



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

*Friday, February 15, 2013, 1:00 p.m.*

## **Faculty Senate Meeting**

*Dickinson Auditorium*

**Present:** **CAHSS**—Jo Anne Matson, Sarah Beth Estes, Paul Yoder, Julie Steel, Brad Minnick, Robert Corwyn, Allison Merrick, Ed Anson, Kris McAbee, Jess Porter, Joe Giammo, Adriana Lopez-Ramirez, Erin Finzer. **CB**— Robert Mitchell, Steve Edison, Mark Funk, Mike Watts. **CE**—Amanda Nolen, Judy Hayn, Gail Hughes, Greg Barrett, John Burgin. **CEIT**— Pete Tschumi, Andrew Wright, Gary Anderson, Nick Jovanovic, Mike Tramel, Chia-Chu Chiang. **LAW**—Chuck Goldner. **LIBRARY**—Karen Russ. **CPS**—Shannon Collier-Tenison, Amy Barnes, Avinash Thombre, Jim Golden. **COS**—Marian Douglas, Qingfang He, Tom McMillan, Jingbiao Cui, Bennie Prince, Jay Sims, Denise Legrand. **EX OFFICIO**—Chancellor Anderson, Provost Toro, President Smith-Olinde.

**Absent:** **CAHSS**— George Jensen. **CB** – Jim Nickels. **CE**—none. **CEIT**—none. **LAW** – June Stewart, Kathryn Fitzhugh. **LIBRARY**—none. **CPS** – Judith Faust, Sonny Rhodes. **COS**—Elizabeth Sloan Davidson, Bryan Benton, Lirong Zeng. **EX OFFICIO**—Past President Ford, Staff Senate President Turner, SGA President Mohsin.

### *I. Welcome and roll call*

President Smith-Olinde welcomed the senators, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and invited Secretary Wright to call the roll.

### *II. Review of minutes*

President Smith-Olinde indicated that her name was Smith-Olinde instead of Olinde-Smith as recorded in the minutes, and indicated that the name of the certification was LEED instead of LEAD. Senator Yoder moved the corrected minutes. Senator Prince seconded. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

### *III. Announcements*

Secretary Wright announced that the Faculty Senate web site was now accessible (<http://ualr.edu/facultysenate/>). He is putting the next meeting, the agenda, previous meeting minutes, and attachments on the front page rather than separated and buried

among the various sub-pages. It will be a priority to keep these sections current so that they can be used by senators to prepare for the next meeting.

#### *IV. New Topics*

none.

#### *V. Reports*

##### **Chancellor's Report (Joel Anderson)**

The enrollment numbers are still being cleaned up; however by the 11th day, we were down by 329 students down, which is a 2.66% decline over a year ago.

We made small cuts to the campus budget last Fall. We should make it to the end of the fiscal year without further a reduction in budget. The enrollment decline is counterbalancing the tuition increase.

Next year, the budget is still uncertain. The federal sequestration comes up soon. This will affect specific units on campus. Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center , MidSouth, Trio and some others with federal dollars as significant part of operating budget will be affected.

Deans have presented budgets to the Provost. Funding requests that emphasize student success and enrollment will be prioritized.

The state legislature is still a place of concern. Tax cuts will certainly occur. It looks like increases in state revenue may be limited to 3% (HB 1041). If that becomes law, major portions of state budget are off the table, so this will threaten everything else. For instance, a 1% reduction in the overall state budget this year could result in a 14% cut for UALR.

The proposal to allow faculty and staff to carry guns on campus has passed the House and moves on to the Senate. Earlier this week, in the House, there was no exception at the campus level, similar to the legislation for churches. All public university presidents and chancellors have opposed this bill. The sponsor amended the bill to include an opt out for campuses, since 14 votes in the committee opposed the original bill. The Board of Trustees will make the decision for the UA system, and the decision must be renewed every year.

##### **Questions?**

Senator Watts: This may be limited to the College of Business. There is a rumor that early retirement for tenured faculty will be terminated.(Chancellor: this rumor is unfounded. I have no reason to believe, suspect, or fear that early retirement will be terminated. President Bobbitt has no inclination to make a change. The Board of Trustees has no inclination to make a change.

One significant change to early retirement will be that persons with longer than nine month appointments after Jan 1 2015, will have their salary (for purposes of calculating benefits) prorated back to 9 month. There will be no change for nine month faculty beyond the special window, where folks get an extra month. The special window will end Jan. 1, 2015.

### **Provost report (Zulma Toro)**

Based on yesterday's hearings, we're going to summarize the budget requests. The Council of Deans will have time to review these requests relative to two goals: student recruitment and student retention. I will meet with the Finance and Planning Committee. Based on this feedback I will make a final recommendation to the Chancellor and direct reports on Mar 27.

Quality Initiative: three different task forces will be appointed. The first group will gather feedback on what processes we need to have in place to implement the Initiative. The second group will consist of faculty members and IT. The third group will be in charge of analyzing the whole process and the data generated by the first two groups.

We're identifying UALR's research strengths. I'm going to release a Call for Proposals to provide some funding in three areas:

1. the integration of arts, humanities, and social sciences with engineering, science, and business
2. Graduate education, undergraduate education, and research
3. Interdisciplinary research collaborations

The Chancellor has asked me to look at restructuring the academic elements of the university and submit a proposal by Oct. 1. I've talked with President Smith-Olinde, who has requested some financial information to be provided to the task forces.

The Chairs Council and a Faculty Task Force will develop alternatives and gather information to be reviewed by a steering committee.

The Faculty Task Force will meet for the first time and receive its charge on Feb. 27. The memo charging this task force is being developed jointly between President Smith-Olinde and myself. The task force's recommendation will be due to me by May 15.

The composition of the task force will include a representative from each college/school and the library. The Executive Committee will have one representative. The Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council will have one representative each. Each entity needs to submit five names to the Executive Committee by Tuesday, Feb. 19, end of day. The Executive Committee will meet with me next Wednesday to select the representatives from the lists provided.

There will be a Steering Committee who will receive the recommendations from the task forces. The composition of this committee has not yet been determined.

We will begin the process with round table meetings with our stake-holders: students, alums, representatives from the community and from businesses, and faculty. We will request feedback through the round tables that is specific to what WE think will be useful. We will not be asking community members for their recommendations about our structure. We need to determine what we are doing well and how we might improve to be more proactive and responsive to addressing community needs.

The questions for the round table meetings will be developed with advice from the Deans Council, the Chairs Council, and the Faculty Task Force. We need to determine what we would want to know from our stake-holders.

Questions:

Senator Anson: We need nominees by Tuesday? What is the process? (Pres. Smith-Olinde: I'll contact the president or chair of each college assembly. Tenured, tenure track, and full time non-tenure track faculty are eligible. Who the college puts forward will be up to each college.)

Senator Tramel: Will all five nominees be selected? (Pres. Smith-Olinde: no. There will be 6 college reps + 1 library rep + 1 law rep + 1 executive committee rep + 1 ugc rep + 1 gc rep = 11 members.)

Senator Yoder: What is this project? What is being reorganized? Are we reorganizing colleges? (Provost Toro: On Feb. 27, we'll have the definition of the charge for the Faculty Task Force. I met today with the Chair's Council. Everything within academic affairs will be under consideration. This includes the Graduate School, ORSP, GIT. I have no specific position. Think about and dream about how we ought to be organized for the 21st century.)

Senator Anson: Will this be tied to administration review? (Chancellor Anderson: that review is already underway.)

Senator Jovanovic: Let me dream. An outcome could be we have a different number of deans or colleges. For instance, we might have an undergraduate dean, a graduate dean, and a Law dean. Would that be a way? (Provost Toro: It could be. I don't have a position.)

### **UGC Report (Mike Tramel)**

UGC (Tramel): It was a light period, except for the motion on additional degrees which we're presenting in New Business.

Senator Cheatham: I'm having difficulty getting minutes and other documents due to problems with Google Docs. (President Smith-Olinde: I talked to Kathy Oliverio. Kathy said she would look into this.)

### **GC Report (Amanda Nolen)**

We're revising the graduate status proposal based on comments. We expect it will come before senate for a vote next month.

Two weeks ago we had a conversation with Provost Toro. We spent this week talking about the future of graduate education at UALR. We're developing a vision.

We've identified issues that are working but are underutilized, issues that aren't working that can be fixed, missing components, things that require a lot of additional resources, things that require some additional resources but the infrastructure is in place, and things that just need redirection of resources.

### **Calendar Committee (Clifton)**

The calendar committee is developing a proposal to move to a schedule consisting of three 16-week semesters.

The new calendar would move the start date of the Spring semester up by a week (start in early January) and move the ending date of the Fall semester back by a week (end in late December). This would shrink winter break by two weeks. The fall break holidays would be moved to the week of Thanksgiving to balance Spring Break.

These changes would allow us to have six eight-week sessions (perfect for Academic Partnerships style on-line courses).

The five week summer terms would stay in effect.

The advantage of eight week terms is that sequential courses can be accelerated. Students can drop a course in the first term and pick up a course in the second term without affecting financial aid.

Comments and concerns: [tgclifton@ualr.edu](mailto:tgclifton@ualr.edu)

Questions:

Senator Barrett: How does the Spring Break overlay with K-12 Spring Break? Will this hurt us with students who have kids? Senator Steel: If spring breaks don't overlap this could be a problem. (Clifton: That concern was not considered in this test calendar.)

President Smith-Olinde: Why does Spring Break have to move up? (Clifton: It is not really necessary to put it where we did.)

Senator Yoder: A week at Thanksgiving is too long. You lose all the momentum. (Clifton: In my class, students are tired at Thanksgiving. If I could give them a week off, I'll get two good weeks out of them.)

Senator Jovanovic: Did you consider Fall/Spring Breaks at the mid-point of Fall and Spring semesters? (Clifton: This is Larry's draft. We should visit it again and consider these issues.) What do we mean by full time load under this scheme? Can a student take 12 hours of courses in 8 weeks? (Clifton: That would be intense. We'll be looking

into that.) (Sandra Robertson: we need to change the rules to keep students from taking overloads.)

Senator McMillan: Have you compared this to other universities? (Clifton: no.)

Senator Tramel: When can students apply for graduation? (Clifton: We need to work with registrar on that.)

Senator Douglas: We need to run this by chairs and see how faculty load will be determined, which is beyond the purview of the Calendar Committee.

Senator Matson: Where would final exam(s) for the eight week sessions be? (Clifton: Maybe on the last day of classes. That would be tight. We haven't thought about this.)

Senator Sims: UAF has a 16-week calendar where the last week is finals.

Senator Wright: Would this calendar change the start and end dates of the faculty contract? (Sandra Robertson: That has not yet been determined.)

Senator Burgin: This calendar seems like it will chase off lots of students.

Senator Giammo: What if departments schedule 15 credit hours in one eight-week semester?

Senator Douglas: Different time blocks (8 weeks and 16 weeks) in the same academic semester could cause extreme class room scheduling problems due to conflicts, especially when students take courses from different departments.

## *VI. New Business*

none

## *VII. Old Business*

Senator Tschumi moved to suspend the rules to allow the senate to take up motion A before resuming motion FS\_2012-13\_2. Senator Tramel seconded. The suspension carried on unanimous voice vote.

Senator Tramel moved the motion from Undergraduate Council (no second required for a motion from a standing committee).

Motion. FS#2012-13\_5. Replace the current language for the degree and graduation requirements with the proposed language, effective for the 2013-14 academic year (i.e., beginning with December 2013 graduates).

Proposed language (to replace current language in the 2012-13 UALR Undergraduate Catalog, page 22):

### **Additional Second Baccalaureate Degrees**

Additional ~~second~~ baccalaureate degrees may be conferred subject to these provisions:

1. Students must complete at least 30 credit hours in residence at UALR, including courses completed previously at UALR, but excluding transfer credit, credit-by-examination, experiential credit, and repeated courses. (excluding Credit by Examination) beyond their first degree.
2. ~~Only credits earned at UALR after completion of the first degree will normally apply toward the second degree. However, a student in the final semester of studies toward the first degree may complete the course load for that semester with courses applicable to the second degree provided the student files a written statement of intent with the Office of Records and Registration at the time of registration.~~
2. A different major must be completed for each additional baccalaureate degree. Courses completed within the previous degree(s) that satisfy requirements for the ~~second~~ additional majors may be accepted as satisfying course major requirements for additional degree(s), subject to approval by the major department, but not as hours toward the second degree. These hours do not count as part of the 30, except as specified in Item 2 above.
3. A minor is not required for additional baccalaureate degrees.
4. If not taken as a part of another baccalaureate degree, a course in United States history or government (HIST 2311, HIST 2312, or POLS 1310) must be completed; see "U.S. Traditions: United States History or Government Requirement." However, other general education requirements are not applicable to additional baccalaureate degrees.
5. There is no second language proficiency requirement for students seeking ~~second~~ additional baccalaureate degrees.

### **Graduation Regulations (excerpts)**

- ~~Two courses, up to eight hours, may count toward both major(s) and minor(s) requirements.~~
- ~~A student in the process of completing more than one major or minor may have one calendar year following graduation with one major to complete the additional declared major(s)/minor(s) if:~~
  - ~~The student has a valid degree plan on file which specifies requirements for more than one major or minor~~
  - ~~The student completes an application for graduation which indicates that a total of seven or fewer hours remain to complete the additional major(s)/minor(s)~~

Discussion:

Senator Cheatham: Is there a minimum number of hours that must be taken as part of an additional degree? For instance, a student graduated in 1995 with a B.S. in Construction Management and came back to complete 3 credits to get a B.A. in French.

What do we do about stale credits? (Senator Jovanovic: It's up to the department chair and the department faculty to accept the credits.)

Senator Cheatham: What about a student who has completed the 30 hours in residence and returns with transfer credit? Can we award a degree if the student hasn't had any hours in the new degree? (Senator Jovanovic: The department doesn't have to accept transfer credits to satisfy a degree's major requirements.)

Senator Cheatham: Are we now going to allow the same course to count towards both a major and minor? (Senator Jovanovic: I don't know what we'll end up doing with minors since we still have them. I don't think how much overlap there is is the issue, rather how much non-overlap.)

Senator Wright: Under what catalog would the student graduate with the additional degrees? Does the student have to reapply for admission? (Darryl Rice: If they are gone for more than five years, they would have to reapply and satisfy the new catalog.)

Darryl Rice made a further comment: There is no university rule on how many hours within a major must be taken on campus. That should be stipulated by department. If a department does not have such a rule, it should consider adopting one.

Senator Anson: If you look at page two under new number two, the department has a right to put in whatever requirements they like.

The motion passed unanimously on hand vote.

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Motion FS 2012-13\_2 was resumed.

The senate resumed Senator Jovanovic's postponed amendment,

Motion: Replace section 5 with  
"Additional new or existing, lower- or upper-division courses can be approved as general education courses and added to the appropriate lists by submitting a Curriculum Change Form (CCF) through the standard curriculum approval process."

Discussion:

Senator Nolen: Creating another standing committee creates confusion in the process. It seems cleaner to have one committee do both tasks.

Senator Giammo: The Undergraduate Council has a very different mission than monitoring general education. It looks at changes in curriculum and classes, but doesn't necessarily look at content.

Senator Jovanovic The Senate delegated questions about curriculum to Undergraduate Council in the Constitution.



Senator Wright: The Executive Committee plans to offer an amendment that the Undergraduate Council will approve courses and a new Committee will approve removals/deletions from the core and maintain the criteria.

Senator Tschumi: We originally had two committees. It didn't cause problems. A separate body with limited focus on one issue seems like a good idea.

The motion failed 17-20.

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On behalf of the Executive Committee, Vice President Estes moved to divide the question to separate items 1b, 2, 3, and 4 from the remainder of the motion and to call the question on those items.

The motion to divide the question passed unanimously on hand vote.

The motion to send items 1b, 2, 3, 4 to the Executive Committee to be converted into legislative language passed unanimously on voice vote.

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Senator Anson moved to substitute FS 2012-13\_3 for section 1a.

Motion: Replace section 1a with ...

Whereas, The ADHE State Minimum Core Requirements have been in effect since 1989;

Whereas, The ADHE State Minimum Core Requirements provide the framework for general education at most public institutions of higher education in the State of Arkansas, including the other campuses of the University of Arkansas System;

Whereas, The longstanding UALR Core Competencies remain relevant and appropriate as principles for general education; and

Whereas, The faculties of individual degree programs, departments, and colleges can establish additional requirements beyond the UALR general education requirements; therefore, be it Resolved, That the ADHE State Minimum Core Requirements are hereby adopted as the university-level framework for general education at UALR, beginning with the 2013-14 UALR Undergraduate Catalog;

Resolved, That UALR students can satisfy the university level general education (core curriculum) requirements by taking the following courses, for a total of 35 credit hours:

English Communication

- English Composition (6 credit hours from the following):
  - RHET 1311 and RHET 1312, or RHET 1320 and any upper-division ENGL or RHET course
- Speech Communication (3 credit hours from the following)

## SPCH 1300

Math (3 credit hours from the following):

- MATH 1302 or MATH 1321 or any MATH or STAT course having MATH 1302 or MATH 1321 as a prerequisite

Science (8 credit hours from the following):

- ANTH 1415, ASTR 1301 and ASTR 1101, BIOL 1400, BIOL 1401, CHEM 1402, CHEM 1406, CHEM 1409, CHEM 1403, ERSC 1302 and ERSC 1102, ERSC 1303 and ERSC 1103, PHYS 1321 and PHYS 1121, PHYS 1322 and PHYS 1122, PHYS 2321 and PHYS 2121, or PHYS 2322 and PHYS 2122

Fine Arts (3 credit hours from the following)

- ARHA 2305, MUHL 2305, THEA 1310, or THEA 2305

Humanities (3 credit hours from the following)

- ENGL 2335, ENGL 2337, ENGL 2338, ENGL 2339, PHIL 1310, PHIL 1330, PHIL 2320, or any upper-division FREN, INTR, GERM, or SPAN course

History of Civilization (3 credit hours from the following)

- HIST 1311 or HIST 1312

U.S. History/Government (3 credit hours from the following)

- POLS 1310, HIST 2311, or HIST 2312

Social Sciences (3 credit hours from the following)

- ANTH 2316, CRJU 2300, ECON 2301, ERSC 2300, GNST 2300, GEOG 2312, MCOM 2330, POLS 2301, PSYC 2300, RELS 2305, or SOCI 2300;

Resolved, That some programs, e.g., the Donaghey Scholars Program, nursing programs, and programs in the Donaghey College of Engineering and Information Technology (DCEIT), already have unique general education requirements, and such programs have the option of maintaining their existing general education requirements or adopting the general education requirements contained herein; and

Resolved, That additional new or existing, lower- or upper-division courses can be approved as general education courses and added to the above lists by submitting a Curriculum Change Form (CCF) through the standard curriculum approval process.

Discussion:

Senator Yoder: Are we moving up the new business into old business? (No. This is a substitution for section 1a of the existing motion with the content of the motion under New Business.) Is this an end run around the current legislation? (The President declined to answer.)

Senator Matson called for a quorum. A quorum was present.

Senator Tschumi: The other way this does an end run is that the Senate has directed the Executive Committee to integrate criteria into the existing motion. This substitution populates the distributions with course lists that did not follow those criteria.

Senator Jovanovic: The motion on the floor does the same thing. It includes courses that were not approved based on those criteria. That's not a difference between the two motions.

Senator Tschumi: We started down that road, but we cut it off when we realized we needed to stop. Then we created criteria and the process to include those criteria. The only thing this motion does is stick a set of courses in without criteria.

Senator Nolen: Could we be a little patient, since we've waited this long. We need criteria so that we can make decisions on courses that haven't been created yet.

Senator Matson: The implication of the ad hoc committee's report was that existing core courses might not be acceptable based on the new criteria.

The motion failed on a hand vote.

### *VII. Open Forum*

Senator Douglas: Could you speak to the hand-out (referring to the one-page summary of changes that the executive committee were proposing)? (President Smith-Olinde: We just wanted to give you an idea of the time-line that we were following to get motions to amend ready. This hand-out gives an idea of what we expect to propose at the next meeting in March.)

### *VIII. Adjourn*

At 3:18, the meeting was adjourned.