



FACULTY SENATE

Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda

August 25, 2017

1:00 PM until adjournment

EIT Auditorium

I. Welcome and Roll Call

Present: **CALS**— K Cates, R Street, M Douglas, Cheatham, LeGrand, Smith, Warner, Barrio-Vilar, Law, S Woolbright, S Thibeault. **CB**—Wooldridge, Leonard **CEHP**— Evans, Otters, Grover, Atcherson, Stieve, Vander Putten, Nolen, Fletcher. **CSSC**— Flinn, Blevins-Knabe, Lopez, Matson, Craw, Golden, Scranton, Giammo. **CEIT**—Jovanovic, Sandgren, Tramel, McMillan, Deangelis. **LAW**— Fitzhugh. **LIBRARY**—Schmidtbauer. **EXOFFICIO** - Rogerson, Wright, Anson, Nolen, L McClellan, Donovan.

Absent: **CALS**— Kyong-McClain **CB**—Vibhakar, Hendon. **CEHP**— Franklin **CSSC**— **CEIT** — Jovanic, Berleant. **LAW** Foster, Boles.— **LIBRARY**—. **EXOFFICIO**— Harper, Gregory

II. Review of Minutes

May 5, 2017 Approved as corrected (S. Thibeault was present).

III. Introduction of New Topics (2 minute limit)

A Wright reviewed Faculty Senate charge, rules of order

BBKnabe - Summer school funding: fixed vs variable costs; requests P&F look at the impact of budget and F/V costs during summer and report back

A Wright - asks for motion

BBK: Charge P&F with reviewing Summer semester F/V costs and the cancelling of courses. Anson seconds.

Motion approved

J Flinn - asks for scholarship fund to help graduating students with their last few courses prior to graduation

S Atcherson - has \$\$ earmarked for that sort of these things

S Thibeault - getting into slots, class schedule legislation.

A Wright - we are implementing process for that now. stay tuned

R Cheatham - Digital measures? urges caution regarding T&P and evaluation

BBKnabe - Bb crisis, small but still there; the announcement was slow. How long are we stuck with Bb? What did Bb do for us as restitution for the January fiasco.

L Smith - dysfunction, time lag between start of semester and when students can get their books

E Anson - students need to know and to use their ualr gmail account

IV. Announcements

V. Reports

A. Chancellor's Report – Andrew Rogerson

40 more ug students and 37 more grad students

eSTEM - we have an amendment to the original MOU tightening:

- review of student access to other areas of campus and classroom usage
- eSTEM students will pay a usage fee

Brown bag lunch is Sept 20 2017; Guns policy has been released via email today

Students are allowed to go into the library and use the physical facilities but not the library holdings

Writing lab, math lab - no access

eSTEM students are not taking courses on campus: should this be addressed in MOU? What is the process?

Vision was: grad from eSTEM and go on to UALR; however, the model has been modified to use concurrent courses taught by UALR faculty.

Number of faculty have master's and may qualify to teach at UALR

These things will be reviewed by a faculty committee.

*A Wright made comments on AIGC and the need for the committee

B. Provost's Report – Velmer Burton

Thank you for welcoming me. I am meeting with folks around the University. Am preparing to examine class sizes and other issues that affect faculty satisfaction and enrollment. Enrollment is our focus.

As community of teachers and scholars we need great faculty to have great programs. Dr Rogerson, a teacher and scholar, has introduced the concept of signature research program. Details coming soon.

Reintroducing the residential learning community.

Rebuild the academic side of the house and explore new degree opportunities with an eye toward expansion and growth.

C. Graduate Council – Brian Berry (no report; ctte not yet called by prez)

D. Council on Core Curriculum and Policies – Belinda Blevins-Knabe repeats plan of getting through 1 year of self study cycle before HLC here

A Wright encourages us all to prepare - start now if you haven't; do not delay.

E. Undergraduate Council – Mike Tramel (no report; ctte not yet called by prez)

VI. Old Business

A Wright: Faculty governance committee has work to do as do others.

Academic Freedom question?

VII. New Business

A. **Motion FS_2017_19.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Place item on University Assembly agenda – delete environmental impact committee

Be it resolved to place on the agenda of the September University Assembly meeting a motion to change the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock by deleting the Environmental Impact Committee from the Committees of the Assembly.

Commentary: The Faculty Senate is developing a Buildings and Grounds committee as a committee of the faculty senate with expanded powers over buildings, construction, and modifications to the grounds. The assembly committee needs to be removed to make room for the expanded faculty senate committee.

This vote will not be complete until the March University Assembly meeting, and the Faculty Senate can withdraw it at any time before that meeting should it fail to develop the appropriate Faculty Senate committee.

See the Open Forum for a draft of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Motion carries

B. **Motion FS_2017_20.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Place item on UA agenda – delete Fringe Benefits Committee

Be it resolved to place on the agenda of the September University Assembly meeting a motion to change the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock by deleting the Fringe Benefits Committee from the Committees of the Assembly.

Commentary: The Fringe Benefits Committee is not well configured to manage the changes that have been pushed onto campus by the UA System. These duties need to be transferred to a committee that has more ability to address them. The Planning and Finance Committee would be better suited to address changes in benefits due to their impact on the university budget. The assembly committee needs to be removed to make room for the expanded faculty senate committee.

Motion carries

C. **Motion FS_2017_21.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at Two Meetings, no second required, first vote) Add fringe benefits duties to Planning and Finance Committee

Be it resolved to modify the constitution of the assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock to modify article III to amend the Planning and Finance Committee as follows (underline indicates addition, strikethrough indicates deletion).

Planning and Finance Committee: This committee exists for informational and advisory purposes only. While recognizing that the responsibility for the budgetary and planning process rests with the chancellor and administration, this committee shall assist in these areas by reviewing proposed plans that have an impact on the academic mission of the University, such as revenues and revenue projections, budgets and budget projections, faculty and staff fringe benefits such as health insurance and retirement benefits, and the relationship of academic and capital planning to finance and budget matters.

The committee shall work with the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration to review existing university reports, to make suggestions for changes to reports, and to provide input into developing reports that would be of greater interest to faculty or easier to understand. The committee shall report to the Faculty Senate concerning the ~~UALR~~ UA Little Rock financial statement and shall endeavor to produce other reports to show the use of funds by the university and changes in the Annual Budget Book. In reporting on the ~~UALR~~ UA Little Rock financial statement the committee shall include such information as the amount of reserve funds and the total endowment. From the committee, a few faculty representatives shall attend the University level budget hearings and all academic budget hearings at or above the college level.

The committee may make recommendations to the Faculty Senate, which may make recommendations to the chancellor. In circumstances where time does not allow deliberation and action by the Faculty Senate, the committee may make its recommendations directly to the chancellor, providing a copy (or report of oral recommendations) to ~~each member~~ of the Faculty Senate. To further facilitate significant involvement of the committee with the above processes, the committee shall select three of its faculty members to be on a subcommittee, which shall be available throughout the year for planning and finance matters. The subcommittee shall report to the committee.

The committee shall consist of one member from the ~~Otteneimer Library Collections and Archives~~ faculty, two full-time faculty members from each college or school represented in the Faculty Senate (one of whom must be a member of the Faculty Senate at the time of appointment) to be named by the Committee on Committees, two representatives of staff senate appointed by staff senate, and the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate. ~~†~~The administrator responsible for budgeting and planning, the vice chancellor for finance and administration, and the vice chancellor for university advancement will serve as ex-officio members of the committee without vote. In addition, two students appointed by the Student Government Association shall serve as members. Appointed faculty and staff members shall serve two-year staggered terms and students shall serve one-year terms.

And be it further resolved that these changes will not take effect until the removal of the fringe benefits committee as a committee of the assembly (March 2017).

Commentary: The fringe benefits duties need to be transferred to the Planning and Finance Committee so that the committee can resume review of the changes in benefits and their impact on the budget and the faculty.

The addition of the staff senate representatives is consistent with the history of faculty senate committees including staff representation on matters affecting the staff. When the fringe benefits authority moves from the assembly, it is appropriate to also move the staff representation.

It has been practice for the ex officio members to be non-voting members; however, Robert's Rules requires that ex officio membership is voting membership unless otherwise specified.

Motion carries

D. Motion FS_2017_22. Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Postpone implementation of transfer and credit by exam limitations

Be it resolved to modify the Placement and Transfer Credit Policy (517.1) to postpone the implementation date of the D-transfer removal to AY 2019-2020 and to place a note of the pending policy change in the AY 2017-2018 and AY 2018-2019 undergraduate catalogs,

And be it resolved to postpone the 30 credit test score limit to AY 2018-2019 and to place a note of the pending policy change in the AY 2017-2018 undergraduate catalog,

And be it resolved to add the sentence to the first paragraph of Course Transfer section,

“Once credit has been assigned, the credit will not be removed should this policy change.”

And be it resolved to add the sentence after the second paragraph of the Credit by Examination section,

“Once credit has been assigned, the credit will not be removed should this policy change or should the test scores by which credit is assigned change.”

And be it resolved to add the sentence to the second paragraph of the Citation and Modification clause,

“Unless otherwise specified in the legislation, changes to this policy take effect in the Fall semester of the nine month academic year subsequent to the approval of the legislation.”

Commentary: See mark-up on the faculty senate site for how the policy will look as a result of these changes.

The two restrictions on transfer credit should be delayed by at least a year since admissions were being processed at the time the legislation was approved. If the legislation should be implemented for Fall 2017, then some students would receive the benefit of the previous policy and some would not. Better to postpone the legislation

rather than rescind credit or have different policies based on when a student was accepted.

The clauses regarding removal of credit represent a conversion of practice to policy.

The addition to the citation and modification clause is the same rationale as for Motion FS_2017_23.

Motion carries

- E. Motion FS_2017_23.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Add recommendation from DRC for withdrawal due to medical, psychological, and disability (underline indicates addition, strikethrough indicates deletion)

Be it resolved to modify the Attendance and Withdrawal Policy (404.4) to change the second paragraph under Withdrawal for non-attendance, non-payment, and emergency as follows:

Students may be withdrawn from a class by the instructor at any time during the semester due to extenuating circumstances, such as medical, psychological, or disability ~~or family emergencies~~ or excessive absences. The Disability Resource Center must make a recommendation for withdrawal due to medical, psychological, or disability reasons. Students must be notified that they will be withdrawn from a class, and may appeal that action through the grade appeal process, provided that they file the appeal within five business days of the notice. The withdrawal will not be final until the appeal is completed, and students may continue to participate until the final decision is made.

And be it resolved to add the sentence to the second paragraph of the Citation and Modification clause,

“Unless otherwise specified in the legislation, changes to this policy take effect in the Fall semester of the nine month academic year subsequent to the approval of the legislation.”

Commentary: See mark-up on the faculty senate site for how the policy will look as a result of these changes.

The first change addresses concerns raised at the faculty senate when the withdrawal policy was updated. It is not appropriate for instructors to directly access medical records, for example, in support of a withdrawal. The DRC is equipped to manage those requests. Therefore, withdrawal requests for those reasons should be routed through DRC to validate whether or not they are legitimate before processing by Records.

The addition of a default implementation date clause is advisable. Although campus practice has been to implement changes to senate legislation in the academic year following changes, such practices should be codified in policy wherever possible, so that changes in personnel are less disruptive and so that asymmetric implementations are minimized.

It is important for the faculty senate to consider implementation in development of policy. By adding this clause, it makes such matters explicit.

After considerable discussion and questions, R Cheatham moves to postpone. Motion seconded.

Q - why was this routed through DRC? Because it adds a layer of confidentiality.

Motion to postpone carries

- F. Motion FS_2017_24.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Judicial Policy Update

Be it resolved to modify Judicial Policy legislation per the mark-up on the faculty senate web site (underline represents addition, strike-through represents deletion).

A Wright explains background and evolution of this work and the process of review and revision and potential adoption.

Motion to postpone the grades appeals and academic integrity to the September Faculty Senate meeting, the faculty appeals to the October Faculty Senate meeting, and the remainder of the document (preamble, moral turpitude, judicial council) to the November Faculty Senate meeting.

Motion carries.

VIII. Open Forum (Discussion only)

- A. Motion FS_2017_2x.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting, no second required) Create a Buildings and Grounds Committee

Buildings and Grounds Committee: The purpose of this committee shall be to insure protection of the natural and aesthetic environment of the UA Little Rock campus consistent with reasonable growth and development of the campus. The committee shall promote beautification of the campus through a continuous review of landscaping, building and signage appearance, and campus roads and paths. The committee shall recommend on plans for new campus construction, and shall recommend to the chancellor steps that should be taken to preserve the natural environment and beauty of the campus. The committee shall periodically review the campus master plan.

The committee shall consist of one member from each college or school represented in the faculty senate, including collections and archives, appointed to two year, staggered terms by the Committee on Committees; two members of the staff senate, selected by the staff senate, to two year, staggered terms; two students appointed by the Student Government Association to one-year terms. The administrator in charge of planning buildings and grounds shall server as an ex-officio member without vote.

No discussion.

IX. Adjourn