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The University of Akron Faculty Senate Chronicle

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Faculty Senate Chronicle March 2, 2023

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March 2, 2023

28 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

1. Approved a resolution from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to dissolve the Interdisciplinary Council and to form the ad hoc Interdisciplinary Committee (appendix A).
2. Approved a list of program and course proposals from the Curriculum Review Committee (appendix C).
3. Approved changes to university rules 3359-60-06.4 and 3359-60-06.2 brought by the Graduate Council (appendix D).

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MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING OF

March 2, 2023

The meeting of the Faculty Senate took place Thursday, March 2, 2023 in Law 180 and via Teams. Senate Chair Kathryn Budd called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

Of the current roster of 43 senators, 35 attended the meeting. Senators Bisconti, Brainard, Buldum, Garchar, Mudrey-Camino and Swanson were absent with notice. Senators Bible and Yi were absent without notice.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Budd noted the addition of the Research Council report. With no further additions and no corrections, the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

II. Adoption of minutes of February 2, 2023 meeting

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. Remarks of the Chair

Welcome to the March meeting of the Faculty Senate. The Senate is the legislative body of the faculty at the University level. Its meetings are relatively formal and are conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order. Senators who wish to be recognized should hold up their name card. Please use the mics on the tables when you speak, you will need to press the button to turn on the mic and then press the button again to shut the mic off when you are finished speaking. Don't forget to sign in on one of the attendance sheets. Those attending virtually should type "request" into the chat window and wait to be recognized.

Please be aware that both senate meetings and minutes are part of the public record, and members of the media are in attendance. Address comments to the chair to de-personalize any contentious

issues. And if I mispronounce your name, let me know the correct pronunciation so I can do better next time.

It is very good to be here with you in person. By coincidence, this meeting is the three-year anniversary of the last senate meeting before the pandemic upended our lives in ways both minor and profound. I don't think any of us anticipated how long it would be before we'd be back in person. Negotiating the new normal raises many questions, and while we intend to hold the remainder of the spring 2023 senate meetings in person, the Senate Executive Committee is considering whether senate meetings for the next academic year should be in person or via Teams. On one hand, online meetings are wonderfully convenient, and work very well for smaller groups. On the other, our online senate meetings do go suspiciously smoothly. The February meeting clocked in at 30 minutes – which may be a contender for the shortest senate meeting in the history of academia. While I appreciate the efficiency, I am concerned about the lack of discourse. True shared governance is only assured when your voices are heard. The EC will also be seeking your input regarding the time of senate meetings. We are aware that many classes are scheduled to end at 3:15pm, and perhaps a 3:30pm start time would make it easier for senators to attend. I'll ask for your thoughts on these two questions during the Good of the Order agenda item.

Today you will be asked to recommend the dissolution of the Interdisciplinary Council and approve the formation of a senate Ad hoc Interdisciplinary Committee. The Council was formed through a recommendation to the President by the senate in 2017 as a separate entity that reported to the Provost and senate. As Chair Liz Erickson notes in a communication to the EC, The University of Akron has a distinguished record in the number and quality of interdisciplinary activities, but because our disciplines are silo-ed in separate colleges with different policies and communication structures, there are barriers to interdisciplinary research and teaching. Some of the original charges for the Council have been resolved, but issues such as load hour allocation and the lack of cross listing of courses in the Bulletin remain. There is also a need to examine any barriers to transdisciplinary work that affect our ability to collaborate with colleagues at other universities.

The pandemic and changing administration brought challenges for the Council, and in discussions with Liz Erickson, the Office of Academic Affairs, and others involved in the IDC, it was determined that re-creating the Council as a senate committee would provide better integration within the established shared governance structure. It will also give the group the support and structure it needs to create and recommend policy.

Therefore, the FSEC is recommending the dissolution of the Interdisciplinary Council and the creation of an Ad hoc Interdisciplinary Committee during the Executive Committee Report.

Earlier this week, as part of the Rethinking Race event, a group of students gave a panel discussion on their perspectives regarding diversity at the University. Moderated by Undergraduate Student Government President J.P. Garchar, this was the first-time faculty have heard from students in this way, and I found their suggestions to make our community more inclusive for all enormously helpful. For those who couldn't be at the event, here are a few of their suggestions:

- Please respect your students' pronouns.
- Maintain high standards and enforce deadlines. Students appreciate the structure and recognize that it helps them prepare for their careers.
- Imposter syndrome is real, be sure you communicate to your students that they belong here. TAs can help with this, ask them to provide support and encouragement to students who might be too intimidated to approach you directly.
- Office hours help with comprehension of subject matter. Panel participants requested reminders and encouragement to come to those throughout the semester and not just on the first day of class.
- Demonstrate empathy. Connect with your students as fully rounded human beings who have a life beyond your classroom. Students reported that those kinds of interactions with their faculty were fundamental to their sense of inclusion at the University.
- Panel participants noted that pre-Covid, they saw more faculty at events outside of class time and expressed a wish to see you at these again.
- As passionately as you feel about your class, understand that yours is just one of five or six classes a student is taking, as well as holding down a job and trying to integrate into campus life through extracurriculars. They are juggling a lot.
- When asked how faculty can help students not fall through the cracks, it was recommended that you encourage students to get involved in extracurriculars, particularly if they are related to their area of study in any way.
- Freshmen and sophomores often need help connecting with each other. The panel noted that group activities in class are an excellent way for them to find study partners and make friends.

- When asked for ideas about improving class participation, the students said that while participating can be stressful, they know it's vital to their success. They suggested that faculty form small discussion groups who would then report to the larger group as a way to help them feel safer sharing their perspective.

Thank you all for listening, and for doing everything you can to make certain all of our students know they belong at The University of Akron.

And finally, as we enter the last hectic weeks of the spring semester and we continue to support our students, serve our university, and maintain our research practice, please remember to take care of yourselves. You must fill your own cup first - in whatever way you do that - to be able to give to others.

This concludes the remarks of the Chair.

IV. Special Announcements

None.

V. Report of the Executive Committee

The EC met with Provost Wiencek and Senior Vice Provost Price. We discussed the impact of the Workday transition on faculty searches, ways to support quality teaching at UA, and the role of shared governance in ensuring continuity of initiatives with employee turnover.

A senate topics submission button has been added to the senate webpage to allow senators to submit questions, suggestions, or concerns related to the academic mission of the University.

The EC appointed Andy Costigan to the Student Affairs Committee.

The EC met with Dr. Seher and Dr. Behrman to discuss the Interdisciplinary Council and brings a motion today to establish an ad hoc committee.

Finally, the EC prepared for our return to in-person senate meetings.

For more information on these discussions, please contact Angela Hartsock.

The EC brought forward the resolution recommending the dissolution of the Interdisciplinary Council and the establishment of a Faculty Senate ad hoc Interdisciplinary Committee (Appendix A). Chair Budd called for debate; none ensued. The motion was approved. Chair Budd thanked Liz Erickson for her dedication to the Council.

VII. Remarks of the Provost

Provost Wiencek greeted the senate and acknowledged the attendance of Board Member Saxon.

Enrollment: The traditional enrollment cycle is changing as students are applying to fewer schools. Applications are lagging but confirmations, a key indicator, are up. Some issues with international recruiting are hopefully solved for this cycle. The provost thanked everyone for their continued engagement. He emphasized that faculty interactions with prospective students are crucial; he encouraged faculty with questions to contact Kim Gentile or VP McKellips.

Software: The enrollment management team is working to revitalize our system (Slate) to make information broadly accessible and ease contact with prospective students. The WorkDay implementation is working forward.

Budget: CFO Grundy is engaging in budget conversations and planning within units. Facilities built eight to ten years ago are still impacting the budget but there is an opportunity to move money around. The AIC and UC Budget and Finance Committee will be key partners in this process. There will also be upcoming meetings with deans.

Transfer Credit: Provost Wiencek acknowledged the work of the APC and Senator Klein. He expressed his confidence that a solution will be reached.

Chair Budd invited questions for Provost Wiencek.

Senator Klein shared that the APC expects to bring the transfer credit proposal to the April senate meeting.

VIII. Committee Reports

Computing and Communications Technology Committee – Scott Randby

Senator Randby shared that the committee is working on the availability of HDMI cords in classrooms and will then address faculty laptop needs including the current refresh cycle. (appendix B)

Curriculum Review Committee – Linda Saliga

Senator Saliga brought forward thirty-one program proposals and forty-five course proposals with a committee recommendation to approve (Appendix C).

Chair Budd called for debate; none ensued. The motion was approved unanimously.

IX. Akron-AAUP report— Senator Bisconti

In Senator Bisconti's absence, Senator Weinstein addressed the senate on behalf of the Akron-AAUP. The chapter will be hosting another day in the life of a faculty member for the Board of Trustees and will be hosting Board Member Meyer on April 2, 2023. Faculty interested in participating can contact the Akron-AAUP.

The chapter is also planning a social event at the August 17, 2023, Akron Rubber Ducks game.

X. Graduate Council report – Senator Karriker

Senator Karriker brought forward the motion to modify university rules 3359-60-06.2 and 3359-60-06.4 related to the full-time enrollment designation for graduate students (Appendix D).

Chair Budd called for debate on the motion; none ensued. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Senator Karriker noted that VP McKellips attended the last council meeting and discussed international enrollment and the reinstatement of ELI in Fall 2023. Senator Karriker also shared the opportunity for RAPIDS grants for workforce development.

XI. Research Council Report – Senator Pellegrino

Senator Pellegrino presented a formula (Appendix E) to assist faculty in considering the tradeoffs and consequences of removing the academic tax. The faculty on the council propose more conversation and encourage senators to bring the formula to their departments for discussion. Senator Kidd asked for clarification on the differing charges related to different graduate programs. Senator Makki asked if there was discussion around service-oriented grants. Senator Pellegrino stated this was a policy for all types of grants.

XII. GSG report—Senator Swanson

No report

XIII. USG report—Senator Garchar

Senator Garchar submitted a written report (Appendix F).

XIV. Report of University Council Representatives – Senator Evans

No report.

XV. New Business

None.

XVI. Good of the Order

Chair Budd asked the senate for input on senate meeting modality (online versus in-person) and time (a 3:30PM start time) for academic year 2023-2024.

Senator Klein supported a 3:30PM start time. Chair Budd expressed enjoying being able to read the room during the meeting. Senator Elbuluk asked about classes being held in Teams. Provost Wienczek noted that some classes are being delivered online. Senator Datta pointed out that the 5:30PM end time would interfere with evening classes. Senator Klein indicated, for her, the online mode is acceptable.

Chair Budd asked the room; the majority of senators indicated support for in-person. Senator Franks asked for clarification on whether some senators have pushed to remain online. Chair Budd clarified that there has been confusion around modality, attendance, and the ability to vote. Pre-COVID if a senator was absent, they didn't vote. People appreciate flexibility to attend virtually when not well, but we need to have a clear policy. Senator Stoyhoff voiced support for an in-person meeting with a virtual option as long as senators can vote. Chair Budd concurred and noted a desire to reserve the virtual option for those with medical need.

XVII. Adjournment

Chair Budd adjourned the meeting at 4:00 pm.

—Angela Hartsock, Secretary.

Questions and comments about the minutes can be emailed to ahartsock1@uakron.edu.

APPENDIX A

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee recommends that the Senate adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, that Faculty Senate recommends the dissolution of the Interdisciplinary Council; and

Resolved, that a Faculty Senate ad hoc Interdisciplinary Committee be established for the purpose of recommending to the Faculty Senate policies to facilitate university-wide, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary activities and making to the Faculty Senate a recommendation concerning the need for a standing Interdisciplinary Committee. The Committee shall include one non-voting, ex officio member designated by the Provost.

Rationale:

The University of Akron has a distinguished record in interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research and teaching and recognizes the value that working across disciplines brings to our learning community. This committee will identify systemic barriers to interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary activities and make policy recommendations to overcome them.

APPENDIX B**Computing & Communications Technologies Committee Report**

The CCTC met on Friday, February 10, 2023.

The committee discussed the technology available in the technology-enhanced classrooms. The main item discussed was the fact that the HDMI ports in the AV wall boxes do not have audio capability. The committee plans to send an inquiry to Audio Visual Services asking if it is possible to upgrade the HDMI ports.

The next meeting of the CCTC will be on March 10.

Scott Randby
CCTC Chair

APPENDIX C

CRC Report
3/2/2023

CRC brings forth thirty-one program proposals and forty- five course proposals for the Senate's approval.

New Programs

Certificates

Computational Data Science
Construction Field Operations
Digital Marketing Certificate
Predictive Analytics and Machine Learning Certificate
Quantitative Reasoning in Business
TESOL Endorsement for K-12 Teachers
Statistical Data Science

Programs

BA in Economics and JD 3+3 Accelerated
Science, Construction Management Option

Inactivated Programs/ Certificates

299105C Residential Building Technology
420005BS Chemical Engineering, Co-Op Option
425005BS Corrosion Engineering, Co-Op Option
430005BS Civil Engineering, Co-Op Option
460005BS Mechanical Engineering, Co-Op Option
555204C Sport and Exercise Science Sport Management

Updated Programs

286001AAS Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology
286103BS Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technology
292001AAS Mechanical Engineering Technology
292104BS Mechanical Engineering Technology
299103AAS Construction Engineering Technology
299103BS Construction Engineering Technology
299104C Construction Management
299111AAS Construction Field Operations
315000BS Chemistry
315001BS Chemistry, Polymer Option
315002BS Biochemistry
325000BA Economics

346004BS Computer Science
420000BS Chemical Engineering
425000BS Corrosion Engineering
460000BS Mechanical Engineering
620007MSA Accounting, Accelerated BS/MS
8200002BS Nursing, RN/BSN
982100M Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering
C60005ZMA Strategic Communication, MA
C60100BA Public Relations
C6104BA Media Studies

Course Proposals

New Courses

MATH143 Technical Algebra and Trig I -Expanded
MATH144 Technical Algebra and Trig I
MATH154 Technical Algebra and Trig 2
MECE166 ME Freshman Design Project
MGMT202 Introduction to Sport Business

Updated Courses

AESE420 Model Based Systems Engineering
BMEN100 Introduction to Biomedical Engineering
BMEN300 Biomaterials
COET150 Plan Reading
COET237 Materials Testing I
COET238 Materials Testing II
COMM600 Introduction to Graduate Study in Communication
CORE300 Introduction to Corrosion Science and Engineering
CORE305 Corrosion Prevention
CPEN422 Embedded Systems Interfacing
ELEN381 Energy Conversion
EXER240 Principles of Sports Medicine
EXER275 Clinical Assessment and Evaluation of Lower Extremities
Exer342 Clinical Assessment and Evaluation of Upper Extremities
EXER445 Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation
GNEN300 Cooperative Education Work Period
MECE165 Tools for Mechanical Engineering
MECE402 Senior Seminar
MGMT201 Management: Principles and Concepts
NURS211 Foundations of Nursing Practice I
NURS2117 Pathophysiology for Nurses
NURS225 Health Assessment
NURS230 Nursing Pharmacology
PLYE450 Engineering Properties of Polymers
PLYS403 Polymer Chemistry

RESP420 Advanced Neonatal/ Pediatrics for Respiratory Therapists

Inactivated Courses

COET248 Construction Graphics

COET362 Advanced Elements of Structures

COET471 Understanding LEED Guidelines

COET479 CPC Seminar

CPEN220 Digital Logic Design

EDIS439 Collaboration with Families and Professionals in Early Childhood

EDIS464 Assessment and Evaluation in Early Childhood Specialization

ELEN353 Electromagnetics I

ELEN354 Electromagnetics II

PLYS407 Polymer Science

PSYC700 Survey of Projective Techniques

PSYC764 Cognitive Assessment

PSYC765 Objective Personality Assessment

PSYC766 Applications of Assessment

APPENDIX D**3359-60-06.2 Graduate student standards.****(A) International students.**

- (1) An international student is normally admitted only in the fall, and all credentials should be received by the graduate school by the first of April.
- (2) An international student should access the online graduate application through the graduate school website and submit the required application fee. An official transcript and degree from all institutions and universities attended must be submitted. Original records in languages other than English must be accompanied by exact English translations and certified by the school, U.S. consulate, or other legal certifying authority.
- (3) An international student should submit to the graduate school the declaration and certification of finances, an original statement from the bank showing availability of sufficient funds to cover the cost of the first year of study, and a copy of the passport. The graduate school will prepare the certificate of eligibility (I-20A/B or DS-2019) upon receipt of adequate financial support, copy of the passport, and admission to the university.
- (4) International applicants, United States citizens, and permanent residents whose native language is not English must submit evidence that they have a sufficient level of English to undertake graduate studies at the university of Akron. After submitting acceptable academic credentials and proof of English proficiency, applicants who are fully admitted may enroll in graduate course work and be eligible for university of Akron funded assistantships, fellowships, or scholarships. Prospective teaching assistants must achieve a passing score on the UADEPT (the "University of Akron Developed English Proficiency Test"), or a twenty-three or greater on the speaking component of the internet-based TOEFL (the "Test of English as a Foreign Language").
- (5) Applicants to graduate programs can demonstrate their English proficiency in one of the following ways:
 - (a) A minimum score of five hundred fifty on the paper-based TOEFL, two hundred thirteen on the computer-based TOEFL, or seventy-nine or higher on the internet-based TOEFL. (The following departments require a higher standard of proficiency: English and history require a TOEFL of 580/237/92; and biomedical engineering requires a TOEFL of 590/243/96.) Scores more than two years old will not be accepted; or
 - (b) A minimum score of 6.5 on the IELTS (the "International English Language Testing System"), which is managed by the British council. Scores more than two years old will not be accepted; or
 - (c) Successful completion of a full course of study in the advanced level of ELI (the "English Language Institute") at the university of Akron. ELI is an intensive (twenty hours a week) program in English for academic purposes. The advanced level course of study

is offered every fall, spring, and summer according to the university's academic calendar; or

(d) Successful completion of twenty-four credit hours of upper-level undergraduate or eighteen credit hours of graduate coursework at a United States university or college in which English is the primary language of instruction. Successful completion is defined as maintaining a 3.0 cumulative grade point average in full-time, continuous studies. Applicants must submit original transcripts of their coursework; or

(e) Successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate program at a university outside the United States in which English is the language of administration and instruction. English must be used for all administrative functions and for all areas of instruction (with the exception of foreign language courses) including course lectures, materials, discussions, readings, and writing assignments. Applicants must submit an original official document from the undergraduate or graduate institution certifying that all of the administrative functions and instruction are conducted in English. The document must be signed by an officer of the institution and carry an official seal. The dean of the graduate school at the university of Akron will review the submitted documentation and inform the applicant if he or she has satisfied the English requirement. The decision will be final.

(B) Non-accredited American school graduates. A student holding a baccalaureate degree from a non-accredited American college or university, if otherwise qualified, is required to complete at least ten semester credits of postbaccalaureate work at a 3.00 level before being considered for admission to the graduate school. The accreditation status of the school at the time of the student's graduation shall apply. A student should consult with the department head in the major field to develop a postbaccalaureate program.

(C) Grades.

(1) A student admitted to graduate study under any status at the university of Akron is expected to maintain a minimum 3.00 average (4.00 = "A") at all times. A grade-point average of 3.00 or better is required for graduation. Any student whose average falls below 3.00 is no longer in good standing in the graduate school and considered on probation. No more than six semester credits of "C" grades may be counted toward the degree. In computing cumulative averages, "D" grades are treated as "F" grades. The dean of graduate studies and research, with the approval of the department head, may dismiss anyone who fails to make satisfactory progress toward declared goals or who accumulates six semester credits of "C+" or below. The accumulation of six semester credits of "F" will result in mandatory dismissal. A student dismissed from the graduate school for academic reasons may not be readmitted for one calendar year, and then only if evidence for expecting improved performance is submitted and found acceptable.

(2) Official academic records are maintained with a grade-point system as follows:

Grade	Quality Points

"A"	4.0
"A-"	3.7
"B+"	3.3
"B"	3.0
"B-"	2.7
"C+"	2.3
"C"	2.0
"C-"	1.7
"D+"	0.0
"D"	0.0
"D-"	0.0
"F"	0.0

(3) The following grades may also appear on the term grade reports or on the official academic record. There are no grade points associated with these grades.

- (a) "I" - Incomplete: Indicates that the student has done passing work in the course but that some part of the work is, for good and acceptable reason, not complete at the end of the term. Failure to make up the omitted work satisfactorily by the end of the following term, not including summer sessions, converts the "I" to an "F". When the work is satisfactorily completed within the allotted time, the "I" is converted to whatever grade the student has earned. (Note: If instructors wish to extend the "I" grade beyond the following term for which the student is registered, prior to the end of the term they must notify the office of the registrar in writing of the extension and indicate the date of its termination. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements to make up the incomplete work. The faculty member should submit the new grade to the office of the registrar in writing.)
- (b) "IP" - In progress: Indicates that the student has not completed the scheduled coursework during the term because the nature of the course does not permit completion within a single term, such as work toward a thesis.
- (c) "PI" - Permanent incomplete: Indicates that the student's instructor and the instructor's dean have for special reason authorized the change of an incomplete ("I") to a permanent incomplete ("PI").
- (d) "W" - Withdraw: Indicates that the student registered for the course but withdrew officially sometime after the second week of the term.
- (e) "NGR" - No grade reported: Indicates that, at the time grades were processed for the present issue of the record, no grade had been reported by the instructor.
- (f) "INV" - Invalid: Indicates the grade reported by the instructor for the course was improperly noted and thus unacceptable for proper processing.

(4) Any student whose grade-point average falls below 3.00 is no longer in good standing in the graduate school and will be placed on probation. In consultation with the college or

department, as appropriate, the dean of the graduate school will dismiss full-time students who do not return to good academic standing within two consecutive semesters (excluding summers) and part-time students who do not return to good academic standing within the attempting of fifteen additional credits.

For the purpose of administration of the full-time and part-time provisions of this policy, full-time and part-time status are determined by the semester in which the student goes on probation. Full-time enrollment constitutes nine or more graduate hours; part-time is less than nine graduate hours. Furthermore, "full-time enrollment" shall be defined as one or more graduate hours for students satisfying one of the following conditions:

(A) Doctoral students in their final semester of study having completed all degree requirements except dissertation;

(B) International graduate students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center; or,

(C) Doctoral students in accreditation-mandated internships of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the academic program.

~~For doctoral students who are in their final semester of study and have completed all degree requirements except the dissertation, and for international students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center, one or more graduate hours constitute full-time enrollment.~~

The dean of the graduate school, with the approval of the relevant department head may also dismiss anyone who fails to make satisfactory progress toward declared goals or who accumulates six semester credits of "C+" or below. The accumulation of six semester credits of "F" will result in mandatory dismissal.

A student dismissed from the graduate school for academic reasons may not be readmitted for one calendar year, and then only if evidence for expecting satisfactory performance is submitted and found acceptable.

- (D) Repeating courses. Any graduate course may be repeated once for credit. However, the degree requirements shall be increased by the credit hour value of each course repeated. The hours and grades of both the original and the repeated section shall be used in computing the grade-point average. Required courses in which a "D" or "F" was received must be repeated.
- (E) Transfer students. A graduate student matriculated in the graduate school of another college or university who wishes to transfer to the university of Akron to continue graduate education must be in good standing at the other school.
- (F) Course load. A full load of coursework at the graduate level is nine to fifteen semester credits including audit. For doctoral students in their final semester of study having completed all

~~degree requirements except dissertation; international graduate students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center; or, doctoral students in accreditation-mandated internships of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the academic program, doctoral students who are in their final semester of study and have completed all degree requirements except the dissertation, and for international students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center,~~ one or more graduate hours constitute full-time enrollment.

- (G) Registration. The responsibility for being properly registered lies with the student, who should consult with the assigned adviser in preparing a program of courses and/or research. A schedule of courses, hours, class location and registration procedures is obtainable from the registrar.
- (H) Entrance qualifying examinations. The use of examinations to determine admissibility to enter a graduate program or eligibility to continue in one is the prerogative of the departments offering graduate programs. The department has the right to select the examination and minimum acceptable level of performance. Information and procedure may be obtained from the head of the appropriate department.

Effective: 08/26/2018

Certification:

M. Celeste Cook
Secretary
Board of Trustees

Promulgated Under: 111.15

Statutory Authority: 3359

Rule Amplifies: 3359

Prior Effective Dates: Prior to 11/04/1977, 08/30/1979, 01/30/1981,
12/31/1986, 05/22/1991, 05/09/2014, 02/01/2015,
08/24/2015

3359-60-06.4 Doctoral degree requirements.

- (A) General requirements. A master's degree is not a prerequisite for the doctorate; however, the first year of study after the baccalaureate will be substantially the same for both the master's and doctoral student. No specific number or sequence of courses constitutes a doctoral program or assures attainment of the degree. A formal degree program consists of a combination of courses, seminars and individual study and research that meet the minimum requirements of the graduate school and those of the committee for each individual student.
- (B) Admission.
- (1) Usually, a student is not officially considered as a doctoral student until completion of a master's program or its equivalent and approval for further study.
 - (2) A minimum grade-point average of 3.00 is required for graduation of a candidate for all doctoral degrees.
- (C) Continuous enrollment requirement. The graduate school requires that a doctoral student register for a minimum of one graduate credit as approved by his or her adviser during each fall and spring semester. Individual departments may exceed this minimum requirement. A doctoral student should consult with his or her academic department.
- (D) Residency requirements.
- (1) A doctoral student may meet the degree requirements of the graduate school and department by full-time study or a combination of full- and part-time study.
 - (2) The minimum residency requirement for a doctoral candidate in all programs is at least two consecutive semesters of full-time study and involvement in departmental activities. The summer sessions may count as one semester, provided that the candidate is enrolled for a minimum total of six semester credit hours per combined summer terms. Programs vary in their requirements beyond the minimum, e.g., credits or courses to be completed, proper time to fulfill the residency requirement and acceptability of part-time employment. "Full-time study" is defined as nine to fifteen semester credits, except for graduate teaching and research assistants for whom full-time study is specified by the assistantship agreements. ~~For doctoral students who are in their final semester of study and have completed all degree requirements except the dissertation, and for international students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center, one or more graduate hours constitute full-time enrollment. Furthermore, "full-time enrollment" shall be defined as one or more graduate hours for students satisfying one of the following conditions:~~
 - (A) Doctoral students in their final semester of study having completed all degree requirements except dissertation;

(B) International graduate students participating in curricular practical training (CPT) and/or academic training (AT) opportunities of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the international center; or,

(C) Doctoral students in accreditation-mandated internships of thirty or more hours per week with approval from the academic program.

~~The summer sessions may count as one semester, provided that the candidate is enrolled for a minimum total of six semester credit hours per combined summer terms. Programs vary in their requirements beyond the minimum, e.g., credits or courses to be completed, proper time to fulfill the residency requirement and acceptability of part-time employment.~~

- (3) Before a doctoral student begins residency, the student's adviser and the student shall prepare a statement indicating the manner in which the residency requirement will be met. Any special conditions must be detailed and will require the approval of the student's committee, the departmental faculty members approved to direct doctoral dissertations, the collegiate dean and the dean of graduate studies and research.
- (E) Time limit. All doctoral requirements must be completed within ten years of starting coursework at the university of Akron or elsewhere. This refers to graduate work after receipt of a master's degree or the completion of thirty semester credits. Extension of up to one year may be granted in unusual circumstances by the dean of graduate studies and research upon written request by the student and recommendation by the adviser, department head, and college dean.
- (F) Credits.
- (1) A doctorate is conferred in recognition, of high attainment and productive scholarship in some special field of learning as evidenced by the satisfactory completion of prescribed program of study and research; the preparation of a dissertation based on independent research; and the successful passing of examinations covering the special field of study and the general field of which this subject is a part. Consequently, the emphasis is on mastery of the subject rather than a set number of credits. Doctoral programs generally encompass the equivalent of at least three years of full-time study at the graduate level. A minimum of fifty per cent of the total credits above the baccalaureate required in each student's doctoral program must be completed at the university of Akron. A maximum of six workshop credits may be applied to a doctoral degree. Such credits must be relevant to the degree program, recommended by the student's adviser and approved by the dean of graduate studies and research.
- (2) No graduate credit may be received for courses taken by examination or for five-hundred-numbered courses previously taken at the four-hundred number course level as an undergraduate without advance approval from the dean of graduate studies and research.
- (G) Transfer credits.
- (1) Up to fifty per cent of the total graduate credits above the baccalaureate required in a doctoral program may be transferred from an accredited college or university, including the

university of Akron. All transfer credit must be at the "A" or "B" level in graduate courses. The courses must be relevant to the student's program as determined by the student's academic department and fall within the ten-year limit if beyond the master's level. A student already admitted to the university of Akron must receive prior approval from his or her academic department for transfer courses taken elsewhere.

- (2) A student admitted with a master's degree or equivalent will have work evaluated in relation to the student's program to determine transfer credit. Thirty semester credits are transferable from a master's degree. A block transfer of credit does not apply toward the student's ten-year time limit for degree completion.
 - (3) A student seeking to transfer credits must have full admission and be in good standing at the university. Transfer credits shall not be recorded until a student has completed twelve semester credits at the university of Akron with a grade-point average of 3.00 or better.
- (H) Language requirements. There is no university-wide foreign language requirement for the Ph.D. The student is required to demonstrate one of the following skills depending upon the particular program.
- (1) Plan A: Reading knowledge, with the aid of a dictionary, of two approved foreign languages. At the discretion of the major department an average of "B" in the second year of a college-level course in a language will be accepted as evidence of proficiency in reading knowledge for that language. English may be considered as one of the approved foreign languages for a student whose first language is not English; and demonstrated competence in a research technique (e.g., statistics and/or computers) may be substituted for one of the two foreign languages.
 - (2) Plan B: Comprehensive knowledge of one approved foreign language, including reading without the aid of a dictionary and such additional requirements as the department may impose.
 - (3) Plan C: In certain doctoral programs the demonstration of competence in appropriate research skills may serve as a substitute for the foreign language requirements.
 - (4) Plan D: In certain doctoral programs there is no foreign language requirement.
- (I) Optional department requirements. Each department may determine requirements for a doctoral student with regard to entrance examinations, qualifying examinations, preliminary or comprehensive examinations and course sequences.
- (J) Dissertation and oral defense.
- (1) The ability to do independent research and demonstrate competence in scholarly exposition must be demonstrated by the preparation of a dissertation on some topic related to the major subject. It should represent a significant contribution to knowledge, be presented in a scholarly manner, reveal the candidate's ability to do independent research and indicate experience in research techniques.

APPENDIX E

Research Council Report
March 2, 2023

Senate Colleagues,

This report summarizes the activity of the newly established Research Council. Our first meeting in January was an introduction to each other and a conversation about the work of the Research Division out of the Graduate School/ORA led by Dr. Susanne Bausch, VP for Research and Business Engagement & Dean of the Graduate School.

- University-sponsored workshop, Planning and Writing Successful Grant Proposals - Atkisson Training Group (ATG) for faculty members to attend 27 Feb to 2 March

A task force from the Research Division worked to tackle a faculty complaint about what is known as the Academic Year tax on summer salaries established prior the VP's hiring. A survey in the fall, looking for faculty member input on alternatives that are revenue neutral to the university yielded multiple perspectives. The largest voice was to eliminate the "tax" in favor of paying full graduate student tuition through grants. The implications for a policy based on this input would mean that, if the agency allows funding for tuition, faculty would need to budget a graduate student's entire tuition (commensurate with effort on the grant) rather than the \$5,000 per year tuition (plus 2:1 summer:AY salary) under the current policy. If faculty cannot obtain enough funding to cover the tuition for their grant-funded research assistants, this could result in a reduction in graduate students on research assistantships with a full tuition waiver and could reduce research productivity that is facilitated through the graduate student workforce if students choose not to self-pay their tuition or cannot obtain tuition funding from other sources. It was noted that many other research universities do require faculty to budget full tuition for their graduate students on their research grants. The Vice President provided the following illustration to help individual faculty members calculate what cost differences might be:

Graduate student tuition of \$5k/yr/student + 2:1 \$summer salary:\$AY salary (CURRENT)
vs (example)

Graduate student tuition of \$10,610.40/yr/student in-state; \$18,023.52/yr/student non-resident
(assuming 100% effort, 9+9+6 cr/yr/student and \$442.10 in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident)

For Reference:

\$461.45/cr in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident Business
\$610.00 in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident MPH
\$579.0 in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident MFA
\$468.13 in-state + \$454.00 surcharge/cr non-resident Audiology
\$507.55 in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident Nurse Anesthesia
\$25,000 total MTax Direct
\$33,000 total weekend professional MBA
\$442.10 in-state + \$308.88 surcharge/cr non-resident remainder of programs in BCAS (including Education), CEPS, CHHS

The conversation has continued through the February meeting and will be taken back to research-intensive units in March and feedback brought back to the Research Council for further discussion at the March meeting.

Dr. Bausch also encouraged anyone planning on submitting a grant to be proactive in submitting all materials as there are personnel vacancies in key roles.

Also:

- The Research Division is going through a voluntary NCURA (National Council of University Research Administrators) peer review and a site visit from April 10-12, 2023 to gain outside feedback on better serving the research mission of the University.
- The University will participate in Innovation Day on March 24, 2023 at the Design Innovation Hub, Kent State University - cohosted by NEOPURA
- Faculty who have applied for or thought of applying for Regionally Aligned Priorities in Delivering Skills (RAPIDS) funding will have a larger one-time large funding pot this year. Everyone is encouraged to have their ideas formed as it is expected to be a quick application process for an upcoming call. <https://highered.ohio.gov/initiatives/workforce-development/rapids>
- Upcoming Business engagement workshop,
 - March 17, 2023 - 10-11 am – STUN 310 - Interacting with potential industry and community partners to expand your research and scholarship potential – Elyse Ball
 - 7 April 2023 - 10-11 am – STUN 335 - UA's legal policies pertaining to research and IP – John Reilly

Respectfully submitted by Faculty Senate Representatives:
Dawn Johnson, Psychology
Jeffrey Pellegrino, Disaster Science & Emergency Services

APPENDIX F

Faculty Senate Report: The Undergraduate Student Government –
3/1/23

1. Thank you for attending yesterday's event!
 - a. Thank you to those of you who came to yesterday's event in SU 312. We hope you gained a better understanding of the student perspective within the classroom on diversity, equity, and inclusion as well as how to be more inclusive in your own classroom.
2. USG Elections Underway:
 - a. USG is currently in an election cycle for our President, Vice President, and senator positions. This election will end on the Friday before spring break, and I will be in touch with you all post-spring break on introducing the new leaders of this organization.
3. Student Trustee Applications Closing Soon:
 - a. A final reminder that the Student Trustee Application closes on Monday, March 6th at 5 PM and applications are due to either our office or the Department of Student Life's front desk.
4. Safety Walks Continuing:
 - a. We are continuing to work with UC Physical Environment, UAPD, and the city in facilitating safety walks to better enhance our physical campus and its safety features. We are planning the next one currently, which will likely go into the South of Exchange Neighborhood. If interested, please reach out to me!
5. OSGS – A Successful Summit!:
 - a. Two weekends ago, our student government welcomed 15 public and private institutions from across the state, and their respective student governments to discuss issues that each of our bodies are facing and further advocate for students at large. Thank you to those

of you who either spoke at, helped facilitate, or contributed to this summit's success in some way shape, or form.

6. Mental Health First Aid Certification:

- a. USG is currently working with the Counseling and Testing Center to get members of USG and the student body mental health first aid certified. These pieces of training will take place this week on March 3rd and next Friday, March 10th