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Faculty Senate Chronicle September 3, 2020

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September 2020

12 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

1. Adopted the summer graduation listed.
2. Approved proposals by the Curriculum Review Committee.

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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF
September 3, 2020

The meeting took place on WebEx

I. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted without dissent.

II. Adoption of Minutes of the May Senate meetings.

On Senator Feezel's motion, the minutes of the May Senate meeting were adopted without dissent.

On Senator Feezel's motion, the minutes of the May special meeting were adopted without dissent.

III. Remarks of the Chair

Welcome to the first meeting of the Faculty Senate for the 2020-2021 academic year. 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. As directed by the University, all of the senate meetings this fall semester will be virtual, currently in WebEx. With that in mind, please keep your microphone muted and your video off, unless you have the floor, as this will help everyone with bandwidth. If you want to be recognized to speak, you are to type "request" in the chat and if you are a Senator you will be added to the que. The chat is not a part of the record.

When I butcher your name when recognizing you to speak, please state it correctly so I might learn the correct pronunciation. 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.

This is a relatively large deliberative body with an Executive Committee and various committees that prepare legislation and informational reports for the Senate's consideration. Today we will be electing two members to serve on the Executive Committee. Members of standing and ad hoc committees are appointed by the Executive Committee. 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.

We have several other elections to conduct today. We will be electing two members to serve on the Graduate Council. I'm hoping that the two senators currently serving will be willing to continue. We will be electing two of our three representatives to the University Council, one for a three-year term and the other for a two-term. One of these individuals needs to be a non-Senator by the UC bylaws. Our last election will be for an alternate to the Ohio Faculty Council.

So far, 2020 has been a very unusual and unpleasant year. Our lives have changed in ways we never could have imagined. Our University is not the same place that it was when we finished the spring term. We will spend a lot of time this year examining the changes made and making sure the University continues to be the best choice for students to continue their education.

This concludes my remarks.

IV. Special Announcements

Dr. John W. Beckham, library specialist in University Libraries Research and Learning Services, died unexpectedly on May 26. He was 63.

Beckham joined UA on March 3, 2008 as a part-time library research assistant. In July of that year, he became a full-time library associate senior. On September 23, 2013, he became a library specialist.

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in history at UA in 1979 and 1981 respectively. Beckham also earned a master's degree in library research at St. John's University in New York City in 1984.

Dr. Shao Wang, associate professor of engineering practice in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, died July 18. He was 57.

Wang, who joined UA on Aug. 15, 2014, as a design professor in mechanical engineering, worked previously in research/development groups in high-tech companies, including Quantum, Maxtor and Seagate. On Aug. 29, 2019, he became an associate professor of engineering practice.

Marvin M. Moore, law professor emeritus, died June 11. He was 87.

He taught property law and other courses at our School of Law from the time he joined UA on Sept. 15, 1960, until he retired on June 1, 1994. He continued teaching part-time until May 11, 1997.

V. Report of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee had twelve scheduled meetings since the last regular meeting in May. Additionally, we met numerous times to discuss reorganization and other issues. Some of the meetings were devoted to preparations for the special Senate meetings held over the summer, and others were to prepare for the meetings with Provost Wiencek.

The Committee also met with Provost Wiencek to discuss the following items: credit/no credit policies, reorganization and communication tools for comment, enrollment decline estimates, the Delaware Cost Study and the relationship of the study to budget allocations, implications of cuts on programs, athletics, e-sports spending, RTP processes under COVID restrictions, the process of program review and program closure, RTP processes in cases where faculty under review have been impacted by reorganization, the development of a final exam grid, the development of ad hoc committees to address reorganization issues and the organization of OAA, the research grant buyout policy, updates on COVID issues, enrollment numbers, and tasks for 2020.

For more information on specific elements of these meetings, please do not hesitate to contact Heather Howley at hhowley@uakron.edu.

Finally, over the summer via email vote, we approved the summer graduation list and several curriculum proposals on behalf of the Senate. These proposals were sent out with the meeting agenda. We need the body to ratify those decisions at this time.

The motion passes without dissent.

This concludes my report.

VI. Remarks of the President

President Miller welcomed the body to the fall semester and noted that it was the most unusual semester in history. He thanked the members of the Board of Trustees and congratulated the new student trustee.

He discussed the proposed merger of the University's Law School with Cleveland State's Law School.

He discussed the work of the Inclusion and Diversity Committee as well as the upcoming athletic review group which will be chaired by a faculty member.

He mentioned the re-engagement of the search for a new CFO.

He discussed the 150th Anniversary and the events that are scheduled virtually and noted that over 173 parties were planned around the country and world.

Senator Evans asked how he planned to select the faculty for the committee on athletics.

President Miller noted that he worked with Chair Saliga.

Chair Saliga explained that the EC referred to the resolution passed over the summer.

VII. Remarks of the Provost

Provost Wiencek asked everyone to sign the Akron pledge and asked for the faculty to help students to protect one another. He noted that students are struggling with social isolation and are feeling disconnected. He suggested faculty

reach out and hoped that it would go a long way. He planned to go around the colleges and wanted to open up innovation within the constraints of the direction of the University. He also planned to discuss the strategic plan and ways to improve data collection.

He asked for a review of OAA and an identification of what faculty and students need out of the Provost's office. He planned to begin some search processes.

He briefly touched on the Faculty Senate the upcoming OAA review.

Senator Bisconti asked about the search process for the Arts and Sciences dean.

Provost Wiencek agreed that if the candidates are still interested and are comfortable with the situation they are coming into, then it would be appropriate to pick up.

Senator Hazlett asked that part-time faculty be invited to College meetings.

Provost Wiencek agreed that it would occur.

Senator Levin asked about the drop enrollment and how it compares to what was projected.

Provost Wiencek stated while the numbers were more encouraging, just over 7%, the first-year students were still in lower digits.

Senator Evans asked about the leadership structure in Arts and Sciences since it has become much larger.

Provost Wiencek urged the Senator to follow up with Interim Dean Urgo.

VIII. Senate Elections

Executive Committee (2 seats, 2-year terms)

For the first seat, Senator Nofziger nominated Senator Spiker. Senator Hazlett moved that nominations be closed and Senator Spiker be elected. The motion was adopted.

For the second two-year term, Senator Nofziger nominated Senator Srinivasan. Senator Bible moved that nominations be closed and Senator Srinivasan be elected. The motion was adopted.

Representatives to Graduate Council (2 representatives, 1-year terms)

Senator Hreno volunteered. Senator Maaki moved that nominations be closed and Senator Hreno be elected. The motion was adopted.

For the second two-year term, Senator Graor volunteered. Senator Howley moved that nominations be closed and Senator Graor be elected. The motion was adopted.

University Council (1 alternate, 3-year term)

Senator Nofziger nominated Kris Kraft. Senator Schulze moved that nominations be closed and be elected. The motion was adopted.

Senator Evans nominated John Nicholas. Senator Randby moved that nominations be closed and Nicholas be elected. The motion passed without dissent.

Ohio Faculty Council (1 seat. 2-year term)

Senator Nofziger nominated Senator Makki. Senator Evans moved that nominations be closed and Senator Makki be elected. The motion was approved.

IX. Report of the University Council Representatives - Senator Evans

The UC met three times to discuss preparations for fall 2020. There were three presentations on a variety of things. Senator Evans mentioned ZipAssist and noted the important work this group was doing. The UC asked for more details on the budget, and the group believed they were going to get more information.

X. New Business

Senator Klein invited more senators to join to the Academic Policies Committee and asked people to consider joining and stated that there was a need in Arts and Sciences, Education, and Nursing.

XI. Good of the Order

None.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 pm.

—Heather Howley, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to hhowley@uakron.edu or called in to x8914.

APPENDIX A

Course Proposals for Faculty – Summer 2020				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
2040:254	2040:254: The Black Experience from 1619-1877	Deleted	kc24	5/13/2020
2040:257	2040:257: The Black Experience 1877 - 1954	Deleted	kc24	5/13/2020
2040:258	2040:258: The Black Experience 1954 - Present	Deleted	kc24	5/13/2020
2860:122	2860:122: AC Circuits	Edited	gph	5/13/2020
2860:242	2860:242: Machinery Controls	Edited	gph	5/13/2020
2880:230	2880:230: 3-D Modeling Design	Edited	wac1	5/13/2020
7700:321	7700:321: Articulatory Phonologic Disorders	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:330	7700:330: Language Disorders	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:335	7700:335: Principles of Audiology	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:345	7700:345: Audiologic Treatment	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:365	7700:365: Anatomy Physiology of Speech Hearing	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:366	7700:366: Anatomy Physiology Laboratory	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:422	7700:422: Organic Disorders of Communication	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:445	7700:445: Multicultural Considerations for Audiologists Speech-Language Pathologists	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020
7700:446	7700:446: Observation and Clinical Techniques	Edited	jab171	5/13/2020

Program Proposals for Faculty Senate – Summer 2020				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
	: Certificate in Couple and Family Therapy	Added	hkatafiasz	5/13/2020
286001AAS	286001AAS: Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology	Edited	aem36	5/13/2020
286103BS	286103BS: Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology	Edited	aem36	5/13/2020

Program Proposals for Faculty Senate – Summer 2020				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
287103BS	287103BS: Automated Manufacturing Engineering Technology	Edited	wac1	5/13/2020