



Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda
Friday, November 20, 2015
1:00 PM until Adjournment
DSC B&C

I. Welcome and Roll Call

II. Review of Minutes

III. Announcements

A. Faculty Staff Appreciation Basketball Game on Nov. 27 and Dec. 20 (reduced ticket prices)

B. Women's Volleyball Team starts defending their crown at Sunbelt Tourney today

IV. Introduction of New Topics (2 min limit, no discussion)

V. Reports

A. Council on Core Curriculum and Policies – Belinda Blevins-Knabe

B. Undergraduate Council – Mike Tramel

C. Graduate Council – Brian Berry

D. Faculty Governance Committee – Pete Tschumi

E. Workload Task Force – Christy Drale

F. College Success Program (Math) – Annie Childers

VI. Old Business

A. Motion FS_2015_32. Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Legislation. 3/5 Majority Vote at Two Meetings, second vote, verbatim first vote, no second required) Assign Core Transfer Responsibility

Whereas the review of legislation revealed that the creation of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies along with some ambiguity in the language of the Admission and Transfer of Credit Committee left the authority over transfer of core credit undelegated and therefore reserved back to the Faculty Senate, and

Whereas the routing language in the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies does not match

similar language in the Undergraduate Council and the Graduate Council,

Therefore be it Resolved that the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies be modified as follows (strikethrough indicates deletion, underline indicates addition):

Council on Core Curriculum and Policies: On behalf of the Faculty Senate, and subject to that body's authority, the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies shall maintain policies and criteria governing general education requirements, ~~criteria~~ and shall approve courses for inclusion and retention in the UALR Core Curriculum (Standard Core and College Cores). The Council shall have responsibility for policies governing how transfer courses satisfy core curricular areas.

The Council on Core Curriculum and Policies shall report all of its actions promptly to the faculty. In reviewing curriculum matters, the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies shall consider current policies and criteria of the U of A System and the Arkansas Board of Higher Education.

In academic units (programs, departments, schools, colleges) curricular proposals affecting the UALR Core, including but not limited to course inclusion in the core, modifications to existing core courses, and inclusion in the college core, will be routed through program, department, school, college curriculum committees and to the Undergraduate Council before being sent to the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies. In academic units not organized into departments, colleges, or schools, routing shall be according to analogous process certified to the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies by the executive vice chancellor and provost. Recommendations of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies are subject to review by the Faculty Senate upon decision of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate or upon petition signed by five or more senators and delivered to the president of the Faculty Senate within ten (10) calendar days of passage by following an unsuccessful resubmission and appeal by the authors within 10 business days of the notification of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies's decision to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Proposals not reviewed by the Faculty Senate or having passed Faculty Senate review shall be routed to the executive vice chancellor and provost and the chancellor.

The Council on Core Curriculum and Policies shall be composed of two voting representatives from each College with undergraduate program(s). Council on Core Curriculum and Policies terms will be for three (3) years. Members may serve two consecutive terms. Individuals may be re-elected to serve after not serving for at least two (2) years. Two (2) students shall serve as voting members of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies on policy matters, but will not vote on course decisions. Elected representatives in the Student Senate are eligible to serve as student members of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies and will have 1-year terms.

Commentary: In discussion on 10/23/15, the Faculty Senate made it clear that the authority over policies regarding core transfer included the ability to develop a practice whereby core transfer decisions for a specific student could be made.

VII. New Business

- A. Motion FS_2015_34. Executive Committee (Legislation. 3/5 Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Improve authority over off-season committee appointments

Whereas all appointments on Faculty Senate Committees are done at the end of the Spring term for the upcoming academic year by the Committee on Committees, and

Whereas the pending ruling on electronic meetings requires this large committee to meet in person, and

Whereas the current language requires vacancies to be filled by a college assembly meeting in the event of a college appointment, and

Whereas many appointments, such as staff members or at-large faculty members (e.g., AIGC) or Alumni cannot be filled by special election in the unit involved since there is no unit involved,

Therefore be it Resolved to amend Article III of the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (bylaws of the Faculty Senate) from

"Faculty vacancies on appointed Faculty Senate Committees shall be filled by special election in the unit involved."

To (underline indicates addition, strikethrough indicates deletion)

"~~Faculty~~ Vacancies on appointed Faculty Senate Committees shall be filled by the Faculty Senate President in consultation with ~~special election in the unit involved~~ the college assembly, department faculty, staff senate, or whatever appropriate body is represented by the position."

Commentary: The Bylaws of the Faculty Senate can only apply to Faculty Senate committees. This amendment does not apply to the University Assembly committees, which will have to be handled through modification of those bylaws at an Assembly meeting.

VIII. Open Forum

A. Discussion of Modifications to Annual Review and P&T Policies

Motion FS_2015_35. (recommended by the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies and brought by the Executive Committee) majority vote at one meeting, no second required.

Whereas the assessment of student learning outcomes begins with the educational goals of the core, and

Whereas assessment of the core is a faculty-led, faculty-driven process for the benefit of achieving UALR's educational mission, and

Whereas any single measure of student learning should be part of a larger holistic assessment plan, and

Whereas cooperation between administration, faculty, and staff is expected, and

Whereas participation in assessment is a critical component of university service,

Therefore be it resolved that section B. 1, second paragraph, of the Annual Review policy, passed on 4/20/1990, be modified as follows:

Teaching is defined in terms of providing for student learning in a variety of ways, including, **but not limited to**, classroom or clinical instruction; team teaching; supervision of independent study or research; thesis or dissertation supervision; multi-disciplinary teaching activities;

student advisement; course preparation; curriculum design, ~~and~~ development, **and assessment, and** use of creative teaching strategies and technologies, **etc.** Evidence used to evaluate teaching generally includes student evaluations, peer evaluation, self-evaluation, and other materials. **The results of assessment shall not be used in annual reviews of teaching.**

And be it further resolved that section B.3 of the Annual Review policy, passed on 4/20/1990, be modified as follows:

Service shall be evaluated in terms of service to the public, the university, or the profession and may include activities such as discipline-related community service, work on college or university committees, department service, administrative service, recruitment, **assessment**, in-service education, working with professional organizations, and participation in professional meetings. The University has identified public service as an important objective.

And be it further resolved that 1.C in the Promotion and Tenure guidelines be modified as follows:

Examples of such service include, but are not limited to, membership and leadership of unit committees or task forces; advising student organizations; involvement in faculty governance; coordination of programs, labs, and technical support; **assessment**; and recruitment.

And be it further resolved that “2. Policies for Promotion and Tenure,” 5th paragraph in the Promotion and Tenure guidelines be modified as follows:

Decisions on promotion and tenure shall not be based on lifestyle, political affiliations, or religious convictions. **The results of assessment shall not be used in promotion and tenure.**

Commentary: “Results of assessment” refers to data collected for purposes of curriculum development and evaluation. As such, this data is not appropriate to use in annual review or promotion and tenure evaluation. That data should be stripped of section or instructor identification in order to avoid biases; however, even if it isn’t, the purpose of the data collection is different from the purpose of data collection to evaluate an individual’s teaching.

On the other hand, the activities associated with performing assessment ... analyzing data, developing plans, rubrics, outcomes, objectives, and other activities ... may be relevant parts of teaching or service. Credit should be given for original work in those areas.

I. Adjourn