

**UNIVERSITY SENATE**  
Executive Committee

**A G E N D A**

New Brunswick Performing Arts Center, Rehearsal Hall 2, New Brunswick  
March 6, 2020 – 1:10 p.m.

**TIMETABLE:**

10:30 a.m. – Meet at the New Brunswick Performing Arts Center, Rehearsal Hall 2, 11 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick [Map & GPS Address](#)

11:00 a.m. – Tour of the [New Brunswick Performing Arts Center](#) (NBPAC)

12:00 p.m. – Lunch with Chancellor Molloy in the Rehearsal Hall 2 of the NBPAC

1:10 p.m. – Executive Committee meeting begins in the Rehearsal Hall 2 of the NBPAC

**Chair’s Report**– Jon Oliver, Senate Chair

**Secretary’s Report**– Mary Mickelsen, Senate Executive Secretary

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of [February 7, 2020 Minutes](#) of the Senate Executive Committee Meeting
- Communications:
  - Chancellor Brian Strom has asked the following be referenced when considering the proposed Medical School Merger: [JAMA – The Inevitable Reimaging of Medical Education](#)
  - The Following University Policies have been updated in the University Policy Library:
    - [Policy 20.1.1: Textbook Adoption Policy](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.1: Safety Policies and Guidelines](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.2: Police and Security Services](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.3: Emergency Services](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.6: Missing Student Notification](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.9: Protection of Minors](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.12: Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime and Statistics Act](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.7: Emergency Management](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.8: Access to University Facilities](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.10: ID Issuance and Usage Policy](#)
    - [Policy 30.1.11: Security Technologies](#)
    - [Policy 60.3.1: Special Grievance Procedure for Specific University Staff Employees](#)
    - [Policy 60.3.2: Outside Work for Non-Academic Employees](#)
  - The following University Policy was revised and reclassified
    - [Policy 20.1.12: Surplus Property](#) (Formally 30.4.3)

**Administrative Report**– Barbara Lee, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Annual Review of All Outstanding, Pending Committee Charges:** Charges issued to committees lapse in March of the year following the year in which the charge was issued. [Hardcopies will be distributed at the meeting.] [Full list of Committee Charges](#)

**2020-2021 Senate Calendar Approval**

## Old Business

### Possible Integration of Robert Wood Johnson Medical and New Jersey Medical School

- [Updated questionnaire](#) completed by Chancellor Brian Strom and distributed to all Committee Chairs on February 20 via email by Executive Secretary Mickelsen
- List of questions compiled by Senate Standing Committees will be distributed in hardcopy

### Standing Committees/Panels

#### Proposed Charges:

#### **Proposed Charge to the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) on Review of the Student Code of Conduct – Submitted by Nicholas Thamey, RBS:UNB (S)**

***Charge:** Review the changes to the Student Code of Conduct and provide recommendations if necessary.*

**Background:** Approximately two years ago, substantive changes were made to the Student Code of Conduct, without any effort to solicit feedback from the University Senate, any of the Student Governments, or the Honors Council which is responsible for adjudicating conduct disputes. Moreover, an external review found discrepancies in how the code of conduct is applied across the different campuses; and student members of the Honors Council have expressed concern that the implementation of the Student Code of Conduct has been more punitive in recent years, as opposed to focusing on alternative resolutions. Less severe outcomes, such as forms of probation, have been consolidated under the recent revisions. The Student Affairs Committee may wish to consider how the code addresses de minimis and less serious violations, how the policy is enforced, and how the policy is recommended.

#### **Proposed Charge to the Academic Standards, Regulations, and Admissions Committee (ASRAC) on Procedures for Handling Student Complaints Against Rutgers Personnel Regarding Instruction – Submitted by Carolyne White, SAS-Newark (F)**

***Charge:** Investigate the procedure for reporting and adjudicating student complaints against Rutgers personnel, specifically in regard to course instruction and/or concerns about faculty.*

**Background:** Last year the senate forwarded a report from the Faculty and Personnel Affairs Committee to the president about charge S-1712: Procedures for Handling Student Complaints Against Rutgers Personnel. The president issued a memo dated May 28, 2019 with links to the how complaints are handled on each campus. The link for the Newark campus, my campus, opens a form that focuses upon reporting for Bias Incidents, Sexual Misconduct, Violations for Student Code of Conduct. There is nothing about students reporting complaints about course instruction or concerns about professors.

The attached draft article [distributed in hard copy] discusses the bullying I have experienced over the last three years from student complaints not being handled with clear policies and procedures. When these issues emerged, and after I filed grievances through the union, the first dean told me we have no policy or procedure across all three Rutgers campuses for handling student complaints about instruction and the second dean told me we have a policy and it is the Grade Appeal Policy, a policy he did not follow. We need clear policy that resolves student complaints in a manner that support both student learning and faculty academic freedom. I believe some campuses have a ombudsperson who may handle such issues but the Newark campus does not. We need a consistent and clear policy and procedure that honors healthy and effective conflict mediation. The absence of such clarity inadvertently fosters an environment where instructors are penalized for challenging student intellectual growth and many become resigned and end up contributing to the problem of grade inflation.

**Proposed Charge to the Research and Graduate and Professional Education Committee (RGPEC) on Preparing Graduate and Professional Students to Teach in the 21st Century** – Submitted by Adam Kustka, UC-Newark (F) and RGPEC Chair

***Charge:** Evaluate the current policies, practices, outcomes and plans across the University related to how graduate and professional students are prepared for effective teaching, including online instruction, and make recommendations as appropriate.*

**Background:** Professional development and career preparation are critical components of graduate and professional education. There are inconsistencies in how our graduate and professional students are prepared for effective teaching. Additionally, the ability to teach on-line courses may be a critical aspect of their professional development and advance their employment opportunities.

**Proposed Charge to the University Structure and Governance Committee (USGC) on Standing Committees and the Chair of the Senate** – Submitted by Vice Chair Peter Gillett

***Charge:** Consider the duties of the Chair of the Senate in relation to its various standing committees and make any appropriate recommendations.*

**Background:** Historically, senators elected to serve as Chair of the Senate have usually served previously as chair or co-chair of one of its standing committees, and ordinarily have continued to do so. While this has the benefits of retaining their experience within the standing committee, and continuing to keep serving chairs actively engaged in the ongoing work of the Senate, it also has the practical effect of tying up chairs with committee work in the mornings before Senate meetings. An alternative model adopted by many organizations is that the chair of the assembly becomes an *ex-officio* member of all its committees. Adopting such a model, in conjunction with not assigning the Chair of the Senate to serve as a regular member of any standing committee, would facilitate the Chair of the Senate spending time over the course of each year attending meetings of its various standing committees. This might provide for better communication between the Executive Committee and the other standing committees, and might reduce the appearance that the Chair of the Senate favors the agenda of any one particular committee. It might also reduce some of the burden of work that falls to the Chair of the Senate; conversely, however, it might be seen as discouraging committed chairs of standing committees from being willing to serve as Chair of the Senate. Better communication between the Executive Committee and the chairs of the other standing committees can only improve the outcomes of all our work and the Chair of the Senate may play a useful liaison role in achieving that, as a result of this or other possible changes.

**Proposed Charge to an Ad Hoc Committee on Senate Voting** – Submitted by Vice Chair Peter Gillett

***Charge:** Make recommendations on how voting is conducted and recorded at Senate meetings.*

**Background:** Senate votes have most commonly been based on counts of raised voting cards issued prior to the start of each meeting. This naturally has its own practical limitations: it is hard to get stable, consistent counts, or to be sure that cards have not been passed to non-senators when senators leave the meeting. Counting takes up time, and re-counts have been demanded in close votes. This year, Turning Technologies clickers were introduced. While they have the potential to reduce some of these difficulties, they have created new concerns, such as whether the technology is reliable, whether there is a loss of transparency if senators can no longer see how other senators are voting, whether or not voting should be anonymous, and – if it is not – whether voting records should be maintained and or published. In addition, using clickers has the potential to improve voting at senate elections (which ARE anonymous) considerably, but their use for this purpose need not compel their use for all voting. The committee should make recommendations relating to these and any perceived related issues.

**Nominating Panel 2020:** An email has been sent by Mary Mickelsen to all current Senators this week announcing the opportunity to submit self-nominations or nominations of others for 2020-2021 Senate officer and board representative positions. The email will direct Senators to nominating instructions and the [Nominating Panel Charge](#). The Executive Committee is asked to appoint Senators to serve on a Nominating Panel that can be called upon to suggest additional nominees in categories not sufficiently populated within the next several weeks. [Senate rosters will be distributed in hardcopy at the meeting.]

## **New Business**

### **University Senate March 27, 2020 Agenda**

- Regular Senate Meeting on Busch Campus, New Brunswick
- Senate Resolution dedicated to President Robert Barchi
- Presentation on the Institute for Secure Communities by Director Elie Honig

## **Adjournment**