

184th Winter Plenary University at Albany

MARTIN KACZOCHA PH.D.

CHAIR, GRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND RESEARCH
COMMITTEE

JANUARY 18, 2020

Committee Charge

The Committee serves as a source of professional advice and guidance to the Senate on matters relating to the quality, operation, and encouragement of graduate programs and research. To these ends, the committee may be concerned with the procedures, criteria, and support of existing and new graduate programs within the University. The Committee may review and recommend policies and procedures relating to moral and ethical concerns of research and graduate studies and other matters involving support and furtherance of research and graduate studies within the University.

Committee Members

Member

Martin Kaczocha (Chair)

M. Scott Goodman

Asif Ahmed

Eric Eisenbraun

Elizabeth Bradley

Michael Figuccio

Lee Graham

Jennifer Rosseland-Bates

Katherine Thweatt

Laura Martello-Rooney

Samir Haj-Dahmane

Sergios-Orestis Kolokotronis

Research Foundation Liaison

Kathleen Caggiano-Siino

SUNY Staff Liaisons

Ann Hawkins

Campus

Stony Brook

Buffalo State

SUNY Polytechnic

SUNY Polytechnic

Empire State College

Farmingdale

Oneonta

University at Buffalo

Oswego

Downstate Health Sciences

University at Buffalo

Downstate Health Sciences

Research Foundation

SUNY Admin

Agenda Item #1: Graduate Student Showcase at the Legislative Office Building

SUNY UFS Graduate & Research Committee Presentation to Legislative Aids

Artificial Intelligence, Data Misuse, and Deepfakes

Description/Purpose: The purpose of this program is to help showcase some of the great research being performed by our graduate students from across the SUNY system. The research on artificial intelligence, data misuse, and deepfakes that will be presented offers an opportunity for legislators to learn more about emerging technologies and to ask questions to guide their engagement with these challenges and opportunities.

Hosted by Jim Campbell, Director of
Legislative Relations, SUNY

Takes place on February 7th



Agenda Item #1: Graduate Student Showcase at the Legislative Office Building

Detecting AI-Synthesized Fake Faces – Yuezun Li, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Computer Science, University at Albany

Identifying a subject's most characteristic tweets – Charuta Pethe, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Computer Science, Stony Brook University

Detecting AI-Synthesized Speech In Real-World Scenarios – Ehab AlBadawy, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Computer Science, University at Albany

Empowering Blind People to Independently Fill-out Paper Forms Scenarios – Shirin Feiz Disfani, Doctoral Candidate, Department of Computer Science, Stony Brook University

Students will receive individualized training at the Alda Center for Communicating Science in Stony Brook University

Agenda Item #2: Chancellor's Graduate Research Scholarship

- The SUNY Chancellor's Graduate Research Scholarship (SUNY CGRS) was announced last year
- SUNY CGRS is a one-time \$5,000 award to SUNY students who win awards in a Federal predoctoral research-based fellowship competition (e.g., NIH F31)
- CGRS will be awarded after eligible students complete one subsequent year of satisfactory progress in a qualifying SUNY graduate program to which they have been matriculated

Agenda Item #2: Chancellor's Graduate Research Scholarship

- Advertising
 - Not widely advertised
 - Lacks a dedicated website
- Training
 - Long-term goal is to develop and deploy SUNY-wide grant writing programs to aid students in submitting competitive fellowship proposals
 - Susan Brennan (Stony Brook University) directs a grant writing seminar series focusing on NSF GRFP

Agenda Item #3: Intellectual Property and Tenure/Promotion Decisions

- Tenure and promotion decisions rely heavily on scholarship activities, which typically refers to publications in peer-reviewed journals
- Concern that patents/intellectual property may carry less weight in tenure and promotion decisions
- Launch a survey of Vice Presidents for Research as well as Advancement and Promotion committees

Agenda Item #4: Increasing Collaborations Within SUNY

- Enhance research collaborations between University Centers as well as between University Centers and Comprehensive colleges
- Initiated discussions with Grace Wang (Senior Vice Chancellor for Research, SUNY) about developing mechanisms to enhance research collaborations between institutions within the SUNY system