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## Faculty Senate Chronicle Special meeting May 22, 2020

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**The University of Akron**  
**Faculty Senate special meeting**  
**Friday, May 22, 2020 1:00 pm**

**Below is a summary of the key consensus items from senate discussion:**

1. STEM College
  - Although senators and faculty who attended as guests expressed a variety of viewpoints regarding the creation of a STEM College, several senators raised concerns about the limited opportunities for discussion in the various affected units. Chair Saliga stated that the senate body wishes to table the discussion for now given the limited time for units to explore this option and to consider the idea further in the future.
2. Math/Statistics
  - Several senators expressed concerns about moving Mathematics and Statistics to the College of Engineering. There was limited time to build consensus on the topic. Therefore, we recommend that Math/Statistics remain in BSAS. We can discuss moving Math/Statistics to a STEM College in the future. .
3. CAST merger
  - This is a very complex unit. Senators expressed concerns about dismantling CAST and some departments eliminated from the chart (e.g. AGTS), with no clear understanding of savings accomplished.
  - Several senators expressed interest in merging Wayne with CAST given the similar mission.
  - Guests who spoke about DSES agreed with the provost recommendation that DSES move into CHP.
4. Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics
  - Senators and guests presented compelling arguments that the Cybersecurity program should be housed in CIS in the College of Engineering, given that it is a computing degree, and the existing relationships with employers in this area. Senators strongly supported Cybersecurity staying with CIS to best serve the students in the program, and to continue to build on the success of this program.

5. Polymer Science

- Senators from PSPE proposed a structure of a School of PSPE with one administrator reporting to the provost office, which would accomplish similar savings to the dean's proposal of an Institute and retain the reputation of Polymers.

6. Wayne College

- Many questions were raised regarding Wayne Campus structure, such as main faculty involvement in courses at Wayne, online course offerings, and assessment practices. The senate did not address the merit of changing the structure of Wayne from a college to a branch campus except in earlier discussions about merging CAST and Wayne.

7. College of Education

- Senators raised questions whether discussions of moving the LBJFF College of Education to BCAS occurred in BCAS, and it seems there wasn't any. Overall feedback seemed positive regarding moving College of Education to BCAS.

There were questions about how much money this proposal will save, and there was a general sentiment that any changes must not damage academic programs.