

UNIVERSITY SENATE
Executive Committee

A G E N D A

January 8, 2021 – 12:00 noon

<https://rutgers.zoom.us/j/93000396247?pwd=cDJZNTlHQ3JMRldTVdQranBVSIBkdz09>

1. Chair's Report– Jon Oliver, Senate Chair

2. Secretary's Report– Mary Mickelsen, Senate Executive Secretary

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of the [December 4, 2020 Senate Executive Committee Minutes](#)
- Communications
 - The following policies have been added/updated to the University Policy Library:
 - [University Policy 10.2.11: Code of Student Conduct](#)
 - [University Policy 40.2.13: Donor Gift Policy](#)
 - [University Policy 50.4.1: Lobbying and Advocacy Policy](#)
 - [University Policy 60.1.33: Title IX Policy and Grievance Procedures](#)

3. Administrative Report– Prabhas Moghe, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

4. Diversity and Inclusion Report – Enobong (Anna) Branch, Senior Vice President for Equity

5. Standing Committees/Panels

Issues/Proposed Charges:

Proposed Charge to the Academic Standards, Regulations, and Admissions Committee on University Policy 10.2.4 Units of Credit– Submitted by: Senator Robert Boikess, SAS-NB (F)

Proposed Charge: Determine the current viability of University Policy 10.2.4 Units of Credit and propose changes as appropriate to make consistent with current practice.

Background: This regulation was first formulated more than 60 years ago. It defines the measurement of a credit *on the basis of the estimated amount of time a median student can be expected to devote to the course, at the rate of three hours a week per credit, including time in class, in laboratory, in conference with the teacher, or in reading, writing and preparing for class.*

This articulated measurement cannot be made with any accuracy and in fact it is a very well-established practice to assign credits based on time in class or laboratory. Indeed, with the exception of the obligation of the University to maintain minimal academic standards, implementing Regulation 10.2.4 would represent a violation of the academic freedom rights of faculty. Clearly the correlation between time in class and time outside of class is very discipline dependent.

One of the ways in which this regulation is anachronistic can be seen in the way in which credit is currently assigned to laboratory courses. A three-hour laboratory course is assigned one credit. Adhering to this regulation would mean that the instructor would not be permitted to assign any work outside of class. An even more egregious “violation” of this regulation is at Mason Gross, where 1 credit is given for the Rutgers main orchestra, which meets two evenings a week for at least 3 hours of rehearsal each evening, in addition to the time spent practicing that is necessary to learn the parts before coming to rehearsals. Another problem with this regulation is that it does not address how much time should be devoted by students at the top or the bottom of the class. Should they be expected to devote more time or less time? Nor does it address quality of time, the correlation between time and effort. Students who learn of this regulation may well be seriously misled about how to achieve maximal academic success.

While until recently it seemed that this regulation was universally ignored, the recent Resolution from the ICA Committee specifically referenced it.

Proposed Charge to the Faculty and Personnel Affairs Committee on Code of Ethics for PTLs— Submitted by: Oded Palmon, Rutgers Business School Faculty

Proposed Charge: Determine whether the university should develop a version of the code of ethics that is more suitable for PTLs.

Background: Currently, PTLs are required to abide by the standard University code of ethics (which was probably written with full-time employees in mind). I suggest that the committee members consider whether the university should develop a code of ethics that is more suitable for PTLs. For example, that code of ethics need not require PTLs to disclose, and be subject to university approval of, business connections with other organizations to the same extent that full-time faculty members are required to do. Another example is the requirement to report, and secure a university approval of, teaching employment at other institutions. Imposing the standard code hinders the ability of departments and schools to hire the best PTLs who may consult many other organizations, and may frequently add new clients.

Committee Reports/Resolutions:

Academic Standards, Regulations, and Admissions Committee (ASRAC)
Response to Charge [A-2021: Re-Examination of the Add-Drop Period During the COVID-19 Crisis and Beyond](#) – Robert Schwartz, ASRAC Chair

The ASRAC was charged as follows:

Consider if and how the Add-Drop period should be adjusted for Spring 2021 assuming that the University will once again be offering most instruction remotely. Also, evaluate the standard structure of the Add-Drop period and assess whether the changes instituted by the Senate several years ago, having the Add period extend one day beyond the drop period, have had the desired effects.

Faculty and Personnel Affairs Committee (FPAC) Response to Charge [S-1905: Teaching Loads](#) – Farid Alizadeh and Joseph Markert, FPAC Co-Chairs

The FPAC was charged as follows:

Consider Rutgers Strategic Plan, our aspirations as a research university and the demands of our teaching commitment; investigate norms for teaching loads at Rutgers and make recommendations regarding how such norms are implemented and followed in practice.

Budget and Finance Committee (BFC) Response to Charge [S-2001: Re-Evaluation of Student Fee Consolidation](#) – Menahem Spiegel, BFC Chair

The BFC was charged as follows:

Re-evaluate the consolidation of student fees which occurred before/around the time of TUE and done in accordance with recommendations of the University Senate and its Budget & Finance Committee and the corresponding administrative task force; provide recommendations if needed.

Supporting Documents:

- [BOG Resolution on Mandatory Student Fees for FY19-20](#)
- [Rutgers Collection/Allocation of Student Fees for FY19-20](#)
- [Fees of Big 10 Universities](#)

Committee Requests for Charge Extensions and/or Releases

- **Budget and Finance Committee**
 - **S-1811: Review of Rutgers' Commitment to Renewable Energy** – BFC requests to be released from this charge due to efforts by a better resourced committee at the administrative level.
 - **S-2010: Evaluation of the RCM Implementation at Rutgers** – BFC requests an extension to March 2021. The committee intends to make this their current priority.

- **S-2002: Challenges Related to Parking and Transportation** – BFC requests an extension to April 2022. The committee would like to evaluate this issue during the post-Covid “new normal”.

6. RCM Committee Update – Brian Ballentine, Senior Vice President of Strategy, Romaine Rotti and Ashwani Monga, RCM Committee Co-Chairs

7. New Business

8. Old Business

9. University Senate January 22, 2021 Agenda

- Regular Senate Meeting via Zoom
- Administrative Report by University President Jonathan Holloway

10. Adjournment