



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

Friday, January 27, 2012, 1:00 p.m.

Faculty Senate Meeting

Ledbetter B & C

MINUTES

Present: **CAHSS**— Amrhein, Clausen, Deiser, Estes, Finzer, Giammo, Kleine, Lopez-Ramirez, Porter. **CB**— Funk, Mitchell, Watts. **CE**—Burgin, Hayn, Nolen. **CEIT**—Babiceanu, Jovanovic, Tebbets, Tramel, Tschumi. **LAW**— Goldner. **LIBRARY**— Russ. **CPS**— Barnes, Golden, Rhodes, Smith-Olinde. **CSM**— Benton, Douglas, Grant-Scott, Guellich, McMillan, Prince, Sims, Tarasenko, Yanoviak. **EX OFFICIO**— Robertson, Ford; Senate Counsel: Faust.

Guest Present: Judy Williams, Director, Office of Communications; Kim Fox, Assistant Director; Shari Erwin, Web Content Coordinator; Susan Pusser, Administrative Specialist.

Absent: **CAHSS**— Anson, Bunch, English, McAbee, Yoder. **CB** – Edison, Nickels. **CE**— Barrett, McAdams. **CEIT**—Anderson. **LAW** -- Fitzhugh. **CPS** – Collier-Tenison, Thombre. **CSM**— Cui. **EX OFFICIO**— Anderson, Lewis, Patterson.

I. Welcome and roll call

President Smith-Olinde welcomed the senators, called the meeting to order at 1: 00 p.m. and invited the secretary to call the roll.

II. Review of minutes

Senators were invited to comment on the minutes of the November 18, 2011, meeting of the Senate as posted on the web site. It was moved (Nolen) and seconded (Amrhein) that the minutes be accepted as posted. Motion passed on a voice vote.

III. Announcements

President Smith-Olinde : My first announcement today is something a little different: I was asked to tell the Senators about Career Connections Day on March 6, 10am – 2pm, in Ledbetter B & C . New this year is the theme Dress for Success. In past years, students have sometimes shown up at these events in cutoffs and T-shirts, or unkempt. The Dress for Success theme will

hopefully encourage them to make a more professional appearance when meeting prospective employers. Please tell your students about this event.

This week we received a new COI policy. You may be of the opinion that further discussion would be a good idea and we agree. It is on the agenda for PAC [Policy Advisory Council] next week. We can come back to this topic in open forum if you wish. If you have concerns that we don't have time for, send them to me on email (lso@uams.edu). The PAC meeting with Chancellor Anderson at 3:15pm on February 2 is an open meeting.

Also, for your information, I did send the agenda out on Friday but hit the wrong link, so it went out on Friday to senators, but not to all faculty until Monday. We can come back to this issue later if need be.

IV. Introduction of New Topics (2 minute limit; no discussion)

President Smith-Olinde invited senators to address topics of interest to the body.

Jovanovic: I wish to comment on the Provost search. We were notified that three applicants have been invited to campus. There appears to have been no communication with faculty about the applicant pool. It was a secretive process in which faculty did not have any opportunity for input. I would have liked to have input, at least for one of the applicants. I wish to note my displeasure with the lack of open process in this search.

Tschumi: I have technical issues on one of the motions: I looked for language in the catalog, and saw that the language in the online catalog has been edited. Somebody made some changes. One thing shocked me. When we do legislation, it is often written by one person, then committees pore over it, then it comes to Senate to be sure it's right. In this case, the changes made changed the logic of what is required. It had moved the changes so that GPAs no longer applied to graduating seniors. The point is, when we write legislation, it should be used verbatim in any university publication. None of us as individuals has the right to change that language. First, the administration needs to put the old language back into the catalog, and, second, whenever changes are being made in the catalog, someone needs to be consulted to be sure it's not changing legislation.

V. Reports

A. Chancellor: Chancellor Anderson was not able to be present.

President Smith-Olinde announced that the order of agenda items B (Provost's report) and C (Office of Communications) would be reversed, with the Provost's permission.

B: Judy Williams, Director, Office of Communications: New UALR Ad Campaign

Williams: The new campaign began in September. We are now in the second cycle (we call them "flights"). You will remember that four years ago we began "A Difference of Degree", the result of research with high school students, parents of high school students, and business leaders. What we found was that people didn't have a positive or negative opinion about UALR, but just didn't know much. So we have been trying to provide information. This year's theme is UALR Graduates at Work. Students selecting colleges want to know: Can I get a job? We asked for

suggestions from deans, alums, etc. The students you will see are students that were recommended to us. We wanted students from Arkansas, who live in Arkansas and hold recognizable jobs, something people can understand. We think the campaign has a lot of legs. We intend to take it forward with different majors and different companies.

Fox, Erwin, and Pusser assisted Williams in presenting the various elements of the campaign. Senators were shown slides of ads that are used in media placement (TV, print, online, and outdoor media), as well as four TV spots in which the former students talk about their jobs and their education at UALR. The ads show the same people as on TV, but in the print campaign and in numerous publications. UALR also has a new outdoor board.

The UALR Graduates at Work campaign also makes use of a blog and an interactive ad with the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette as well as a stadium ad, Google ads, and social media (Facebook). The ad will be a subpage of our official UALR Facebook page. Our homepage banner shows the videos that you see on TV, and the stories are fleshed out more deeply. The campaign features both undergraduate and graduate students.

Williams encouraged us to go online and look at the campaign. Please let her know if you have any questions.

C. Provost: Sandra Robertson

Robertson: How's everybody? (Ford: You didn't bring cookies. Robertson: Right, I should have baked cookies).

Robertson: As you may or may not know, our enrollment has a problem. Graduate enrollment is down 13.5 percent – that's staggering. It went down last year, but this is much more serious. It's not coincidental that the drop is in two colleges, and they are programs that have grown significantly and have grown online. ASU in Jonesboro is down in terms of need because of their increased online enrollment (Master's degrees in the Colleges of Business and Education offered online). Coincidentally, UALR's enrollment is down in COE and COB. This has motivated us to reinvestigate our online programs. Last week I took a group, including President Smith-Olinde, Judy Williams, Jerry Stevenson, Mark Burris, Tammy Harrison and Charles Donaldson to UT-Arlington. It was a very informative day for us. We plan to do something similar to what they have done in online education. We propose to pilot the project with two programs – that want to do it; no one will be coerced, and it's not right for all programs. Here is what makes this project different: The courses will be either 5 or 8 weeks in length, web-based in some format or another. The faculty member will be paid a significant stipend to develop and offer the course; also, the faculty member will be paid a \$500 honorarium each time the course is offered (including when taught by someone else). The course should count toward a program or certificate. We will hire another instructional designer to work more closely with faculty to develop this new format.

Michael Moore, a Vice Provost at UT Arlington, will be on campus February 29 to share information about these programs. There will be open sessions for faculty to hear from him. There are two other things that make this project experimental. We will try for some large sections and for a faculty member who agrees to teach a large section, there will be a "coach" for every 25 students – these will be master's level trained people or graduate students who are assigned to work with the students online. This is the model. Michael Moore, the UT-Arlington Vice Provost, has several hundred students in each class, and has coaches to work with him

(vetted by him). They have hired a firm to market the programs. It's all very experimental. Our goal is to try it in the fall with two programs. Hopefully the programs that are losing enrollment will consider it. I think this a very good reason for trying something new and different. Questions?

Nolen: What will be the measures of success? What indicators?

Robertson: Enrollment will be one prominent measure. But Jerry and I have been discussing Quality Matters, a national organization for online programs, a sort of seal of approval. We are planning to pay the faculty developing the courses a \$5000 stipend, but in order to get the \$5000 they have to go through the Quality Matters training.

Nolen: that sounds like taking a close look at the inputs, but what about the learning outcomes? I'm hoping we'll look at that as well.

Robertson: We will look at how well they do in the subsequent courses. But, you're right; we have to look at outcomes too. One thing we've done is measure the same course taught online and face-to-face by the same instructor – the primary difference was that more people dropped the online courses (but this was 10 years ago, before students became so adept at online courses).

Prince: Suppose that we already have an online program, courses that are developed for 14 weeks. If we want to adapt them for 8 weeks, will that still count?

Robertson: I'm not sure how we will handle that. It's not fair to tell the students they can get these courses in that format unless they can get the whole program in that format. Nothing I'm saying here is written in stone. You couldn't get the whole program done by fall.

Jovanovic: In the news recently we heard about a Stanford professor who resigned his tenured position, hoping to have 150,000 students in an online class.

Robertson: This reminds me of a conference with an incredible cast of characters. I could tell you a story about a man named Sam Kahn, who started the Kahn Academy – let me know if you want to see the video.

We will talk more about this project at a later date.

Concerning the Provost candidates, I apologize for the swiftness with which these agendas were put together. All three candidates are finalists for other position. Denise Battles is going to Western Carolina University to interview for the position of Provost there – I'm not happy with David Belcher!

Concerning the motion on the 120 hours: Is it more likely to pass if I support it or oppose it? (Laughter).

D. Graduate Council: Chair: Amanda Nolen
Nolan had no report.

E. Undergraduate Council: Chair: Jeanette Clausen

Clausen: I have no report but UGC has an item on the agenda, which I'll speak to at the appropriate time.

VI. New Business

A. Motion: FS # 2011-12_10. From the Undergraduate Curriculum Council. Resolved: That UALR establish 120 as the number of hours required for baccalaureate degrees. [No second required; majority vote at one meeting]

Commentary: UALR, like other four-year institutions in Arkansas, is required to comply with Act 747 of 2011, which mandates 120 hours for most baccalaureate degrees. Requests to require more than 120 hours must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Adopting the above resolution will help UALR comply with ACT 747.

Once the new requirement of 120 hours has been established, baccalaureate degree programs that currently require 124 hours and allow for four or more free, general elective hours will be able to accommodate the change to 120 by adjusting the free elective hours and without making any other changes. This option requires departmental agreement only and does not have to be submitted for curriculum committee review.

Departments and programs that currently allow for fewer than four free, general elective hours within 124, or that currently require more than 124 hours for the baccalaureate degree, may change major requirements or prerequisites in order to allow students to graduate with 120 hours. Departments and programs will continue to submit such changes through the normal curriculum review process within their college and through UGC.

Departments and programs that believe they cannot make sufficient changes to degree requirements in order to allow students to graduate within the 120 hours will have to petition the Provost and Chancellor for an exception.

N.B. The 120 hours include all courses required before or after program admittance with the exception of developmental courses.

Clausen: I wish to move the above on behalf of the Undergraduate Council. I'm guessing that this is the motion that Pete has a problem with so I'm waiting with trepidation and anticipation. Since we have to comply with Act 747, we wanted to find a way to make it efficient for programs that can come into compliance without making any changes except for adjusting the number of free elective hours. I'll take questions, brickbats, or whatever is out there.

Watts: Could I just suggest adding the word "normally" before required, or add "minimum" number of hours. What I'm looking for is language to indicate that there will be exceptions, language in the motion to that effect.

Clausen accepted this wording after receiving agreement from Sims, a UGC member.

Ford: What's our deadline on this? Do we have to get this done today?

Clausen asked Karen Wheeler to address the question of the deadline.

Robertson: We have to have a plan by the middle of next month. I hope you will go ahead and pass it, because other universities, such as Arkansas Tech, are already advertising that their degrees are only 120 hours.

Ford: If we pass this today, we will have agreed on the idea and we'll have time to work on the actual legislation, to get the wording right.

Tschumi: Is this sentence to replace current legislation?

Clausen: UGC didn't look at the current legislation.

Tschumi: Here's the problem. If this sentence were to replace the existing sentence as printed in the catalog ("To receive a baccalaureate degree, a student must complete a minimum of 124 hours of which 30 hours must be in residence and 45 must be upper-level [3000 level or above]"), it would change the requirements for the degree. Someone reading this sentence [in the motion], could interpret it to mean that this legislation would remove the 45 upper level hours and the 30 hour residency requirement.

Clausen: That wasn't our intent. We only wanted to encourage departments that can do so to get down to 120 hours by adjusting free elective hours, not eliminate upper-level hours or residency requirements. Some departments have already sent their changes through UGC, but if they are only adjusting free elective hours, there is no need to go through any curriculum committee.

Tschumi: It was my assumption that that was your intent, but when we do legislation, we have to work within existing legislation. The simplest way to do what you wanted is to take that sentence [from the catalog] and replace 124 with 120, which enables all departments to go ahead and make adjustments very quickly. Or we can use the language from Act 747. Here's the problem: You cannot legislate in the commentary, it has to be in the motion.

Robertson: I would agree with Pete, but if you change the number to a minimum of 120 hours you create another problem.

Tschumi: You can add another sentence defining the conditions for programs that cannot bring it down to 120 hours.

Smith-Olinde: Clearly this needs some additional work.

(Senator whose name the secretary did not get) 120 hours is both the minimum and the maximum.

Clausen: Thank you for bringing that up; that's one of the things that we discussed in UGC – if we stated 120 hours as the minimum, then every program would already meet the minimum, because they are all at 124 hours or higher.

Jovanovic: We should not be legislating maximum number of hours for our programs. If the legislature does it, we can't stop them, but we shouldn't do it to ourselves. Current ADHE rules state that the range for bachelor's degrees is 120 to 136 hours. ADHE also allows for programs to

exceed 136 hours in order to meet accreditation standards, for example. There are many engineering programs that exceed 136 and we should not be prevented from introducing such programs at UALR. We should not do a maximum, that's just ridiculous.

Giammo: If this is just a resolution for today, and we need to work on the motion to develop official legislation to be voted on later, I think it would be better to have more general language. I suggest: Resolved, that UALR will establish requirements for the baccalaureate degree in accordance with Act 747 of 2011. Giammo was asked if he wished to offer this statement as a substitute motion. He agreed. Sims seconded.

Daryl Rice: I swore to God I wouldn't speak today, but I've been all around this, and I've been on everyone's side. For internal purposes, Pete's first suggestion will do what we need. Now here's the problem – and Nick, I side with you, there are some programs where we must make the argument that these programs must go over [the 120 hours]. But I don't just want to make light of ADHE by saying the 120 hours are the minimum, so everyone already meets the minimum. And that's where Pete's second proposal comes in, to strike the word "minimum" – then you allow for exceptions.

Ford: First of all, Daryl, you and God are not that close, so you don't want to swear to this [laughter]. Second, I'm reminded of debates in this body a few years ago, when we worked on the Promotion and Tenure document. Trying to write legislation in a large body doesn't work. I speak in favor of the substitute motion, which basically says "we want to comply with the law". And then we can come back later with precise wording.

Jovanovic: I don't see why we can't do both. Why can't we change our minimum to 120 today, and also pass Joe's proposal. I'd like to do one of Pete's amendments today and the substitute motion.

Smith-Olinde: We have to vote on the substitute motion first.

Giammo: I think taking time to develop the necessary wording is wise.

Guellich: I apologize, I'm very confused. Why can we not use the language directly from Act 747; it's very short. Why was that [language] not good enough?

Smith-Olinde: That hasn't been proposed. At the moment what's on the floor is Senator Giammo's substitute motion. Please read it out again.

Giammo: That UALR will establish requirements for the baccalaureate degree in accordance with Act 747 of 2011.

President Smith-Olinde called for a vote. The motion passed on a voice vote.

The meeting then moved on to Motions FS# 2011-12_11 and 2011-12_12, below.

After those motions were approved, it was pointed out that the body had not voted on the substitute motion, but had only voted to substitute Giammos's motion for the original motion

After this was clarified, President Smith-Olinde called for a vote on the content of the substitute motion. The substitute motion passed by a show of hands.

B. Motion: FS # 2011-12_11. From the Undergraduate Research Council.

Resolved: That the Faculty Senate approve the change of this committee name from "Undergraduate Research Council" to "Student Research and Creative Works Council". [No second required; ~~majority vote at one meeting~~. Three-fifths vote at two meetings]

Commentary: The Undergraduate Research Council met and discussed that the current name does not encourage submission of creative works from the Arts and related categories. Based on the input received and a review of the information available from peer institutions, we are requesting a name change. In addition, this committee is responsible for organizing the undergraduate and graduate research expo and therefore, we want to drop the "undergraduate" from the name and replace it with "Student" Accordingly the mission will reflect the new name as well and it will read:

"The mission of this committee is to promote, support, and extend undergraduate and graduate research, scholarship, artistry, and other forms of creative activities at UALR, as well as to encourage research collaboration between faculty and students."

Senator Tarasenko moved the above and explained the rationale, as stated above.

President Smith-Olinde invited discussion.

Tschumi: Point of order: The motion is a change in the constitution and requires a majority vote at two meetings.

Tschumi: A discussion took place on the EIT listserv. The concern that was expressed goes back to the original intent in establishing this Council, which was to encourage undergraduate research. Undergraduate research requires specific support, whereas graduate students are expected to do research. The concern was that undergraduate research initiatives will get overwhelmed. If we need to do something for graduate student research, we should do it outside of this committee.

Smith-Olinde: Does anyone want to speak in favor of the motion?

President Smith-Olinde called for a vote. The voice vote was challenged, and the Senators voted again by a show of hands. The motion passed.

C. Motion: FS # 2011-12_12. From the Undergraduate Research Council.

Resolved: That the Faculty Senate approve the change of this committee's mission to include "graduate". [No second required; ~~majority vote at one meeting~~. Three-fifths vote at two meetings]

Previous mission: The mission of this committee is to promote, support, and extend undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activities at UALR, as well as to encourage research collaboration between undergraduate students and faculty.

The new mission of the Student Research and Creative Works Council will be: "The mission of this committee is to promote, support, and extend undergraduate and graduate research, scholarship, artistry, and other forms of creative activities at UALR, as well as to encourage research collaboration between faculty and students."

Tarasenko moved the above: and read the motion and commentary.

Smith-Olinde invited discussion and questions. There were none. The motion passed on a voice vote.

VII. Open Forum

Smith-Olinde invited comments for open forum.

Watts: Who are STAMATS? May I note that they are not at any time meeting with Faculty.

Smith-Olinde explained that STAMATS is a consulting firm that has been hired to work with UALR on behalf of student recruitment and student success.

Amy Barnes – I think there is a committee related to the STAMATS visit – our dean invited us to participate, that's how I know.

Marian Douglas – I have two concerns. Many departments are going through the approval process for their governance docs and we get suggestions. Once we make changes based on those suggestions do we have to start the whole process over again?

Ford: I'm really wishing Ed [Anson] were here. When the document leaves your department the clock starts running. Speaking from the governance committee perspective, our position is: do you want to make changes based on our comments? Or do you want it to go forward with our comments accompanying it? The role of our committee is to help you make a better document. Some departments have a better command of the English language, and some just forget to put details in. Once you pull your document back to make changes, you've done it, not us.

Tschumi: It tends to be expedited the second time around. We've already looked at it so it's relatively easy for us to go through and see what changes you've made and whether there are still any concerns.

Douglas: My second is a totally different topic. Our department is dealing with the 120 hours – one of our degrees is an accredited program where we can probably request and receive an exception. The core, the second language requirement and the minor requirement all affect our ability to bring our degrees down to 120 hours. We really need to hear from that [Undergraduate Curriculum Review] Committee. We need to push that process along. How many hours constitute a minor?

Burgin: Until we know what's going to happen with the core, and the foreign language requirement, we are doing a bunch of meaningless work.

Jovanovic: That brings up an interesting question: the foreign language requirement is listed not in terms of hours, but in terms of proficiency – do those hours count?

Karen Wheeler: We have to count those [nine] hours. I was directly told that we would have to count them.

Jovanovic: For engineering programs, students have to have taken algebra and trig – what about those?

Wheeler: What they are going to look at is: are we comparable, e.g., do Fayetteville and the other four-year institutions count college algebra or not? We will compare our programs to similar programs within the state, and if there are no comparable programs in the state, they will go outside the state.

Prince: Going back to Marian and John – how can we expedite the process of the UCR?

Ford: “I feel your pain” but your pain is caused by two different groups. The state legislature didn’t ask us what our schedule was for reviewing the core. You are caught in the middle of two different authorities.

Prince: But Nick made a proposal a couple of meetings ago to adopt the state minimum core.

Jovanovic: The motion is still out there and can be brought back.

Smith-Olinde: Expediency may not be the reason to vote on it.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Clausen, Secretary

