

**Governance Committee**  
**Sandra Rezac, Chair**  
**2021 Winter Plenary**  
**Zoom**  
**January 21-22, 2021**

**Charge:** The Committee will concern itself with University-wide governance and shall provide guidance on matters of campus governance. The committee shall interact with local governance leaders of the University. The committee is responsible for the publication of the Governance Handbook and will review and update it every four years.

**2020-21 Committee Members:**

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**Committee Goals for 2020-21:**

- a. Review and update the Governance Handbook.
- b. Prepare a rubric on the assessment of shared governance. Building on work from the SUNY Council on Assessment (SCoA) and the Faculty Council on Community Colleges (FCCC), we will develop a rubric to assess shared governance on SUNY state-op and statutory campuses.
- c. Write a resolution regarding the importance of maintaining effective shared governance practices during times of crisis. (Update: Resolution passed at Fall 2020 Plenary)
- d. Organize a plenary panel discussion between reps from Faculty Senate, UUP, and System about the line between the work of Senates and the Union around program deactivations. New senators and CGLs often wonder about the demarcation of the work of faculty senates and UUP in general. The issue of program deactivations is particularly sticky, since it can be hard (but necessary, from a shared governance standpoint) to separate a senate

discussion of the value and mission-relevance of an academic program from the idea that there may be job losses if the program doesn't continue. This is also a particularly timely issue since we're likely to see discussion of deactivations in the next year. (Update: Panel held at Fall 2020 Plenary.)

e. Collaboration with Operations Committee on two of their resolutions:

Resolution to Institute 360 Review Practices for SUNY's M/C Employees (Governance members: James McLean and David Vitt)

Generate a Best Practices Report for administrative searches (Governance members: David Vitt, Ray Carman, Mike Motta)

f. Review and revise the UFS Election Handbook

### **Committee meeting dates (include type of meeting):**

Since the Fall 2020 Plenary, the following conference calls and meetings have been held:

December 10, 2020. Governance Committee Conference Call. We discussed a resolution entitled "Resolution: Amendment to the University Faculty Senate Bylaws for Equitable Representations for Health Science Centers" which was referred to us via the UFS President from a member of the University Centers sector. After lengthy discussion, we voted to not bring it forward from our committee. The majority of the members of the committee felt that this resolution should be reviewed by the Health Science Sector, and brought forward from that sector, if they support it.

January 12, 2021. The Governance Committee Chair attended the Faculty Council of Community Colleges (FCCC) winter committee meetings, as liaison to their Governance Committee.

### **Committee accomplishments since the last plenary meeting:**

Our "Resolution regarding the importance of maintaining effective shared governance practices during times of crisis." was approved at the Fall 2020 plenary.

We reviewed a resolution entitled "Resolution: Amendment to the University Faculty Senate Bylaws for Equitable Representations for Health Science Centers" and suggested that it be referred to the Health Sciences sector.