

**Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda
Friday, August 30, 2013
1:00 PM until Adjournment
Ledbetter A & B**

- I. **Welcome and Roll Call**
- II. **Orientation for New Members**
- III. **Review of Minutes**
- IV. **Announcements**
- V. **Elections for Vacant Executive Committee Seats**
- VI. **Introduction of New Topics** (2 min limit, no discussion)
- VII. **Reports**
 - A. Chancellor: Joel Anderson
 - B. Provost: Zulma Toro-Ramos
 - C. Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management: Dean Kahler
- VIII. **Old Business**
- IX. **New Business**
 - A. FS_2013_1. Modifications to “Academic Technology and Computing Committee” (2nd vote)
 - B. FS_2013_2. Creation of Council on Core Curriculum and Policies (2nd vote)
 - B. 1. Discussion of Implementation of New Core for Fall 2014
 - C. FS_2013_3. Modifications to Admission Policy
 - D. FS_2013_4. Conditional and Conditional-Prep Category
 - E. FS_2013_5. Admission Decisions
- X. **Open Forum**
- XI. **Adjourn**

Motion. FS_2013_1. Academic Technology and Computing Committee
(legislation: 3/5 majority. 2nd vote) From Executive Committee. No second needed.

That the following be adopted to replace the current charge of the Academic Technology and Computing Committee:

This committee shall be concerned with University computing services policies that affect academic programs and the general interest of UALR. This committee serves as a formal communication channel for the faculty and students with the ~~Office of Computing Services~~ Information Technology Services. The ~~Chief Information Officer~~ Vice Chancellor of Information Services shall keep the committee informed on issues, policies, and resource allocations affecting the academic community via technology and

computing at the university level. On an annual basis the committee shall review the ~~Office of Computing Services' Information Technology Services'~~ policies as they affect the academic community. This review should include examining the impact of resource allocation of new technology to the learning process in a benefit/cost framework. In addition, the committee will consult with the ~~Chief Information Officer~~ Vice Chancellor of Information Services concerning budgets, both current and future, projected and actual expenditures. The committee shall furnish a report of their review and budget conference to the Faculty Senate by March 15 of each year.

The Academic Technology and Computing Committee shall consist of two full-time faculty members from each college or school including the library to be named by the Committee on Committees. In addition, two students shall be named by the Student Government Association. The ~~Chief Information Officer~~ Vice Chancellor of Information Services, the Provost and the Director of Scholarly Technology and Resources (STaR) or their designees shall serve as ex officio members without vote. Any faculty member holding a position of "faculty in residence" within the ~~Office of Computing Services Information Technology Services~~ may serve as a voting committee member during their appointment to such post. The terms of the two students shall be one year, while the terms of the appointed faculty members shall be two-year staggered terms.

Motion: FS_2013_2. Council on Core Curriculum and Policies (legislation: 3/5 majority. 2nd vote) From Executive Committee. No second needed.

To accept the following definition for the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies and institute this Council as one of the UALR Faculty Senate and to modify the charge of undergraduate council:

“Council on Core Curriculum and Policies *Elected Council of the Senate*

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, and subject to that body’s authority, the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies shall maintain criteria and approve courses for inclusion and retention in the UALR Core Curriculum (Standard Core and College Cores). 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) proposals for requests for course inclusion of new courses in the UALR 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. Recommendations of the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies are subject to review by the Faculty Senate 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 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.”

and to modify the authority of the Undergraduate Council as follows:

“Undergraduate Council: On behalf of the Faculty Senate, and subject to that body’s authority, the UALR Undergraduate Council shall review, interpret, and recommend action on all general undergraduate academic policies except for the duties delegated to the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies; it shall review and recommend approval or disapproval of curriculum proposals and degree programs. The council shall report all of its actions promptly to the faculty.”

Motion: FS_2013_3. Modifications to Admission Policy (Legislation: Majority vote at one meeting) From Senator Pete Tschumi, Elizabeth Pierce (chair of Admission and Transfer Credit Committee), and Daryl Rice (Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs).

That the admission requirements for first-time entering freshmen shall be as follows:

Admission of First-time Entering Freshmen

Applicants who present a high school diploma with the following academic qualifications will ~~be automatically~~ receive unconditional admission admitted:

~~Successful completion of the high school college preparatory core in effect at the time of graduation from high school (the current core is shown below), plus one of the following:~~

- ~~Successful completion of the high school college preparatory core~~ shown below ~~in effect at the time of graduation from high school~~
- A cumulative high school grade-point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- An ACT composite score of 19 or higher (References to the ACT composite score always include equivalent standards) ~~21 or a combined verbal/math SAT I score of at least 990.~~

Students who receive a GED or are graduates of home schooling are unconditionally ~~automatically~~ admitted if they have an ACT composite score of 19 or higher ~~21 or a combined verbal/math SAT I score of at least 990.~~

Applicants who do not receive unconditional admission will be considered for conditional admission. Applicants with a high school diploma, GED or graduates of home schooling who present one of the following academic qualifications will ~~be automatically~~ receive conditional admission:

- An ACT composite score of 18 or higher or
- An ACT composite score of at least 15 plus a cumulative high school grade-point average of 2.6 on a 4.0 scale or
- ACT composite score of at least 15 plus 5 or fewer D's and F's in college preparatory courses

Students wishing an early admission decision using 6th semester transcripts will be admitted with the expectation of continued academic success in high school. Students admitted by early decision will be given preferential treatment for housing and registration.

Admission of Freshmen Transfer Students

Freshmen Transfer Students are students with fewer than 12 acceptable transfer credits from another college or university. These students will be admitted if they are in good standing at the college or university they are currently attending and meet the admission standards for first-time entering freshmen.

Students who do not meet our admission requirements are encouraged to apply and will be reviewed for possible admission. Any applicant whose admission is denied or deferred may, with the submission of additional information, request reconsideration. A student who is

admitted without meeting the unconditional or conditional criteria will receive a conditional-prep classification.

~~The academic qualifications of all other applicants will be individually reviewed by the Admissions and Transfer of Credit Committee, with attention to those factors that indicate the applicant has the ability and motivation to earn the grades required for satisfactory academic progress and eventual graduation. Such factors include but are not limited to high school grades with particular focus on the college preparatory core courses and grades in them below C, the academic rigor of the high school courses, success in AP courses and International Baccalaureate courses, and standardized test scores. Based upon this review, the Committee may admit, defer or deny admission to the applicant.~~

College Preparatory Core

To be automatically admitted as a freshman, students need to complete a minimum of 16 high school units (year-long classes) in the following areas:

English—4 units (Four units with emphasis on writing skills, not to include courses in oral communications, journalism, drama or debate.)

Natural Sciences—3 units (Three units, with laboratories, chosen from Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics. Only one unit may come from a Life Science.)

Mathematics—4 units (Four units including Algebra I and II, Geometry, and an advanced math course. It is strongly recommended that students take a math course during their senior year.)

Social Studies—3 units (Three units, including one of American History (does not include Contemporary American History), one of World History (not to include World Cultures, World Geography, or Global Studies), and at least one-half unit of Civics or American Government (not to include courses in practical arts).)

Electives—2 units (To be chosen from English, foreign languages, oral communications, mathematics, computer science, natural sciences, (pre) engineering, and social studies. ~~As you choose your electives, residents of Arkansas please remember that to be eligible for such scholarships as the Arkansas Department of Higher Education's Academic Challenge Scholarship or the Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant, students must have 2 years of the same foreign language.~~)

Total—16 units

Commentary: In December of 2006 UALR switched from open admissions to selective admissions as the result of legislation of the Faculty Senate. Motions FS_2013_3 and FS_2013_5 modify the two motions from December, 2006. This legislation was the product of extensive discussions of an ad-hoc committee lead by Chancellor Anderson. The committee involved administration and staff with responsibilities in this area plus any faculty interested in the issue. The committee looked at other universities, built a database using our own students, and did statistical analysis using the database. From this process we developed criteria for evaluating possible admission standards and eventually selected a standard to implement. At the time other public universities in the state published a standard for automatic admission but had a second hidden standard that was actually used to determine admissions as basically a public relations strategy. We copied this strategy. In the fall of 2009, what was basically the same ad-hoc committee reviewed the standard and decide to raise the standard. This decision was adopted by the Admission and Transfer Credit Committee in November of 2009. We still use this standard today.

One of the side effects of Act 1184 is that this strategy of having a hidden standard is no longer as viable. In addition our recruitment people would prefer that we openly describe our admission standards. Act 1184 requires public universities to place students in one of three categories of unconditional, conditional, or conditional-prep. This motion and motion FS_2013_4 together meet the requirements of Act 1184 plus make our admission standards visible.

Motion FS_2013_4. Conditional and Conditional-Prep Category (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one meeting.) From Senator Pete Tschumi, Elizabeth Pierce (chair of Admission and Transfer Credit Committee), and Daryl Rice (Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs).

That students admitted as conditional or conditional-prep shall be required to meet the following:

Conditional Students

Students admitted on Conditional Admission must complete 12 hours of core academic courses with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 and any necessary developmental work within the first 30 semester hours. Failure to complete the Conditional Admission requirements will result in an academic review and recommendations for the student's ability to continue studies at UALR.

Conditional-prep Students

Students admitted on Conditional-prep Admission must do the following:

1. Participate in the Collegiate Success Program
2. Sign an enrollment agreement that outlines the requirements of satisfactory progress and continued enrollment, including an individualized degree plan signed by the student and the student's academic advisor
3. Enroll in a First Year Colloquium course
4. Complete any necessary remedial/developmental courses during the first 30 semester credit hours

Failure to complete the Conditional-prep Admission requirements will result in an academic review and recommendations for the student's ability to continue studies at UALR.

Commentary: Act 1184 requires that students in the conditional and conditional-prep categories meet certain requirements. This motion fulfills the law's requirements.

Motion FS_2013_5. Admission Decisions (Legislation. Requires majority vote at one meeting.) From Senator Pete Tschumi, Elizabeth Pierce (chair of Admission and Transfer Credit Committee), and Daryl Rice (Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs).

That the following authorization and guidance be provided for admission decisions:

For early admission decisions the following rules apply in the conditional category:

- Any applicant currently in high school with a 7th semester high school transcript will be admitted upon meeting one of the following criteria:

An ACT composite score of at least 15 plus a 2.60 high school grade point average or 18 or higher on the ACT composite or

An ACT composite score of at least 15 plus 4 or fewer D's and F's in college preparatory courses

- Any applicant with a 6th semester high school transcript will be admitted upon meeting one of the following criteria:

An ACT composite score of at least 15 plus a 2.60 high school grade point average or 18 or higher on the ACT composite or

An ACT composite score of at least 15 plus 3 or fewer D's and F's in college preparatory courses

- Applicants with a GED will be admitted upon meeting one of the following criteria:
They have an ACT composite score of at least 15 plus a 6th semester or 7th semester high school transcript with a 2.6 high school grade point average or
they have 18 or higher on the ACT composite.

- Applicants, who have been home schooled, will be admitted upon meeting the following criteria:
18 or higher on the ACT composite.

In addition, all applicants may take the COMPASS tests and be admitted upon making acceptable scores whenever the Director of testing determines that circumstances warrant its use as a alternative.

In the case of appeals of admission decisions, That the following authorization and guidance is be provided for admission decisions to the Admissions and Transfer Credit Committee:

In determining the admissibility of freshmen applicants not qualifying for ~~automatic~~ unconditional or conditional admission, the Admission and Transfer Credit Committee shall focus on those factors that indicate an applicant has the ability and motivation to earn the grades required for satisfactory academic progress and eventual graduation. Such factors include but are not limited to high school grades with particular focus on the college preparatory core courses and grades in them below C, the academic rigor of the high school courses, success in AP courses and International Baccalaureate courses, and standardized test scores. ~~In implementing policies and establishing guidelines, the Admission and Transfer Credit Committee shall work with the administration and the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate to ensure that decisions are consistent with and achieve a balance with the goals and~~

~~needs of the university. The Executive Committee is to ensure that important issues are brought before the Faculty Senate.~~

The Admissions and Transfer Credit Committee, in exercising its good judgment, may deny admission, may defer admission pending an applicant's completion of additional preparation specified by the committee, or may limit the number of credit hours in which the student enrolls.

~~The Admission and Transfer Credit Committee is authorized to determine admissibility on the basis of a sixth semester transcript, with admission status to be confirmed when the student supplies a final transcript after high school graduation.~~

To enable the Faculty Senate to evaluate the appropriateness of the admission policy, the Admission and Transfer Credit Committee using data collected by institutional research and other campus units shall report annually to the Faculty Senate such information as numbers of students and their characteristics including the retention and graduation rates for students admitted automatically and for students admitted on an individual basis.

Commentary: This motion has several parts. It provides the details of how to handle the early admission decisions with respect to the number of D's and F's part of the policy. This allows Admissions to process applications in a straight forward manner. The Admissions and Transfer Credit Committee only becomes involved if an applicant appeals a decision; which is rarely done.

As part of our previous strategy of a hidden internal standard, the previous legislation moved some of the Faculty Senate's authority to make policy to the Admission and Transfer Credit Committee. In actual practice the decisions were still made outside the committee. The last part of the motion restores the authority back to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate will now be making all policy decisions on admissions. In affect there are four ways policies on admissions can come to the Faculty Senate. As in other areas within the purview of the Faculty Senate, any senator can take the initiative to introduce legislation. The Admission and Transfer Credit Committee can make proposals. Either the chancellor or the president of the Faculty Senate can initiate a process via an ad-hoc committee. The process used to first implement a selective admission standard worked well and is recommended for any substantive changes. That process used an ad-hoc committee with key high-level administrators, those they thought needed to be involved in the decision making plus any faculty who wish to be involved.