancel out the enrollment and tuition gains at another college, and there would be zero incremental revenue increase for the growing graduate program’s college. This would make it very difficult to plan. To avoid this, incremental revenue will now be computed at the college level. This does mean that if a college makes less revenue than it did in FY17 there would be a budget decrease.
Questions/Discussion:

J. Morgan suggested that it is very important that the town hall on the budget model should be recorded, but in the past Trabant recordings have not been made. J. Jebb explained that town halls are conducted by administrators (not the University Senate) and they decide whether or not there will be a recording or minutes. Requests should be sent to those administrators conducting the town hall. (If the University Senate holds an open hearing then it should be recorded under Senate rules.)

Q: What about Graduate College and incremental revenue? A: It sits outside the system and gets a block allocation.
Q: Another question about who decides about the budget system, like deciding on 75% vs 50%. A: I don’t know who actually makes the decision, but there are ongoing conversations that the Deans are involved in.

8. D. Galileo pointed out that although the October minutes were approved early in the meeting, they had not been distributed. It was pointed out that the minutes were not distributed. J. Gizis made a motion that the minutes be posted online, and a second vote to approve be held at the December 2019 meeting. This motion was approved.

9. Presentation on Parliamentary Procedure (J. Jebb)

J. Jebb gave a presentation on Robert’s Rules. Business meetings need a formal set of rules to enable the majority to act while protecting the rights of the minority and allowing the minority a chance to persuade the majority.

10. Educational Affairs

The Senate President ruled that S. Kaufman can use PowerPoint slides in his presentation.

The Senate President explained the usual procedures for motions and discussions.

The consent agenda was considered. No items were removed. The consent agenda was approved unanimously. The items are listed below

Each of the following items were individually discussed and voted upon. All were approved unanimously:

Communication/Strategic Communication 4+1 (BA/MA)
Functional Wearable Design Minor
Interaction Design (MA) - Deactivation
International Political Economy Concentration Requirements - Deactivation
International Relations - Societies and Beliefs Concentration
Linguistics and French (BA) - Deactivation
Strategic Communication Certificate

The proposed Global Studies (BA) major was next considered. Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz made a ten-minute presentation to explain this proposal. There has been a Global Studies minor at UD since 2015. Over 300 universities in the U.S. have Global Studies (GS) majors. She presented the 2017-2019 development of the proposed major and its topical specializations and described consultation with many departments. She argued that the (existing) International Relations (IR) and the (proposed) Global Studies majors can peacefully co-exist and have different focus. Many universities offer both.

S. Kaufman thanked Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz for her presentation. He is concerned about this major. He acknowledged that the Political Science department did not object to the major and that he does not speak for the department. He, however, argued that this proposed major does not meet our standards. He described the existing International Relations (IR) major. He found that Global Studies in terms of journal publishing is not distinct. He argued that the proposal does not identify a distinct area of study, its structure and core courses are confusingly similar to the International Relations major, and that it lacks coherence. He argued the environment and health concentrations do not have enough science, focusing especially on the omission of chemistry and biology. He argued the world cultures concentration lacks focus, requiring six courses out of 147, with none required. He sees the specializations as unstructured lists from multiple departments, and argued that the specializations require diffusion because they direct that the students take one course each from four different departments. In contrast, IR is built primarily around political science to give the student focus and then builds inter-disciplinarity around that core. He suggested that the GS major could be improved by identifying a small number of “gateway” courses for each specialization to provide substantive focus.

S. Kaufman made a motion to send the major back to Ed Affairs. It was seconded. The motion was discussed. J. Morgan argued that chemistry (CHEM100) and biology courses should be included. O. Olabisi agreed that certain biology courses (such as genetics for non-biology majors, or basic principles of biology) would be appropriate for basic foundational knowledge, but noted that this would be adding one to a sea of possible courses that could be avoided. J. Morrison noted this major has great potential and the challenge is the rigor, and sees that the major has a generalist approach. He said he would like to see it move on. P. Penix-Tadsen noted the work and due diligence already done. He argued that it should not be sent back. Rakesh asked for an explanation of who provided the remarks (approvals) from other departments, which was explained. D. Flaherty argued the proposed major should be approved. Rachael Hutchinson (Director of Asian Studies) spoke to support the proposed Global Studies major, compared it to other “studies” majors, and opposed sending back to committee. J. Morgan stated that his intent in supporting the proposal going back to Ed Affairs was not meant as a procedural tactic to kill the proposed major, but to enable some more work to be voted on in December. XXX stated that he was convinced it was sufficiently different from IR and that he doubted that much would be learned by delaying until December. L. Duggan stated that he serves on Ed. Affairs and does not know what the committee would do. J. Morgan
argued that certain chemistry and biology courses should be added by the committee. J. Angelini stated that this was not the purview of the committee but rather the original proposers of the department. S. Kaufman explained that his concern was the coherence of the major and that one or two gateway courses should be identified. J. Angelini explained that changing the requirements in Curriculog would send the proposal back to step one. J. Martin argued that the political science department in the process approved the proposal, and did not raise these criticisms. The Senate voted to call the question. The motion to send it to committee failed (4 in favor, 20 against). The Senate voted to call the question. The proposed Global studies major was approved by vote: 19 in favor, 1 opposed, 5 abstentions.

11. COCAN (J. Morgan)

J. Morgan explained now have an accelerated schedule to fill committees so that this service may be incorporated into workload discussions with department chairs. He will be contacting existing members of committees and then possible new members.

12. New business

J. Morgan suggested that the College Senate Executive Committee discuss ways to make senators aware of new majors that Ed. Affairs is considering sooner.

13. The Senate adjourned.

Consent Agenda:

Actuarial Sciences (BS)
African Studies Minor
Ancient Greek and Roman Studies (BA)
Anthropology (BA)
Approved Field Electives for the Political Science Major and Minor
Approved List of Social and Cultural Anthropology Courses Arabic Certificate
Architectural Studies Minor
Cognitive Science (BS)
Computational, Mathematical, and Logical Foundations of Cognitive Science Specialization
Energy and Environmental Policy - Energy, Economics, and Public Policy Concentration (BS)
Energy and Environmental Policy - Policy, Environment and Society Concentration (BS)
History Courses on American History
History Courses on the History of Asia, Africa, Latin America, or Middle East
History Courses on the History of Europe
History Courses on World History
History Education (BA)
History Education Courses on the History of Asia, Africa, Latin America, or Middle East
History Education Courses on the History of Europe
History Education Courses on the History of the U.S.
History Minor
Legal Studies Minor
Linguistics (BA)
Mathematics (BS)
Mathematics and Economics (BS)
Mathematics and Economics Honors (HBS)
Mathematics Education (BS)
Organizational and Community Leadership (BS)
Public Administration (MPA)
Public Policy (BA)
Religious Studies Minor
Russian Minor
Russian Studies (BA)
Spanish Minor
Women and Gender Studies (BA)
Women's Studies - Domestic Violence Prevention and Services Concentration (BA)