The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM.

I. Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as distributed.

II. Approval of September 9, 2019 Minutes
The minutes were approved as distributed.

III. FA Chair’s Report – Lisa Glidden
1. Last week’s College Council meeting was cancelled because it did not have quorum. I attend the College Council meetings (there are three per year) to give a report on Faculty Assembly.

2. The Hewitt design meetings are detailing the layout for Hewitt. SCMA is represented (the dean and some faculty) at those meetings. I attend for Campus Concept. I think they’re kind of in the weeds now, at way more detailed a level than I need to be, but it’s exciting to see what Hewitt will look like coming into focus.

3. 120 credits for graduation reminder. Students didn’t automatically move to the new catalog.

4. Middle states steering committee met last week. Gearing up for the next Middle States accreditation. Many more updates to come.

5. SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC) will be on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at ESF. This is partially sponsored by the University Faculty Senate. Your students can preview their presentations at Quest on 4/1. For more information, please visit https://sunycpd.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/surc2020/surc

IV. Reports of Councils, Committees, and Task Forces
A. Personnel Policies- Liz Schmitt
PPC met on 9/16
Bylaw discussion: We are preparing text for the elimination of Student Issues and Concerns council to be voted on by FA this semester.
Call for nominations is out for the SOE and SCMA Dean Review Committees. The committee must be selected by 10/15 in accordance with the Bylaws. We need nominees for SCMA in Music and professional staff.
President’s Service award: The call for nominations with go out this week.
PPC is requesting that the institution look into a standard $2600 advance offer to new faculty, to be paid back over the first year via payroll deduction.
B. Academic Policies Council – Eve Clark
APC met on Friday, September 14. We are reporting out a change to the Psychology major to remove the subcategories of their Depth courses and list those courses numerically. We also approved a Broadcasting and Mass Communication (BRC) Blanket Deviation to substitute BRC 320: Programs, Programming and Effects with BRC 305: Media Management for all students graduating prior to 2022. We also approved changes to Geology BA and BS track I and track 11, and minor whose proposals are on the floor for review. We approved changes to the Criminal Justice major and sent the proposal to Gen. Ed council for review. Finally, approved catalog changes to the School of Business majors that are also on the floor for review. APC will meet again this Friday, September 27 at 3:00pm.

C. Graduate Council – Steve Abraham
Passed with minor revisions:
BHI 555 Genomic and Molecular Biology Fundamentals
BHI 556 Biomedical Ethics, Professionalism and Technology
The new track in Bioinformatics in Biomedical and Health Informatics was tabled until more details are provided.
Next Meeting is October 3, 137 Marano, please get materials to Sandy Bargainnier by 4:30 PM the Monday prior to the meeting.
When submitting a new or revised degree program be sure to get all signatures in place before it comes to graduate council, using the academic form

D. Undergraduate Curriculum Council - Ritu Radhakrishnan
1. UCC approved the following course proposals:
   ○ HIS 204 (new): African American History
   ○ HIS 343 (new): Colonial America
   ○ GST 302 (Update): Community Engagement
   ○ GST 498 (update): Internship

2. UCC approved the following prerequisite change:
   ○ FIN 325: Corporate Finance
     Current Prerequisite(s): ECO 101, ECO 200, MAT 158, ACC 202,
     Upper-division standing
     New Prerequisite(s): ECO101, ECO200, MAT158, (ACC202 or ACC321 or ACC202 taken concurrently with FIN325) [Please note this item has been updated to reflect a question raised at FA about another potential prerequisite course. UCC approved the revised version via email on 9/30/19).
   ○ ECE 375: Microprocessor Applications
     Current Prerequisite(s): CSC222 or ECE271, or instructor permission
     New Prerequisite(s): ECE271 or instructor permission
   ○ ECE 271: Digital Systems
     Current Prerequisite(s): CSC 212
     New Prerequisite(s): Sophomore standing
V. Presentation: Shared Governance – Gwen Kay, UFS President, Rameen Mohammadi Katherine Thweatt, Liz Schmitt, Lisa Glidden

Katherine Thweatt introduced the panel, and that she hoped it would help clarify and help faculty understand their role in shared governance.

Gwen Kay (UFS President) discussed her experience with shared governance, what it is and what it is not. She recommended looking up the 1966 AAUP statement on shared governance which outlines in what spaces faculty have a role, and where they do not. She recommended reading the Faculty bylaws; they are your best friend and they have clear language to help. In general, faculty are concerned with curricular and (some) personnel issues, but only those that are separated out from the union or labor-management. The challenging part is figuring out where should a body be –consulted, -informed, -collaborating? Figuring out those spaces is hard. She gave some examples of searches. It can be hard to know what questions to ask when you’re new on campus. In the end, shared governance works because of trust.

Rameen Mohammadi talked about the need for removing silos and building trust. He noted that faculty and the administration may have different lenses when viewing the same situation. He noted that consultation does not mean collaboration, which take much more time. He gave the example of developing new initiatives, and that there are good reasons to involve more people with them in the planning phase. He noted that sometimes the timeline does not follow the academic calendar. Rameen summarized his responsibilities, and noted that many of them require shared governance. He gave the fictitious example of Arctic Studies making a change to a program, in this case adding an upper division course to demonstrate that there are often unintended consequences. He noted that pointing out these concerns does not reflect personal likes and dislikes.

Lisa Glidden gave another example about unintended consequences, and noted that Faculty Assembly is one of the few bodies where faculty can get an institutional view.

Liz Schmitt started by noting that although she’s going to talk about three challenges, faculty and administration have worked in good faith at this institution and that shared governance works. 1) Abdication—she noted that faculty have the privilege of controlling their work life, but that it also comes with responsibility. E.g. UCC might be a lot of work and a pain to get courses through, but there are outside vendors who would be happy to create our curriculum for us. Abdication undermines the case for tenured faculty. Faculty need to take reasonable efforts to be informed, read emails. Be critical thinkers and not a rubber stamp. FA gives us the opportunity to understand how the school works and to meet other people, and it is also good to have a mix of junior and more seasoned faculty who may have institutional knowledge; 2) Communication—FA reps have the responsibility to report out. Chairs are also hopefully reporting out to their departments. The timing of communication can be challenging, for example when to communicate on new initiatives; 3) Structural change—our practices can move ahead of our bylaws, and academic politics regarding students need regular review to meet the needs of the students we have. 4) Liz discussed the difference between consultation, meaningful consultation, and being informed. She also noted the need for transparency, especially regarding unfunded mandates from SUNY (she gave the example of assessment).
Faculty Assembly Minutes  
September 23, 2019  
Chair: Lisa M Glidden  
Recorder: Lisa Teters

Lisa noted that shared governance works well on our campus. She tries to report out on what she’s doing as FA chair, and when she’s been consulted, so that people are aware of what kinds of shared governance go on behind the scenes. She concluded by noting that having more eyes on what we’re doing can help think through some of those unintended consequences.

In the discussion, Cynthia Claybough noted that shared governance can be additionally hard when people change out of committees/councils/administrative positions. She also noted the importance of reading the bylaws, instead of going by our memory of the way things work. Need for background information to be available for someone to educate themselves. Lisa noted that the FA Councils should be writing up year-end summaries of what they did for the year.

Eve noted that shared governance requires faculty buy-in. There are a small number of people who do a lot of the shared governance works. Lisa previewed a topic that we’re going to be talking about soon about some data that the Provost gathered about faculty service by rank, gender, and ethnicity. She also discussed need to get more faculty to come to the general faculty meetings.

Sarah Weisman stated that this presentation was very effective, but asked how would we communicate this panel to other faculty. Katherine mentioned the possibility of a CELT workshop, and that the administration can also communicate the importance of service.

Michelle Bandla noted that she doesn’t really have a good way to send information to professional staff. Rameen noted that some people, e.g. Shelly and Tracy from the Registrar’s Office, attend FA just so that they can keep track of report out items, and that we have to provide the context to the people who need to know what we’re doing at FA.

Cynthia noted that not all faculty want to be involved in governance, but maybe we need to clarify where service falls, and how much weight to put on scholarship, teaching, and service and the need to incentive or reward service, if that’s what we value.

Liz noted that she and Lisa are often consulted in the summer, e.g. with DSI changes and the universal personnel decisions. Lisa reached out to some chairs to get their feedback because they didn’t feel comfortable making the decision themselves. It was a good example of consultation that does occur during the summer.

VI. New Business
No new business this meeting

*The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.*