



## FACULTY SENATE

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### Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes November 20, 2020 Synchronous Online

I. Welcome and Roll Call (President Nolan calls to order at 1:04 PM)

*Present:* **CHASSE** – Baylis, Cheatham, Condran, Groesbeck, Hamilton, Heil, Matson, Mitchell, Nahrwold, Scheidt, Scranton, Smith, Tate. **CBHHS** – Atkins, ten Bensel, Golden, Hendon, Jones, Leonard, Ruhr, Woolridge. **CSTEM** – Baillie, DeAngelis, Deng, Kattoum, LeGrand, Milanova, Pidugu, Ray, Turner. **LIBRARY** – Macheak. **LAW** – Cain, Woodmansee. **EX OFFICIO** – Drale, Bain, Nolen, Wright, Henslee.

*Absent:* **CHASSE** – Blevins-Knabe. **CBHHS** – Sadaka, Solomon, Teague. **CSTEM** – Woolbright. **LIBRARY** – none. **LAW** – Boles. **EX OFFICIO** – Dekay.

II. Review of Minutes from 30 October 2020

- 2 amendments: Duo Lingo + clarify re: TOEFL availability

Approved

III. Announcements

- Angie Faller: Call for interesting stories about F2020 graduating students
  - Submit to: <https://ualr.edu/commencement/studentstory>

IV. Airing of Grievances (2 minute limit)

- Wright: FERPA compliance needs to be improved campus wide
  - Published policies should be revised

V. Introduction of New Topics (2 minute limit)

- Wright: Policy issues related to Student Complaint Portal
  - All other complaints outside of grade appeals lack a procedure/policy
  - Recommend Senate address this issue

VI. Reports

A. Executive Committee - Amanda Nolen, President of Faculty Senate

- Resolution to extend C-19 Policy to Spring/Summer 2021
  - Specifically revise attendance policy to address student and instructor presence owing to C-19 impacts
- January FS meeting 1/30/2021; items due to EC by 1/15; notify A. Nolen
- Motion to adopt report/passed

**B. Chancellor's Report – Christy Drale, Chancellor**

- Spring enrollment is impacted by worsening C-19 pandemic
  - Down 14% headcount and 15% SSCHs; Nursing students not yet enrolled (will add 10%)
  - Could be impacted by potential relief package from US Congress
- Revenue projections “volatile” for FY 2021 (see 1:30 PM)
  - Adjusted from 5% to 6% reduction for FY 2022
  - Supposed to have state monies restored from FY 2021 for FY 2022: \$3 million
- IEC has had first meeting
  - Variance analysis to begin in earnest
- UALR identified by US News and World report as #1 in state for upward mobility for students
- Women's volleyball advancing to final tournament
- Happy holiday wishes!

Q: Tuition and fees raised at BOT meeting?

A: No

Q: Concern how money from tech fees is spent?

A: IEC to look at budgets for purposes of realignment

- Will use FYs 18-20 to assess

Q: Nature of resolution from BOT

A: President Bobbitt worked with Trustees to emphasize direct engagement with students but allow for flexibility to teach safely during pandemic

Q: Any concern about BOT's inclinations with resolution?

A: No discussion; feels system and BOT is realistic; system will survey students and families re: satisfaction with multiple modalities

Q: Instance of student who moved in and then classes, roommate situation, and etc. changed owing to C-19; yet lease/meal agreement had no flexibility. Concern about student satisfaction with university.

A: University does not have different lease/meal agreements than other campuses. Housing numbers will shrink for S2021. Do need to be aware of impact on student experience.

**C. Provost's Report – Ann Bain, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor**

- Maintenance accounts across campus are variable
  - Rapid transition to 3 colleges did not allow time to evaluate technology funds
  - Data will be gathered and made available
- Commencement ceremonies:
  - Bowen Law will have f2f at Ron Robinson Auditorium
  - Dean Berry will have closed ceremony for MA and PhD graduates; location TBD
  - Virtual commencement for Fall 2020 graduates
- Close to purchase of space management software: CollegeNet Space Management Solutions. Need for infrastructural support, usage, costs, consistent data. CollegeNet compatible with Banner and Workday.

- Encourage students to enroll for Spring to have realistic numbers.
- Thanks(giving) for feedback on workload policy.
- Survey coming out on role of coordinators on campus.
- Thanks(giving) for Friday shoutouts.

Q: Student planning to graduate; unclear on procedure to upload video, etc.

A: Refer student info to Provost; all pending graduates have been communicated with.

**D. Undergraduate Council - Joe Felan, Chair (N/A)**

- Review of Teach-out plans in report
- Concern with BFA in Dance and how it will be fulfilled

**E. Graduate Council - Laura Ruhl, Chair (present)**

Report out on Teach-out plans for grad degrees

- Concerned with communication and timely decisions to and for students
  - Timelines should accommodate work commitments and C-19
  - Clear appeal process
- Retention of faculty for teach-out
  - Students have limited options/numbers of faculty for advisers and committee members

Motion to approve recommendations made in UG and GC Reports

Passed

**F. Core Council - Belinda Blevins-Knabe, Chair (N/A)**

J. Matson: read report on SKIM

Recommendation: Clarify in report what acronym stands for (Skills in the Major)

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. New Business

**A. Motion FS\_2020\_25.** Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at one Meeting, no second required) Fall 2020 graduates

**Be it resolved** that those applicants completing all requirements for various degrees in the 2020 Fall Semester shall be approved for graduation. (see ualr.edu/facultysenate for a list of candidates for graduation, current as of 11/20/2020).

Approved

**B. Motion FS\_2020\_26.** Admissions and Transfer of Credit Committee (Legislation. Majority vote at one meeting, no second required) Transfer Admissions.

**Be it resolved** to amend the transfer student admission requirements of the Admissions Categories Policy (Policy 502.1; Rev. 11/2019, 4/1990) as indicated in Appendix A (underline indicates addition, strikethrough indicates deletion); and

**Be it further resolved** that upon approval, implementation of changes will be effective as of July 2021.

*Commentary:* There are two substantive changes to the admissions policy.

- (1) Adding “institutionally accreditation” language to supplement the now outdated “regionally-accredited” language.
- (2) Automatic admission if the student last attended a post-secondary institution 7 or more years prior.

The U.S. Department of Education no longer defines “regional accreditation”. All policies using the “regional accrediting” language should be updated with “institutionally accrediting” language.

Many schools offer clemency for their own students. Some universities (notably the University of Georgia system) offer clemency for transfers within the university system. For our situation, transfer student one-year retention is strongest for those transferring within one year (67%), and then drops sharply for students out 2 years (53%). From there persistence improves for every additional year between institutions until the 7th year (66%), where it plateaus.

The data on admission appeals show a similar pattern. With fewer observations, we cannot be as precise in our cutoffs and estimates. However, appeal admits with more than 3 years between institutions have a 70% one-year retention. Appeal admits with less than 3 years have a 57% one-year retention. Therefore, we propose a grade-forgiveness/grade-forgetting admission policy for students out of school for more than 7 years. The proposal is not clemency in that we do not include transfer GPA in the UA Little Rock GPA, but for admissions decisions the proposal serves a similar purpose.

Note that 7-years effectively limits the affected population to 25+. Our transfer admissions data suggests ages 23-25 are rough for our transfer applicants (particularly for those with fewer than 60 hours). 9.3% of transfer applicants have been out of school for 7+years. We would have admitted about 15 more transfer students per year from Fall 2014-Spring 2019 with the 7-year policy--about 1.2% more transfer admissions.

Mark Funk presents:

Response to new U.S.D.E guidelines

Discussion:

- Clarification: Intent is to admit students but transfer policy determines acceptance?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Will the University simply overlook previous standing? Are there overlooked problems in that approach?
- A: Focus on academic good-standing. After seven years, student is in a new place. University does not investigate financial or discipline standings at previous institutions.

Approved

**C.FS\_2020\_27** Planning & Finance Committee. (Recommendation. Majority vote at one meeting, no second required) Faculty Workload Policy

**Whereas**, the Planning and Finance Committee has reviewed Chancellor Drale's response to the Faculty Senate's recommendations regarding the proposed Faculty Workload Policy (4/2016);

**Therefore, be it resolved** to accept the recommendations from the Planning & Finance Committee that address the Chancellor's concerns ([Planning & Finance Report](#)).

A. Wright presents

- Recommendation by 2016 task force has been considered and developed
- Feedback/concerns/suggested revisions provided by Chancellor Drale
- Committee has sought to address those concerns; hopeful that this policy may now move forward.

Document reviewed; each change discussed and approved by individual votes.  
All changes approved without discussion, questions or comments.

IX. Open Forum

X. Adjourn (3:19 PM)