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Faculty Senate Chronicle for October 3, 2013

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Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of October 3, 2013

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, October 3, 2013 in room 201 of Buckingham. Senate Chair William D. Rich called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm.

Of the current roster of 58 Senators, 44 were present for this meeting. Senators Beneke, Dejbord-Sawan, Huff, Lazar, Raber and Sancaktar were absent with notice. Senators Gandee, Hamed, Landis, Moritz, Patnaik, Ramcharran and Youngs were absent without notice.

I. Approval of the Agenda

Chair Rich called for adoption of the agenda.

The motion was adopted without dissent.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Senator Clark moved to adopt the proposed minutes of the May 2, 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Hajjafar.

The minutes were adopted without dissent.

III. Chairman's Remarks

Chair Rich began his remarks by reminding the Senate that in the last meeting there was a resolution adopted by this body concerning the proposed changes to the University Council bylaws. Chair Rich reported that he met twice after that meeting with the provost, urged that the University Council return to the previous set of bylaws and work from those, and form a small committee made up of a representative from each of the constituencies represented in the University Council to propose amendments that would be responsive to the concerns expressed by the Board of Trustees Rules Committee and to any lessons learned during the operation of the University Council during its first year. Chair Rich urged that the committee should act by negotiations rather than by majority rule which would allow one constituency to be outvoted by a coalition of the others.

The Faculty Senate's University Council representatives will provide details later in the meeting, but Chair Rich was informed that the University Council will proceed along those lines, and he thanked the Provost for carefully listening to the advice that he offered.

Chair Rich next reported that the faculties of the College of Health Professions, Summit College, and Wayne College have voted unanimously in favor of the General Education Reform Proposal, while expressing some concerns and making some suggestions. The faculty of the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences on the other hand voted 55 percent against and 45 percent in favor of the proposal.

Chair Rich recommended to Linda Subich, Chair of the senate's Ad Hoc General Education Revision Committee, that the committee consider adding to the proposal a relatively detailed implementation plan that would be part of the package presented to the Faculty Senate.

Last spring Chair Rich strongly urged the administration and the faculty to resolve the teaching load controversy by adhering to and fully implementing the existing board of trustees' regulation on that subject, which is consistent with and modeled after the Ohio Board of Regents Faculty Workload Policy.

Chair Rich reported that the administration and the Akron AAUP chapter have agreed to do just that.

Concerning direct admissions standards, Chair Rich recently learned that the faculty of at least one department was told by its chair that the provost's office had raised or was about to raise the standards for direct admission to the undergraduate colleges.

This is a matter of concern because admissions policy is within the purview of the Faculty Senate at the university level and departmental and school faculties within each of the colleges. Chair Rich conferred with the provost and vice provost and was assured no such thing had occurred.

What had occurred is that over time direct admission standards have been changed by the departmental and school faculties without those changes having been submitted to the Academic Policies Committee for eventual approval by the Faculty Senate as required by a Board of Trustees' regulation.

Accordingly, direct admission standards are being collected so that they can be submitted for the required Faculty Senate approval. If, however, a departmental or school faculty is considering changing direct admission standards, now would be a good time to make those changes so that the senate doesn't have to approve a change shortly after approving the existing standards.

Chair Rich emphasized that direct admissions standards are a faculty matter. In the first instance they're for the departmental and school faculties to set and after that they are subject to Faculty Senate approval.

Chair Rich received a letter from the chairman of the Board of Trustees addressed both to Chair Rich and to the president of the Akron AAUP chapter asking each group to proceed with the election of three faculty representatives to participate in the search for a new president of the university.

The three Faculty Senate representatives and the three representatives of the Akron AAUP chapter will have the opportunity to meet with the Board of Trustees Presidential Advisory and Screening Committee before the position is advertised, to discuss the proposed criteria process and scheduling of the search process; interview the finalists; and meet with the board of trustees in secession to express their views of the finalists.

IV. Special Announcements

Senator Sterns reported the death of one member of the university community:

John Popplestone, Professor of Psychology and Founding Director of the Archives of the History of American Psychology, died September 15th. He was 85.

The Senate stood for a moment of silence in memory of our deceased colleagues.

V. Reports

Executive Committee

Senator Bove reported as follows on behalf of the Executive Committee:

On September 12th the Faculty Senate Executive Committee sponsored a New Senator Orientation session that was well attended by both new and returning senators. Chair Rich presided over the session and provided an overview of the purpose, protocol, and history of the Faculty Senate at The University of Akron. There were many thoughtful questions posed by the new senators resulting in rich discussion.

The Executive Committee met on September 19th for regular Senate business. The committee attempted to certify senate election results from Summit College and the College of Engineering. Both results were returned to the college due to errors. The committee also made appointments to the Accessibility, Athletics, and the Part-time Faculty Committees. Senators without committee appointments were identified, contacted, and strongly encouraged to submit a self-nomination for an appointment. The committee also discussed the general education reform process in that each college needs to approve the general education reform proposal that was distributed in May before the Senate can act on it.

The Executive Committee next met on September 26th for regular senate business and to set the agenda for today's meeting. The committee certified run-off senate elections from Summit College and the Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences and made appointments to several senate committees.

Due to some of the confusion regarding executing senate elections this year, the committee will ask the Reference Committee to eliminate the majority rule from the election process in the senate bylaws. The committee hopes that this will eliminate confusion and expedite the election process.

The question came to the committee whether or not to join the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. The committee referred this question to the Athletics Committee for review and recommendation.

The committee also discussed changes in direct admissions standards and is concerned that current changes have not been approved by the Senate. Vice Provost Ramsier is gathering the data to bring before APC and then to the Senate for approval.

There exist two vacancies on University Council Committees to be filled by senate representatives: one non-senator to serve on the UC Communications Committee and one senator to serve on the UC Talent Development and Human Resources Committee. The committee encourages self-nominations through the senate website. The Executive Committee will make the appointments.

Remarks of the Provost

The Provost began his remarks by indicating a successful University Council meeting this past Tuesday.

After the last Faculty Senate meeting the chair alerted the provost to the resolution passed at that meeting. He was very much appreciative of that quick update, and as was indicated had the opportunity to interact not only with Chair Rich but several senators as well as members of CPAC and SEAC, and as was described the council this past Tuesday not only reconstituted its officers but also chose to proceed exactly as Chair Rich described. The Provost appreciated the support, guidance, advice and feedback related to moving that agenda forward in a successful way.

The Provost looks forward to the continued process of faculty deliberation on general education reform. There were some votes in a positive way towards the reform as it was presented, albeit with many expressions of concern or question with regard in large part to implementation. So it will be very important for the implementation strategy to be developed as a faculty.

Academic program review has been underway for many years at the University of Akron. And more recently, in consultation with faculty, the OAA requested that the department chairs and the school directors interact with the faculty to develop a response to the Academic Program Review Committee recommendations. Those reactions at the department school level should then be communicated and discussed with the dean. This past week the provost met with every dean of every college to consult with them about the outcome of those steps in the academic program review process.

The Provost's next step will be to intersect Academic Program Review Committee recommendations with the suggestions and recommendations transmitted by the deans, with points of view and perspectives from the provost's own assessment or the assessment by the Office of Academic Affairs. The provost will interact with the president related to next steps, and assures that whatever those next steps are the appropriate governance process will be utilized to move the agenda of academic program review forward.

The Provost remarked that the assessment presented by the dean of the graduate school was appreciated, but that it was a separate and independent process from the academic program review, and as such, was presented that way to the deans, and the deans thereby to the faculty of the colleges.

The Provost gave an update on the fiscal year '14 budget. The first round of conversations dealt with covering a reduction in the base budget of about \$30 million. With a seven percent or so decline in enrollment this fall, the university had to increase the planned re-basing of the institution by about another \$15 million, thus the university had a round of contingency plans, round two of balancing the fiscal '14 budget.

The Provost asked the deans and vice presidents to prepare scenarios that reflected about an eight percent reduction anticipating that the discussions with the deans and the vice presidents would resolve in a range of reductions that would not end up being across the board but would be as strategic as possible. OAA tried to minimize the effect of those reductions on the academic side. They are looking at about a 3.9 percent reduction on the academic side of the house and about a 7.3 percent reduction on the academic support side of the house, at least as reflected through the second contingency planning process.

For the academic support units the large percentage, nearly all of that 7.3 percent reduction on the academic support side reflects reductions in our continuing obligations either through operating budget or positions.

On the other hand for the academic side of the house, about a third or so of the proposed reductions represent a one-time reduction providing some continued flex with regard to planning the fiscal year '15 budget. Also, that would allow flex and consideration of increased enrollment over this period of time.

The Provost thanked everybody for their continued involvement in MAP Works to help support students who through that process are identified as needing specialized support.

This semester was the first semester of implementing the early feedback or early warning on 100 and 200 level courses. The deadline for that early warning was the end of the September. The Provost thanked everyone for their participation in that process. The next steps are for the advisors to reach out to those individuals and that department chairs and school directors be alerted so proper support can be provided.

The Provost concluded his remarks by highlighting a location on the university website where one can help a Zip, to provide the opportunity for ad hoc input about the needs of students one may come across and identified as needing some sort of support. Once submitted through that process, the nature of the need will be assessed and the appropriate individuals will respond by providing the student the type of support that they need to be successful.

Senator Bouchard complimented the Provost, but cautioned him to remain committed to the values of Vision 2020. The Provost thanked Senator Bouchard and stated that he will not abandon those principles.

Senator Osorio asked the Provost to clarify the Help a Zip program. The Provost replied that the details have been released on email digest and that he will have the communications group send another announcement.

Senator Lillie asked the Provost if the university is currently facing a 45 million dollar deficit. The Provost responded that the fiscal '14 budget was balanced by managing the 30 million dollar re-basing. The additional 15 million dollar deficit resulted from this fall's enrollment decline.

VI. Election of Senate Representatives to Presidential Search Committee

Senator Bove introduced a resolution from the Executive Committee recommending a particular method of conducting the election:

Resolved that all three Faculty Senate representatives to the Presidential Search Committee shall be elected in a single election; that each member of the senate may vote for no more than three candidates; that the three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected; and that a runoff election shall be held to break any tie that must be broken in order to elect three representatives.

The motion was adopted without dissent.

Senator Hajjafar nominated Senator Rich. Senator Klein nominated Senator Bouchard. Senator Bouchard nominated Senator Sterns. Senator Clark moved that the nominations be closed and that Senators Rich, Bouchard, and Sterns be elected by acclamation.

The motion was adopted without dissent.

VII. Committee Reports

Faculty Research Committee

The Faculty Research Committee submitted a written report (Appendix A).

Part-time Faculty Committee

The Part-time Faculty Committee submitted a written report (Appendix B).

Ad hoc General Education Revision Committee

The Ad hoc General Education Revision Committee submitted a written report (Appendix C).

Ad hoc CCTC Subcommittee on Web Conferencing Software

The Ad hoc CCTC Subcommittee on Web Conferencing Software submitted a written report (Appendix D).

VIII. Report of the Faculty Senate Representatives to University Council

Senator Lillie reported that the set of bylaws that had been produced and approved by the University Council in February of 2013 would be the new place from which any revision would start. The bylaws proposals that had been made since that were implicitly withdrawn.

The Steering Committee proposed that there be a small bylaws revision committee made up of a representative from the Faculty Senate representatives to the University Council, the graduate student representatives, the undergraduate student representatives to the University Council, a staff employee, committee representatives and the contract professional representative. So that would be five people who would meet to consider the remarks of the Strategic Issues Committee and to see what if anything needed to be done to amend those bylaws. There will be a meeting next week of the Bylaws Revision Committee.

IX. Unfinished Business

Chair Rich called for the ratification of the Executive Committee's approval of course proposals over the summer (Appendix E).

The motion was adopted without dissent.

X. New Business

There was no new business.

XI. Adjournment

Chair Rich adjourned the meeting at 4:14 pm

Any comments concerning the contents in *The University of Akron Chronicle*
may be directed to the Secretary, Frank J. Bove (x5104).
facultysenate@uakron.edu

APPENDIX A

Faculty Research Committee

Report for Faculty Senate

September, 2013

The Faculty Research Committee met on Friday, September 20 in the Student Union. There were both new members and returning members on the FRC and everyone attending was introduced. Agenda items included approval of the minutes from the April 5 meeting, a report on the National Endowment for the Humanities competition, and the election of Chair. Dr. Schwartz was nominated and was voted as Chair by acclamation.

Dr. Newkome, Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies spoke to the FRC regarding specific research issues. This was discussed as an advisory committee for the University.

After discussing the budget, which is the same as the previous year (\$140,000), the FRC discussed how to allocate funds for the upcoming competition. As in previous years, there will be 14 awards of \$10,000.

There was also discussion regarding getting awards for graduate assistants. This would be approached through the Graduate School.

Training sessions for applicants are scheduled for December 3 and 4. They will be taught by Katie Watkins -Wendell, Assistant Vice President, Office of Research Administration.

Dates were established for various due dates. Proposals will be due on January 24, 2014. Other dates set are deadlines for the Committee with the FRC meeting on March 14, 2014 to make award decisions.

Other issues discussed included a deadline of adding members as this was a problem last year. Names were being added to the roster after proposals were assigned for review. This should not be an issue this year.

There was discussion on forms, processes, and formatting. In addition, the award letters will suggest that competition winners serve on the FRC. Finally, a subcommittee was established that will work with Dr. Newkome as previously mentioned.

The Committee gave many thanks to Mary Dingler who is retiring the end of September. Mary has been an asset to the FRC over several years.

Submitted by Robert M. Schwartz, FRC Chair

October 3, 2013

APPENDIX B

PTFC September 19, 2013

The Part time Faculty Committee met on September 19, 2013. Members present: Katie Cerrone, Karen Edwards (guest), April Freely, Bill Hazlett, Shannon Osorio (Chair), Parizad Dejbord Sawan Guest: Karen Edwards

The committee reviewed work done during the summer, including the new PTFC web-site and blog, now up and running; the New Faculty Orientation which included an information table for PTFC and a panel discussion for Part time faculty.

A PT Faculty social was held on September 10, 2013 with 8 attending.

PTFC will

- host OPTFA on October 23, 2013.
- set up an informational meeting with HR for all PT Faculty, if possible in October.
- begin work on updating University Rules as they relate to PT Faculty hiring.
- draft a proposal to create an honorary title for exemplary PT Faculty service

APPENDIX C

The General Education Revision Committee report was submitted May 1st and Committee members and I have been facilitating discussions and answering questions in colleges and departments/schools. Votes of support or nonsupport are taking place, and comments from these discussions and the results of the votes are being collected. The recommendations of the committee and the summary of the college votes and feedback will be reported out to Senate when the process is complete. This will likely be wrapped up in the next two weeks.

Best, Linda Subich

October 3, 2013

APPENDIX D

From the CCTC Subcommittee on Web conferencing Software

Report to Senate:

The Committee worked throughout the summer and completed the following:

1. A list of criteria for selecting a Web Conferencing Tool for The University of Akron.
2. A Request for Proposal with the goal of
 - a. obtaining detailed information from potential vendors and
 - b. narrowing down the list of potential solutions to a short list of the best possible options.
3. Submitted the RFP to Purchasing and consulted with the purchasing office and the Chief Information Officer to format the RFP in a form that meets UA's guidelines for RFPs.

Significant new developments – The IUC and Ohio University have had a similar initiative in progress and they have selected WebEx. Initially, I was advised by Purchasing that they would wait for the negotiations with WebEx to be completed before publishing our RFP to vendors. Progress on the WebEx negotiations with IUC and Ohio U has been slower than expected. Thus, our RFP will be published shortly.

Thomas

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APPENDIX E
Curriculum Proposals

Faculty Senate - June 20, 2013

CHP-SOCIAL-12-5073	COURSENEW	Crisis Intervention	
BUS-MANGT-12-4774	PROGRAMCHANGE	Information Systems Management	MASTERS
BUS-MANGT-12-4775	PROGRAMCHANGE	Info Syst Mgmt - Accelerated	MASTERS
BUS-MANGT-12-4767	COURSECHANGE	Health Services Operations Management	
BUS-MANGT-12-4771	CERTIFICATECHANGE	Management - Human Resources M	GRADUATE
BUS-MANGT-12-4772	CERTIFICATECHANGE	Healthcare Management	GRADUATE
BUS-MANGT-12-4765	COURSECHANGE	Introduction to Health-Care Management	
BUS-MANGT-13-6285	PROGRAMCHANGE	Management	MASTERS
BUS-MANGT-12-4768	PROGRAMCHANGE	Healthcare Management	MASTERS
BUS-MARKET-13-6302	PROGRAMCHANGE	International Business	MASTERS
BUS-MARKET-12-4679	MINORCHANGE	Consumer Marketing	BACCALAUREATE
BUS-MARKET-13-5974	MINORCHANGE	International Business	BACCALAUREATE
BUS-MARKET-13-5918	CERTIFICATECHANGE	Retail Marketing	UNDERGRADUATE
BUS-FINAN-13-6253	COURSECHANGE	Seminar in Financial Planning	
A & S-POLSC-12-4174	COURSENEW	Intelligence and Counterterrorism	
A & S-BIOL-12-5070	COURSENEW	Professional Development for Biology Majors	
BUS-FINAN-12-5398	PROGRAMCHANGE	Finance - Financial Services	BACCALAUREATE
BUS-MARKET-13-6305	PROGRAMCHANGE	International Bus - Intl Execs	MASTERS
A & S-SOCIO-13-5627	COURSENEW	Social Effects of Crime in the Media	
BUS-MANGT-13-6219	COURSECHANGE	Management: Principles & Concepts	
A & S-FAMILYCONS-12-5228	COURSECHANGE	Family Housing	
SUMM-ENGRSCI-13-6055	COURSECHANGE	Legal Aspects of Surveying	
CHP-SPLANG-12-4498	PROGRAMCHANGE	Child Life Specialist	BACCALAUREATE
ENGR-CIVILE-11-0550	COURSENEW	Nuclear Reactor Engineering and Balance of Plant Systems	

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EDUC-CURR-12-4231	COURSECHANGE	Teaching Language Literacy to Second Language Learners	
EDUC-CURR-12-4389	COURSECHANGE	Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language	
EDUC-CURR-12-4390	COURSECHANGE	Techniques of Teaching English as a Second Language	
A & S-FAMILYCONS-12-4157	COURSECHANGE	Family Crisis	
A & S-FAMILYCONS-13-6897	TRACKCHANGE	Family & Child Development	
A & S-GEOGR-12-4876	COURSECHANGE	Introduction to Geography	
CHP-SPLANG-12-4516	COURSECHANGE	Augmentative Communication	
A & S-STATS-12-4863	COURSENEW	Survival Analysis	
A & S-STATS-12-4870	COURSENEW	Survival Analysis	
BUS-FINAN-12-4752	COURSECHANGE	Multinational Corporate Finance	
POLY-PENGR-12-4588	COURSECHANGE	Structural Characterization of Polymers with Electromagnetic Radiation	
POLY-PENGR-12-4591	COURSECHANGE	Polymeric Materials Engineering Sciences	
POLY-PENGR-12-4592	COURSECHANGE	Basic Engineering for Polymer Engineers	
A & S-POLSC-11-0500	COURSENEW	Selected Topics in Political Science	
A & S-HIST-12-2921	COURSECHANGE	World Civilizations: Middle East	
CHP-SPLANG-12-5357	COURSECHANGE	Child in the Hospital	
A & S-POLSC-12-4177	COURSENEW	Intelligence and Counterterrorism	
A & S-FAMILYCONS-12-4318	COURSECHANGE	Family Crisis	
ENGR-MECHE-13-6424	PROGRAMCHANGE	Mechanical Engineering-Thesis	MASTERS
ENGR-MECHE-13-6428	PROGRAMCHANGE	Mechanical Engineering	MASTERS
BUS-MANGT-13-6377	PROGRAMCHANGE	Information Systems Management	MASTERS
BUS-MANGT-12-4773	CERTIFICATECHANGE	Management of Technology	GRADUATE
BUS-MANGT-13-6283	COURSECHANGE	Management Project	