



Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda  
Friday, May 6, 2016  
1:00 PM until adjournment  
Legends' Room, Jack Stephens Center

I. Welcome and Roll Call

II. Review of Minutes

III. New Business (part one)

**A. Motion FS\_2016\_17.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) To Approve 2016 Spring and Summer Graduates

**Be it resolved** that those applicants completing all requirements for various degrees in the 2016 Spring and Summer Semesters shall be approved for graduation. See attachment A for a list of candidates for graduation, current as of 4/25/16.

**B. Motion FS\_2016\_18.** Athletics Committee (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, no second required) Commend Women's Basketball Team

**Whereas** it has been an extremely exciting season for the UALR Woman's Basketball Team going 20 - 13.

**And Whereas** this record brought national exposure to the University with an at large bid to the Woman's National Invitational Tournament.

**Therefore be it Resolved** that the UALR Faculty Senate recognizes their contribution to UALR and commends their achievement with letters of distinction.

**C. Motion FS\_2016\_19.** Athletics Committee (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, no second required) Commend Men's Basketball Teams (Athletics Committee)

**Whereas** it has been an extremely exciting season for the UALR Men's Basketball Team

**And Whereas** they achieved a monumental accomplishment by going 30 - 5 and winning the Sun Belt Conference and the Sun Belt Tournament in the same year

**And Whereas** first year Head Coach, Chris Beard, brought honor to the University by being selected as Coach of the Year in the Sun Belt Conference for 2016

**And Whereas** by winning the Sun Belt Conference Championship, the program was selected to represent the Conference in the field of 68 teams for the 2016 NCAA National Championship Tournament

**And Whereas** in the first round of Tournament play, the Little Rock Trojans stunned Purdue from the Big Ten conference 85 to 83 in double overtime, moving them into the field of 32

**And Whereas** with these accomplishments, the team and coaches have brought national exposure and distinction to our university.

**Therefore Be it Resolved** that the UALR Faculty Senate recognizes their contribution to UALR and commends their success with letters of distinction and a trophy presentation from a grateful university community.

**D. Motion FS\_2016\_20.** Past Presidents of the Assembly (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, second required) Commend Joel Anderson (Past Presidents)

**Motion to be added next week.**

#### IV. Reports

- A. Arkansas Department of Higher Education – Brett Powell
- B. Chancellor’s Report – Joel Anderson
- C. Provost’s Report – Zulma Toro
- D. Council on Core Curriculum and Policies – Belinda Blevins-Knabe
- E. Undergraduate Council – Mike Tramel
- F. Graduate Council – Brian Berry

#### V. Old Business

**A. Motion FS\_2016\_16.** Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Policy Review (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, postponed from 4/15/2016 meeting, resumed at the 5/6/2016 meeting) Revisions to Judicial Policy

**Be it Resolved** that all past legislation on Judicial Policy be replaced by the Judicial Policy in the agenda for the April 14, 2016 Faculty Senate meeting.

#### VI. New Business (part two)

**A. Motion FS\_2016\_21.** Academic Calendar and Schedules Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) To Approve AY18-19 calendar

**Be it resolved** that the proposed AY18-19 calendar without Fall Break, shown in Attachment B be approved.

**B. Motion FS\_2016\_22.** Graduate Council (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, no second required) Graduate Student Regulations

**Be it Resolved** that legislation from the February 16, 1990 faculty senate meeting regarding graduate admissions requirements be modified as follows (underline denotes addition, strikethrough denotes deletion):

**Graduate Admission Status**

A student may be granted admission to the Graduate School in one of the following categories.

**Regular**

~~Students who have completed all admission forms, have an undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.7 overall or 3.0 on the last 60 hours (out of a possible 4.0), and meet the standards of a particular graduate degree program may be admitted as regular students. Students holding master's degrees or other advanced degrees must show evidence of satisfactory graduate performance (usually 3.0 or above grade point average).~~

Regular Admission to a UALR graduate program requires that the applicant be in good standing with all previous institutions and meet at least one of the following requirements:

- A baccalaureate degree with a cumulative GPA of 2.7/4.0 from a regionally-accredited, domestic institution or an international institution recognized by the International Association of Universities with substantially the same undergraduate program as found at UALR.
- A baccalaureate degree with a GPA of 3.0/4.0 in the last 60 hours from a regionally-accredited, domestic institution or an international institution recognized by the International Association of Universities with substantially the same undergraduate program as found at UALR.
- An advanced degree (master's or doctoral) with a cumulative GPA of 3.0/4.0 from a regionally accredited, domestic institution or an international institution recognized by the International Associate of Universities.

International students should refer to the Graduate School International Student Admission Policy for additional required application materials.

In addition to the minimum requirements stipulated above, students must satisfy the requirements of the program to which they are applying in order to be granted regular status. Students should consult the Graduate Catalog for program specific admission requirements. Some degree programs require that the scores from standardized tests, such as the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), Miller Analogies Test (MAT), or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), be submitted as part of the application portfolio. Generally, scores more than five years old are not accepted. Test scores alone do not determine admission to a program, but are one piece of data used in the consideration process. Letters of recommendation, statements of purpose, and personal interviews are also used to assess a student's preparedness for and probability of success in a program.

Students must complete all admission forms to be considered for regular admissions.

**Conditional**

~~Students who have supplied all admission materials and did not meet all admission requirements have at least a 2.5 average, and meet the standards of a particular graduate degree program may be admitted as conditional students. Persons admitted in this category must achieve at least a 3.0 grade point average on their first 12 hours of graduate course work. Students will be dismissed if their grade point average is not above the 3.0 at the end of the 12 hours period. Applicants who were previously dismissed, are on probation or otherwise not in good standing in another graduate or post baccalaureate program will be admitted on a conditional basis if at all.~~

~~Students who do not meet the criteria for either regular or conditional status may petition the Graduate School and a particular degree program for special consideration. These students will normally be expected to present other evidence of academic preparation such as test scores, written statement, letter of recommendation, or other supporting materials.~~

~~Students interested in pursuing a degree should discuss their situation with the graduate coordinator.~~

Applicants with an undergraduate cumulative GPA between 2.5 and 2.7 or a GPA between 2.7 and 3.0 in their last 60 hours may, in rare instances, be admitted conditionally if they meet alternative program requirements approved by the Graduate Council. The number of students that may be admitted without meeting the graduate school's minimum GPA requirements is limited to 10% of the official 3 year average program enrollment. Programs may petition the graduate school for an exception to this limit.

Test scores, grades in the undergraduate major, or other pertinent data approved for the program must indicate the student will perform satisfactorily in Graduate School.

The student may be converted to Regular status after completing 9 hours if he or she maintains a GPA of 3.0 or higher. The student will be dismissed after the first 9 hours if his or her GPA is not at least 3.0 or satisfactory progress is not made towards meeting the admission requirements.

### **Special**

Students not seeking a degree at UALR who have completed all admission forms and have an undergraduate grade point average of at least 2.7 (or 2.5 for conditional admission) may be admitted as special, non-degree seeking students. Enrollment of special students is prohibited by some programs. Some programs allow special students to enroll in a limited number of courses. Persons interested in this category should consult the academic program advisor or the Graduate School.

### **Transient**

Students enrolled in another accredited graduate school and who secure a letter of good standing from the dean of that graduate school may be admitted to UALR as transient students.

## **C. Motion FS\_2016\_23. Ad Hoc Committee on Skills in the Major (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, second required)**

**Whereas** the Faculty Senate approved a Skills in the Major requirement for programs as part of the Baccalaureate Degree Requirement legislation passed March 15, 2013, and modified by Legislation FS 2014\_19 and FS 2014\_30;

**And Whereas** the Skills in the Major legislation, as modified, provided that,

*Except in majors that must adhere to standards established by disciplinary accrediting agencies, major requirements must include courses or coursework either in or outside the department in*

*Oral and written communication in the discipline*

*Research methods, ethics, and critical thinking*

*Technology*

**And Whereas** the Skills in the Major legislation must be implemented by Fall 2016 (FS 2014\_30);

**And Whereas** the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), states, “The institution assesses achievement of the learning outcomes that it claims for its curricular and co-curricular programs” (Criterion for Accreditation 4.2.2);

**Therefore be it resolved** that the Skills in the Major (SKIM) portion of the Baccalaureate Degree Requirements legislation shall be implemented thus:

1. The Skills in the Major Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the SKIM requirement in majors that are not accredited by a disciplinary accrediting body [see Attachment for the list of programs as of January 2016].
2. The Committee shall consist of seven faculty jointly appointed by the Assembly President and the Chair of Core Council to staggered two-year terms. The members shall be from departments implementing SKIM or shall have expertise in one of the SKIM areas.
3. The Committee shall design a form for reporting progress on implementing the requirement, including reporting on evidence of student learning in the areas.
4. The Committee shall establish deadlines and schedules for submitting these forms to the Committee for review so that by 2019-2020, the year of the next HLC review, the University has meaningful data on the SKIM areas to report and the University can identify where it stands with respect to its SKIM goals.
5. The Committee shall report to the Core Council and shall function as a sub-committee of the Council until such time as the Core Council and the Committee determine it is no longer needed.

**D. Motion FS\_2016\_24.** Executive Committee. (Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Place a constitutional amendment on the August University Assembly meeting to add election process for President

**Be it resolved** that Article I of the Constitution of the University Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Officers of the Assembly be modified to read:

The president of the Assembly shall be elected by the Assembly from among the faculty members of

the Assembly who are eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate, in an election at a meeting late in the Spring semester of each year at the end of his/her term from among the faculty members of the Assembly who are eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate, according to procedures approved by the Faculty Senate.

**Commentary:** Changing from a meeting to an election will allow increased participation across campus. The assembly has become sufficiently large and diverse that requiring a vote at a meeting reduces participation and may skew the result. Using the Faculty Senate to develop and maintain procedures will allow flexibility in adapting the procedures over time. Deleting the “of each year” is a remnant from the days when term of president was one year.

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**Commentary on Motions FS\_2016\_25 through FS\_2016\_27:** Motion FS\_2016\_25 adds the ability for the President to delegate calling committees under the Committee on Committees definition, where this authority currently resides. It takes one vote of the assembly to enact a change to assembly committees. This action will take effect in August 2016.

However, the power for the President to call committees should be enacted under “Officers of the Assembly” section in the constitution. Changing that section requires two votes of the assembly. Motion FS\_2016\_26 adds the power to call committees to this section. This action will take effect after the April 2017 assembly meeting.

Motion FS\_2016\_27 deletes the power from the Committee on Committees (one vote of the assembly) at the April meeting, so that a duplicate power is not placed in two sections of the constitution.

**E. Motion FS\_2016\_25.** Executive Committee. (Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Place a constitutional amendment on the August University Assembly meeting to add authority to designate committee organizer under the Committee on Committees.

Be it resolved that Article I of the Constitution of the University Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Committee on Committees be modified to read:

The president of the Assembly and Faculty Senate shall serve as the chairperson of the Committee. ~~and~~ The president of the Assembly and Faculty Senate or designee shall have the responsibility for convening the initial meetings of the committees and councils of the Assembly and Faculty Senate in the fall semester.

**F. Motion FS\_2016\_26.** Executive Committee. (Majority Vote at Two Meeting, no second required) Place a constitutional amendment on the August University Assembly meeting to add authority to designate committee organizer to Officers of the Assembly.

Be it resolved that Article I of the Constitution of the University Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Officers of the Assembly be modified to read:

The president shall preside at meetings of the Assembly and of the Executive Committee of the Assembly. The president of the Assembly or designee shall have the responsibility for convening the initial meetings of the committees and councils of the Assembly and Faculty Senate in the fall semester.

**G. Motion FS\_2016\_27.** Executive Committee. (Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Place a constitutional amendment on the April 2017 University Assembly meeting to delete authority over committee calling from Committee on Committees

Be it resolved that Article I of the Constitution of the University Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Committee on Committees be modified to read:

The president of the Assembly and Faculty Senate shall serve as the chairperson of the Committee. ~~The president of the Assembly and Faculty Senate or designee shall have the responsibility for convening the initial meetings of the committees and councils of the Assembly and Faculty Senate in the fall semester.~~

**H. Motion FS\_2016\_28.** Council on Core Curriculum and Policies (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one Faculty Senate meeting, no second required) Core Transfer Policy

**Be it resolved** to modify FS\_2014\_28. The Core Transfer Reciprocity Policy to add the following (additions are underlined):

4. Transfer students from regionally accredited out of state or private institutions, including those transferring in completed associate degrees, who have completed 35 credit hours of coursework in the following distribution shall be deemed to have met the core requirement in that core curricular area and shall only be required to take coursework from the area(s) they are missing:

English/Communications:	6-9 hours
Math	3 hours
Science	8 hours
Fine Arts/Humanities	6-9 hours
Social Sciences/ National Government	9-12 hours, including 3 hours of US History or American

a. Courses transferred from these institutions go to the Office of Transfer Student Services who makes a determination about whether transfer courses met the core curricular area requirement using the rubrics approved by the Core Council.

b. In the event of questions the Office of Transfer Student Services consults the relevant department or core council depending on the question.

c. The Offices of Transfer Student Services makes the final decision about core course equivalency.

d. The Office of Transfer Student Services will meet annually with the Core Council to review these processes and report on volume of cases and outcomes.

**Commentary:** The Core Council provides a framework that the department chairs can use to make a decision about course equivalency. In the event of a negative decision the Office of Transfer Student Services should inform the student about the appeals process.

VII. Open Forum

VIII. Adjourn