I. In Brief:
The College Senate continues to provide the faculty of SUNY Oneonta with a forum to participate in the initiation, development, and implementation of the educational mission of the College. It is this opportunity for shared governance that many faculty feel needs to be improved upon and re-emphasized. The value of shared governance only works when we realize that trust is the common denominator that drives the College Senate and the College Administration towards common goals.

The College Senate is empowered to act for the Faculty of the State University College at Oneonta in all matters, procedures, and prerogatives reserved to our faculty. In order to achieve a sense of empowerment and shared governance, all matters voted on and approved by the College Senate need to have a timely response by our college administration. To achieve this goal, the following recommendations were discussed and approved by the college administration:

• An online resource of all college & senate adopted resolutions dealing with policies & procedures including dates of senate approval, dates of college administration review and decisions, dates of revisions, etc…

• An online tracking sheet that clearly follows the progress of all senate resolutions that have been voted on and sent to the college administration for approval.

II. Where can I find the College Senate agendas and minutes from 2009-10?
The work of the College Senate can be found in its entirety on the College Senate website. Thank you to Rebecca Hoey, our College Senate Web Master who kept us up to date and current throughout the semester.

III. What was passed by the College Senate in the 2009-2010 academic year?
Resolution on Reporting College Senate Elections, Strategic Planning and Resource Council Resolution on Acceptance, Adolescence Education Curriculum changes, GEAC New Form proposal, Music Industry Program changes, Mass Communication Major changes, Guidelines for APAC, Mathematics Concentration changes, Physics Option A Elective changes, Psychology Major changes, 3-2 Cooperative Program changes, International Studies Major changes. Approved by the College Administration: Distance Learning Policy passed by the College Senate during the 2008-09 session.
IV. The rate of growth for administrative positions compared to teaching faculty positions questioned.
During our last College Senate meeting in May, I brought up two points: the rate of growth of administrative positions compared to the rate of growth for new faculty positions. Specifically, I suggested that new administrative positions have risen at a rate of 30%, compared to new academic positions which have increased at a much lower rate of 15%. This reflected on my concern that non-academic administrative positions are draining the funds away from new academic full time lines and initiatives. I also reflected on the budget presentation earlier in the year [www.oneonta.edu/president/budget1009.asp](http://www.oneonta.edu/president/budget1009.asp) which showed the operating budget (allocations) for academics to be only 40% of the total overall budget. I suggested that since we are a teaching college, why shouldn't the budget for academics be much higher, say 50%? This was later met with a response from Dr. Leif Hartmark, Vice President for Finance who indicated to me that my figures (30% administrative vs. 15% teaching) were inaccurate and that our overall operating budget, as it breaks down for academics (40%) is comparable with similar schools our size.

V. Are there any unresolved issues, faculty concerns and/or discussions that did not make it to the Senate floor?
Throughout the year I met with several faculty groups, committees and individuals to learn about their concerns regarding key issues on campus. While most or our academic and professional faculty agrees that we have much to be proud of and thankful for, there was some concerns that I made note of and listed below.

1. Current and future full time academic and professional faculty positions must be preserved.
2. Institutional control issues regarding the Athletics Department and academic integrity.
3. The Graduate studies program needs to be better communicated, provided stronger leadership, vision and guidance.
4. The College Senate needs to be more assertive and responsible for policy changes and recommendations.
5. The rate of inflation of administrative positions, overlapping administrative responsibilities and duplication of services, as compared to the slower growth of teaching faculty positions and salaries over the past several years.
6. Student Development needs to work closer with academics to resolve issues on collegiality and support.
7. Increased reliance on adjunct teaching faculty positions continues to be of concern to department chairs and program directors.
8. Salaries for distinguished and accomplished professors should be comparable with upper administrative salaries.
9. Lack of confidence in UPD crime reports and leadership in regards to recent SUNY audits.
10. Need to include faculty representation and recommendations on new building projects. A new academic building should be of the highest priority.
11. Standing Faculty Committees and the Chair of the College Senate need to be more responsible for initiating projects and reports.
12. Human Resources needs to take a more active and visible role in the health and welfare of our faculty and staff.

VI. Conclusions:
The College Senate is a tremendous resource for the College at Oneonta, especially for affecting positive changes. The faculty who volunteer to be college senators, standing faculty committee members and officers, deserve our gratitude, admiration and respect. Historically, our College Senate has had a tremendous impact on the success and growth of our college. We need to return to those glory years, flex our muscles, and not be afraid to go shoulder to shoulder with the decision makers. I have found our President, Dr. Nancy Kleniewski to be extremely cooperative, honest and willing to work with our College Senate. We are very fortunate to have her on board guiding the ship. With a challenging SUNY budget lurking on the horizon, we will need everyone pulling together to ensure that the College at Oneonta continues to move forward into a bright and prosperous future.

Steve Garner
Presiding Officer of the Faculty
Chair of the College Senate