Faculty Senate Chronicle for September 7, 2017

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SENATE ACTIONS

• Conducted elections for Senator officers; Graduate Council; Ohio Faculty Council; and Board of Trustees Presidential Assessment Advisory Committee.

• Adopted a motion from the General Education Advisory Committee to approve curriculum proposals.

• Adopted a motion from the General Education Advisory Committee concerning general education requirements for students pursuing associate’s degrees.

• Adopted a motion from the General Education Advisory Committee concerning the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degree.

• Amended the bylaws of the Faculty Senate with respect to Senators participating in the TARP program.
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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2017

The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, September 7, 2017 in room 201 of the Buckingham Center for Continuing Education. Senate Chair William D. Rich called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

Of the current roster of 58 senators, 47 attended the meeting. Senators Haritos, Kandray and Nicholas were absent with notice. Senators Bennington, Braun, Chronister, Hariharan, Hreno, Matejkovic and Simms were absent without notice.

I. Adoption of Agenda
   Senator Sterns moved to approve the agenda. The agenda was adopted without dissent.

II. Adoption of Minutes of May 4 meeting
   On Senator Clark’s motion the minutes were adopted without dissent.

III. Remarks of the Chair
   Chair Rich remarked:
   Welcome to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2017-2018 academic year.
   We have a number of newly elected Faculty Senators, among whom I include some who previously served in the Senate but not last year, as well as some newly re-elected Senators: from the College of Arts and Sciences, David Giffels, Sherry Simms, and Jeanne-Helene Roy were newly elected this Spring; from the College of Engineering, Dane Quinn was re-elected and George Haritos and Ajay Mahajan were newly elected; from the College of Education, Nidaa Makki was re-elected and Francis Broadway was newly elected; from the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering, Ali Dhinojwala and Mark Foster were newly elected; from Wayne College, Dimitria Gatzia and Heather Howley were re-elected and Lynn McKnight was newly elected; and from University Libraries, Michael Monaco was newly elected. Taylor Bennington and Andrew Barry represent the undergraduate students this year. Congratulations and welcome, or welcome back, as the case may be, to these new and newly re-elected Faculty Senators.

   Reports of results of the Faculty Senate elections in the College of Business Administration and the College of Health Professions have recently been received but have not yet been certified by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

   The College of Business Administration and the College of Health Professions have yet to conclude run-off elections and, consequently, have vacant Senate seats – one in the College of Business Administration and three in the College of Health Professions. The academic advisors also have a vacant seat to fill by election, as do the graduate and law students.

   For the information of those who are new to the Faculty Senate, and as a reminder to those who are not, the Faculty Senate is the legislative body of the faculty at the university level. Its meetings are relatively formal and are conducted according to its bylaws and Robert’s Rules of Order. If you wish to address the body, please hold up your name tag to seek the recognition of the chair, and please be sure that your name is facing the chair, not you (if you need a reminder of your own name, please let me know and we will make you a name tag with your name printed on both sides), and is right-side up, horizontal, and stationary so that it can be read by the chair. Please do not speak until recognized by the chair. If I should fail to say your name when recognizing you, please state it when you begin to speak so that your remarks may be properly
attributed in the record. These meetings are transcribed. Please do not make noise that may make it difficult for the transcriber to hear the proceedings. When you speak, please speak loudly enough to be heard by all, and bear in mind that your remarks will be transcribed for all the world to read. Please address your remarks to the chair rather than directly to another member of the body, even if they are made in response to another member’s remarks. This formality helps to avoid personalizing issues and to maintain civility.

If you have not already done so, please sign one of the posted attendance sheets so that your presence may be properly recorded.

This is a relatively large deliberative body. In order for it to function effectively, it must rely heavily on its various standing and, occasionally, ad hoc committees to prepare legislation and informational reports for the Senate’s consideration. Every senator is expected to serve on at least one Senate committee. Any new senators who have not already done so are urged to submit their committee preferences.

The Senate has a number of representatives to the University Council and its standing committees. The University Council, which also includes representatives of the department chairs, deans, vice presidents, contract professionals, staff, undergraduate students, and graduate students, is the shared governance body that deals with matters that are not wholly academic in nature, but that in many instances have important implications for academic programs and faculty. (Matters that are wholly academic, such as curriculum and academic policy, are solely within the purview of the Faculty Senate.) Currently, there is one vacant Faculty Senate seat on a University Council standing committee, namely, the Student Engagement and Success Committee. If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please let me know.

Among the items on today’s agenda are the ratification of two actions taken by the Executive Committee acting in the place of the Senate over the summer, which were the approval of the August graduation list and the approval of several uncontroverted curriculum change proposals.

We have several elections to conduct, including those for
  o The three Faculty Senate offices (chair, vice chair, and secretary);
  o Two at-large seats on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee;
  o Two Faculty Senate representatives to the Graduate Council; and
  o Two representatives (one regular and one alternate) to the Ohio Faculty Council.

We also need to elect three members to represent the Faculty Senate in the executive session of the Board of Trustees’ Presidential Assessment Advisory Committee on Monday.

Also on the agenda are a report from the Senate’s General Education Advisory Committee and a proposed amendment to the Faculty Senate bylaws that would allow senators participating in TARP to complete their Senate terms.

I am pleased to report that almost all of the legislation passed by this body last year was acted upon favorably by President Wilson. These include
  • All of the curriculum change proposals, which were approved by the Office of Academic Affairs;
  • The overhaul of the general education requirements for baccalaureate students;
  • Two reorganizations of academic units:
    o The consolidation of the Ph.D. program in counseling psychology in the Psychology Department and the transfer of three faculty members from the School of Counseling in the College of Health Professions to the Psychology Department, which was approved by the Board of Trustees; and
The reorganization of the former School of Family and Consumer Sciences into three separate units, which was also approved by the Board of Trustees;
• The upgrading and renaming of the University’s learning management system, formerly called Springboard and now called Brightspace;
• The endorsement and distribution of a document describing best practices for the use and support of part-time faculty;
• The establishment of an interdisciplinary council to promote and foster interdisciplinary studies within the University; and
• The Board of Trustees’s enactment of Senate-recommended changes in University regulations governing
  o Repetition of courses by undergraduate students;
  o Withdrawal of students from courses; and
  o Students taking courses on a transient basis at other universities and transferring credit here to satisfy degree requirements.

One piece of Senate legislation—a resolution calling for undergraduate students no longer to be charged more for taking graduate level courses for credit toward an undergraduate degree—was referred by the President to the University Council for consideration of its budgetary implications. I am hopeful that the University Council and its Budget and Finance Committee will conclude that this legislation has no significant budgetary implications, and that the President will then act favorably upon it.

Last Thursday morning you received an e-mail message from the President and the Provost announcing and specifying the academic program review that is to be conducted this academic year. The message makes mention of an “executive/advisory committee” that includes representatives of the Office of Academic Affairs, the Faculty Senate, the Akron Chapter of the American Association of University Professors, and the Graduate School, along with the chief diversity officer and the learning assessment director. Senator Sterns and I are the Faculty Senate representatives on that committee, which met for the first time last Thursday morning. Senator Sterns and I both expressed the view that the deadline for the faculties of the various academic units was too short to allow for the program reviews to be thoroughly and well done. I also argued against the idea of ranking every academic program against every other academic program. While this discussion was occurring, the e-mail message was distributed as previously scheduled, despite Provost Ramsier’s attempt, mid-way through the meeting, to stop it so it could be revised in light of the committee’s discussion. As a result, the program review process and schedule described in the message are soon to be revised in ways that I think salutary. It bears emphasis that this program review process is intended to be and, in my strongly held view, ought to be faculty driven. Academic program reviews are required for accreditation and, if done properly, can strengthen the programs being reviewed. It is also likely that significant decisions concerning the investment and disinvestment of scarce university resources will be made on the basis of the results of this program review. It is therefore essential, in my view, that each departmental faculty engage in the program review process seriously and urgently. Following Clemenceau, who famously said, “War is too important to be left to the generals,” I say academic program review is too important to be left to the academic administrators, and I mean no disrespect, either to academic administrators or to generals.

This concludes my remarks.
IV. Special Announcements

Professor Emeritus Wendell A. “Del” Johnson died on June 7th at the age of 80. He retired from the University in 2000.

Professor Johnson joined the faculty of what was then the Community and Technical College (and is now the College of Applied Science and Technology) in 1969 as a professor of Associate Studies to teach mathematics. From 1969 to 1997, he was the coordinator of mathematics for the college. After retirement, he taught part time in various departments until 2012.

He earned a bachelor’s in education at the University of Minnesota in 1960, a master’s in education (math) at Kent State University in 1968, and an M.S. in Statistics at the University of Akron in 1983.

Dr. Jim L. Jackson, Associate Professor Emeritus of Geology, died May 26 at the age of 81.

He joined the faculty of the Department of Geology at UA in 1967, where he taught for 26 years. He also founded and directed the Center for Environmental Studies in the Cuyahoga Valley.

He earned a B.S.Ed. in Chemistry at Kent State University, an M.S. in Geology at Case Western Reserve University, and a Ph.D. in Science Education at Ohio State University in 1970. Dr. Jackson received the Outstanding Teacher Award in 1993, the year he retired.

Dr. Jean Elouise Hower Taber—an alumna and benefactor of the University—died in July at the age of 94.

A respected teacher and author, Taber earned a Master of Science in Engineering in 1967 from The University of Akron and a doctorate from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., in 1976.

She was a professor of electrical engineering technology at Purdue University until her retirement in 2000.

Taber’s gifts to The University of Akron over her lifetime exceeded $7.5 million, and they have enabled hundreds of students to attend and graduate.

Taber established The Jean Hower Taber Endowment Fund in 1995 to support the University and Hower House, and to underwrite the University’s Scholarships for Excellence.

Taber was a great granddaughter of John H. Hower, one of the founders of Quaker Oats Company and the builder of Hower House. The house has been entrusted to the University’s care since it was donated to the University in 1973 by Taber’s father, John B. Hower.

Taber created the Dr. Margaret R. Taber Scholarship for Women in Engineering, awarded annually to outstanding women students in any area of engineering.

Motivated by her years as a faculty member in engineering technology, she later established The Dr. Margaret R. Taber Scholarship for Women in Electronic Engineering Technology, which provides support for outstanding women students in any engineering technology area, with a preference for those in electronic engineering technology. She also established The Jean Hower Taber Scholarship to support students pursuing a doctorate in audiology.

She received an honorary doctorate from The University of Akron in 2004 and served as a University Foundation director from 1986 to 1992. She also served on the steering committee for the Heritage and Vision Capital Campaign, and was a member of the Classical Studies/Archaeology/Anthropology Advisory Board.
Taber’s list of academic and professional honors includes the Distinguished Engineering Educator Award from the Society of Women Engineers in 1987 and the naming of The Margaret R. Taber Microcomputer Laboratory in her honor at Purdue.

Edward J. Laughner, Assistant Professor of Art Emeritus, died on August 11th at the age of 70.

Laughner joined the faculty of the School of Art in 1984. He taught digital imaging area until he retired in 2010.

He earned a B.S. in Art Education at Youngstown State University in 1972, an M.A. in Design and Technical Art at Kent State University in 1978, and an M.A. in Computer Graphics at The Ohio State University in 1982.

Alex R. Arshinkoff, a former trustee of this university and chair of the Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2001 died August 28th at the age of 62. Until his death, Arshinkoff also chaired the Summit County Republican Party, a position to which he ascended in 1978 at the tender age of 23. Through that entire period, with one brief hiatus, he was a member of the Summit County Board of Elections. He also worked as a lobbyist. During his term as a trustee, Arshinkoff played a major role in the decision to pursue the construction and landscaping program called “the New Landscape for Learning” that transformed the campus and that, it must also be acknowledged, incurred the large debt with which the University has been saddled ever since. For almost four decades, Arshinkoff was the dominant force in Summit County Republican politics, a major force in state politics, and a significant figure in national Republican politics. Having known him from across the partisan aisle for several years and having served with him on the Summit County Board of Elections for the last year and a half, I can attest that he cared deeply about this university and was a great raconteur who spoke frequently of, and always with great reverence for, his mentor, Ray Bliss, for whom the University’s Bliss Institute is named.

[The Senate rose for a moment of silence in memory of our deceased colleagues.]

V. Report of the Executive Committee

Secretary Miller reported:

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (EC) met ten times over the summer.

The EC met twice on May 18. In our first meeting, we approved curriculum proposals brought forward since the May regular meeting. [On the motion from the Executive Committee, the Senate ratified this action of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Senate over the summer.] We discussed the history of parking and parking fees at UA; the work of the flexible learning outcomes committee; and we set an agenda for our monthly meeting with the President and the Provost. At this meeting, the EC discussed the status of the budget process; the TARP program; best practices for part-time faculty, including the wisdom of ending the requirement that they report hours in EmpCenter; University support of the Buchtelite; the University becoming a Fraunhofer Institute; the status of the old St. Paul’s Church on Market Street; efforts to recruit transfer students; childcare on campus; and the implementation of Article 19 of the CBA, concerning workload negotiations of non-tenure-track faculty.

On June 15, the EC again met twice. At the first meeting, we certified Senate elections; scheduled meetings; made committee appointments; and set an agenda for our monthly meeting with the President and the Provost. At this meeting we discussed the University’s budget; developments in the creation of the State budget and how it will fund higher education; summer teaching budgets; graduate enrollment and the graduate college; the faculty participating in the TARP program; best practices concerning part-time faculty; work on recruiting transfer students;
recruiting of high school students; childcare on campus; and the Practical Nurse Training program of the Akron Public Schools.

On June 29, the EC met to conduct regular senate business, including committee appointments. We discussed the proposal to move to a four-day work week at the University; the search for a new dean for the Lebrón James Family Foundation College of Education; the new learning management system; and general education requirements for two-year programs.

The EC met twice on July 20. At the first meeting, we welcomed Janet Bean and discussed the degree audit software challenges raised by the new general education program. We then approved the summer graduation list on behalf of the senate. [On the motion from the Executive Committee, the Senate ratified this action of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Senate over the summer.] We made a committee appointment; and we set the agenda for our meeting with the President and the Provost. President Wilson was unable to attend this meeting, as he was in South Korea working to recruit students. With the Provost, the EC discussed the use of interim chairs in the College of Arts and Sciences; program review; the Education dean; Fall 2017 enrollment numbers; the University’s budget; recruiting transfer students; the upcoming sesquicentennial of the University; childcare on campus; and the hiring of new faculty.

On August 17, the EC met to conduct regular Senate business and set an agenda for the monthly meeting with the President and Provost. The topics for discussion at this meeting were the University’s budget; Fall 2017 enrollment; the recruiting of transfer students; academic program review; faculty hires; James A. Rhodes arena improvements; the Faculty Senate budget; childcare on campus; international programs; and the upcoming sesquicentennial of the University.

On August 31, the EC met to conduct regular Senate business. We set the agenda for September’s regular meeting; we made committee appointments; and we talked about program review.

VI. Remarks of the President

President Wilson welcomed the faculty back to a new school year and thanked the Executive Committee for their work over the summer.

On the subject of enrollment, he reminded the Senate that a year ago our new freshman enrollment was down 20 percent. He reported that our fall enrollment appears to be up about 11 percent this year; overall enrollment will be about 5 percent down because of the large graduating class; and housing has gone from 80 percent full last fall to near 100 percent this fall.

He spoke of the University’s budget and contrasted its state one year ago with its improved state today. He credited Ernst & Young for the help they provided.

He described his time this summer teaching law students in South Korea and Japan.

Summarizing what we have learned, he noted that our financial situation is stable. Our enrollment has declined from a high of twenty-nine thousand to about twenty-two thousand. He spoke of fixed costs, of continuing financial obligations such as debt service, pensions, and health care. He recalled the financial situation of Fall 2016, with its shortfall of $30 million for Fall 2016 and its projected shortfall of $46 million for Fall 2017.

He described the progress of the last year as exceeding expectations, and he expressed surprise that things had been going in the right direction, that fast—he described the last year as one of unsustainable good fortune. He suggested different interpretations that faculty might have of this swing in numbers, and he reminded faculty of the letter that he sent in August, which provides a more thorough accounting of how that change was realized.
He listed examples in this series of strokes of good fortune—an unexpected payout from the MAC; better debt collection; the good performance of the stock market; the State providing more support for instruction than expected; the University getting more enrollment in late August 2016 than expected; the University saving money, as we did with the “hiring frost”; capital investments that we wanted to make, but held back; savings at the department level; one-time savings from debt refinancing; and some creative, successful fundraising, applying funds raised in the fall to the spring.

He described the current deficit of $29M and looked forward to a day when we do not have an annual deficit.

He alluded to a recommendation to the Board of Trustees that was tough to make, and that they will hopefully act on in October.

He reminisced about the successful law school renovation, that was done for $21 million with absolutely no debt.

He pledged to recommend a bonuses totalling $750K for full-time, non-bargaining unit employees who did not receive salary increases despite the fact that it makes him uncomfortable. What about part-time and adjunct faculty? he asked. He expressed his intention to continue to work hard and continue to find funds to invest in those employees as well.

He spoke of the state budget and the four-year cap on tuition and fees, and he described a mechanism under Ohio law that allows universities to raise tuition for incoming freshmen only, provided that tuition is frozen at that level for those students in subsequent years.

He noted that we are looking at decreasing tuition for nonresident, out-of-state students, as we can be more effective with that market, now constituting four percent of our population.

He noted that we will be losing two senior administrators—Lori Thorpe and Lakeesha Ransom. Sarah Cravens, previously interim dean of law, will serve as interim dean of the Honors College. Matt Akers accepted another job at Walsh University, and we asked Willie Coleman to step up and do his job in governmental relations.

He noted that the University is winding down its relationship with Ernst & Young. He encouraged faculty and chairs to use these dashboards and analytic tools they made for us.

He praised Dean Tudor’s work leading the University’s development of its online, evening and flexible learning programs.

He concluded his remarks with mingled expressions of optimism and determination to meet the tough challenges of the coming year.

He welcomed questions from the faculty.

Senator Cole thanked the President for what he’s done for the law school. He described the previous building as the worst in the country, and he explained how then-Dean Wilson and his predecessors raised all the money for the renovation in advance. He explained many benefits that have been realized already from the new building.

Senator Osorio urged the President to reconsider the decision to postpone a bonus for part-time faculty, who have not had a raise in over fifteen years. She imagined that a bonus to part-time faculty could cost less than one hundred thousand. President Wilson expressed appreciation of her advocacy and promised to take her input and information under advisement.

Senator Elliott noted that his research has discovered low rankings for the University on both loan defaults and graduation. He compared our students with those at other colleges and expressed skepticism about these rankings. President Wilson expressed appreciation for Senator Elliott’s encouragement and information. He questioned the validity of rankings that contradict what we see with our own eyes.
Senator Coffey asked about athletics. He noted that he sees a figure of $7.5 million for—revenue generated by athletics, independent of student fees or transfers from the general fund. And he sees that we report to the NCAA expenditures of $36 million, trending upwards. He reminded the Senate that the difference is made up with 93% of the general fee plus a withdrawal from the general fund. He asked President Wilson if he knew the projected withdrawal from the general fund to subsidize athletics for this fiscal year.

President Wilson replied that he would be happy to provide those figures to Senator Coffey. He also reported that the administration was looking at ways to control expenses and revamp the culture to reduce the costs of athletics.

Senator Coffey suggested that $12 million would be a more reasonable budget and asked if the University in the future would be more like Cincinnati at $60 million or Cleveland State at $12 million?

President Wilson described athletics as providing a recruiting edge. He thought University-sponsored athletic scholarships might be discontinued in certain sports, or perhaps we could bring in a greater percentage of Ohio students, for which the State provides a supplemental share of instruction (SSI) funding.

Senator Klein thanked President Wilson for growing international programs. She asked if he would join other university presidents in supporting DACA students. He asked us to look in our email to find a statement on this and reported that he would be on the radio the next morning speaking on this. He also reminded the Senate of his email in January.

VII. Remarks of the Senior Vice President and Provost

Provost Ramsier noted the letter we received from the Higher Learning Commission, and that the Institutional Actions Council voted to agree with the site visit report. He described this as “a very good result for the campus” and thanked those who participated in this process for their hard work.

He described three interim reports due December 31 of 2018: one on shared governance and communication; one on program review; and one on finances, including deferred maintenance and facilities.

He thanked the faculty for their work so far on program review. He emphasized that it is very important that faculty drive program review for credibility purposes and for getting the best results at the end.

He reported on the progress of making critical faculty hires and the extent to which the TARP program has freed resources for this purpose.

He thanked President Wilson for giving him oversight of recruiting and admissions and spoke of the necessity of broader ownership, especially on the academic side of the house, of these vital functions.

Senator Coffey asked for clarification about the TARP savings. He advocated for more tenure-track women and minorities.

Senator Soucek asked about startup money. Provost Ramsier replied that the Council of Deans would discuss this on Tuesday.

VIII. Senate Elections

Senator Feltey nominated Chair Rich for re-election. On Senator Nofziger’s motion, Chair Rich was re-elected by acclamation.

Senator Schulze nominated Vice Chair Saliga for re-election. On Senator Kidd’s motion, Vice Chair Saliga was re-elected by acclamation.
Senator Roy nominated Secretary Miller for re-election. On Senator Saliga’s motion, Secretary Roy was re-elected by acclamation.
Senator Nofziger nominated Senator Coffey for another term on the Executive Committee. On Senator Saliga’s motion, Senator Coffey was re-elected by acclamation.
Senator Hajjafar nominated Senator Allen for a term on the Executive Committee. On Senator Hajjafar’s motion, Senator Allen was elected by acclamation.
Senator Hajjafar nominated Senator Allen for re-election to the Graduate Council. On Senator Saliga’s motion, Senator Allen was re-elected by acclamation.
Senator Elliott nominated Senator Soucek for a term on the Graduate Council. On Senator Clark’s motion, Senator Soucek was elected by acclamation.
Senator Hausknecht nominated Leann Shaeffer for re-election to the Ohio Faculty Council. On Senator Clark’s motion, Leann Shaeffer was elected by acclamation.
Senator Howley nominated Senator Budd for election as an alternate representative to the Ohio Faculty Council. On Senator Howley’s motion, Senator Budd was elected by acclamation.
Senator Cole nominated Chair Rich for election as a representative of the Faculty Senate to the Board of Trustees Presidential Assessment Advisory Committee. On Senator Cole’s motion, Chair Rich was elected by acclamation.
Senator Saliga nominated Secretary Miller for election as a Faculty Senate representative to the Board of Trustees Presidential Assessment Advisory Committee. On Senator Kidd’s motion, Chair Rich was elected by acclamation.
Senator Nofziger nominated Senator Bean for election as a Faculty Senate representative to the Board of Trustees Presidential Assessment Advisory Committee. On Senator Clark’s motion, Senator Bean was elected by acclamation.

IX. Committee Reports

A. General Education Advisory Committee — Senator Bean

Senator Bean reported that the new General Education program has begun. She spoke briefly of it as an improvement over the previous General Education program for its greater flexibility and adaptability to the varying needs of students in different programs.

The Senate approved without dissent the courses put forward by GEAC for fast-track approval (see Appendix A).

After some discussion of associate degrees and Stark State, the Senate adopted without dissent the motion from GEAC to have a fifteen-credit hour module of general education courses for all associate degrees and in the same areas, communications, speech, quantitative (see Appendix B).

The Senate adopted without dissent GEAC’s proposal concerning the Associate of Arts and the Associate of Science degree (see Appendix C).

X. Report of University Council Representatives — Senators Roy & Allen

Senator Roy reported that physical environment has been the top item of discussion at University Council.
XI. Unfinished Business: Faculty Senate Bylaw Amendment Concerning the TARP

Chair Rich called the Senate’s attention to the bylaw change proposed in May (see Appendix D). Senator Foster spoke of the wisdom of discussing such things without naming individuals. By voice vote, the motion was adopted.

XII. New Business

Senator Elliott noted that new laptops were imminent.

XIII. Good of the Order

There was nothing for the good of the order.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

—Jon Miller, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to mjon@uakron.edu or called in to x6202.
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General Education Proposals for Associate Degrees

Rationale: When the university revised its General Education program, the intent was to create a revised program for both bachelor and associate degrees. The following proposals establish university-wide general education requirements for associate degrees.

The first proposal for applied associate degrees is based on the requirements approved by CAST on 3/9/17. All of their programs already meet these requirements, as do the associate programs in the College of Health Professions and Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences. Wayne College has agreed to these requirements as well and are making revisions to their associate degree programs to be in compliance. The second proposal addresses Associate of Arts and Associate of Sciences degrees, which are offered out of CAST and Wayne. Both colleges support these degree requirements.

Proposal for Applied Associate Degrees
Students in applied associate degree programs must complete the following 15 credit-hour set of General Education coursework:

- Quantitative Reasoning: 3 credits
- Speaking: 3 credits
- Writing: 3 credits
- Natural Science: 3 credits
- Social Science: 3 credits

This requirement is a subset of UA’s General Education program for bachelor degrees.

Proposal for Associate of Arts and Associate of Science Degrees
Students in the Associate of Arts and Associate of Sciences degree programs must complete the following 36 credit-hour set of General Education coursework:

- Quantitative Reasoning: 3 credits
- Speaking: 3 credits
- Writing: 6 credits
- Arts and Humanities: 9 credits, including one course from each
- Natural Science: 7 credits, including one lab
- Social Science: 6 credits
- 34 credits

Plus additional general education credit hours to equal 36 credit hours.

This requirement is a subset of UA’s General Education program for bachelor degrees, Tier I (Academic Foundations) and Tier II (Disciplinary Areas), and fulfills the University of Akron Ohio Transfer Module.
A proposal to amend the Faculty Senate bylaws by inserting a new paragraph (H)(5)(d) (and renumbering subsequent paragraphs in (H)(5)). The purpose of the proposed amendment is to allow senators to serve the remainder of their terms, and to serve as senate officers during that time, if they participate in TARP. Below is the text of the proposed amendment:

A regular faculty member who, before the expiration of his or her term of office as a senator, retires but continues to be employed part-time as a faculty member while participating in a University-approved program for transition from active employment to retirement may complete his or her term of office as a senator and may serve as an officer of the senate.