UALR FACULTY SENATE

Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda
Friday, May 1, 2015
1:00 PM until Adjournment
Legends Room

I. Welcome and Roll Call

II. Review of Minutes

III. Announcements

IV. Introduction of New Topics (2 min limit, no discussion)

V. Reports

A. Chancellor's Report – Joel Anderson

B. Provost's Report – Zulma Toro

C. Council on Core Curriculum and Policies – Belinda Blevins-Knabe

D. Undergraduate Council – Mike Tramel

E. Graduate Council – Kent Layton

F. Ad Hoc On-line Committee – Lisa Sherwin

VI. Old Business

A. Motion FS_2015_16. Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at Two Meetings – second vote) Modify Membership of FGC (no second required)

Whereas the Faculty Governance Committee should include both continuity of experience in handling governance matters *and* representation extending through all parts of the university; and

Whereas the Faculty Senate Executive Committee already has many duties; and

Whereas the population of past presidents fluctuates and may not be large enough to carry the load required for good functioning of this committee;

Therefore be it resolved that the composition of the Faculty Governance Committee be changed in the following manner:

Faculty Governance Committee: This committee acts to facilitate faculty governance and to ~~insure~~ ensure that governance documents and policies are in accordance with all campus and University of Arkansas Board of Trustee policies. It monitors the Faculty Handbook insuring that approved changes are promptly and accurately incorporated into the Handbook. The committee shall establish cycles of review for the

Handbook and all faculty governance documents from academic departments and schools and colleges. In the event a governance document does not reflect current campus policy(ies), the committee shall inform the unit(s) involved and assist the unit in developing needed modifications as feasible. The committee shall develop for approval by the Faculty Senate and Chancellor a generic college and a generic department governance document to be available for use by a newly created academic unit.

In the event such a new academic department or college is created, this committee shall assist the new unit(s) with the development of governance document(s). Until such new document(s) is/are created, the new unit shall operate within the framework of the generic governance document provided by the committee.

The committee shall consist of ~~the officers of the Faculty Senate and all past presidents of the University Assembly who do not hold administrative appointments above the level of department chair.~~ one member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee selected by the Executive Committee; all past presidents of the University Assembly who do not hold an administrative appointment above the level of department chair and who are willing to serve; one member from each college/school represented in the Faculty Senate, elected by the faculty of the college/school, one member of the Ottenheimer Library elected by the Ottenheimer Library faculty, and one member of the Faculty Senate, elected by the Faculty Senate. Elected members will serve three year, staggered terms.

Commentary: There was some desire to make sure that a larger representation of past presidents was allowable, while retaining the flexibility so that election to president does not result in a life-time appointment to this committee. The word "insure" usually only applies to financial institutions, so the correct usage in this instance is "ensure."

VII. New Business

A. Motion FS_2015_20. Faculty Senate *Executive Committee* (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting) To approve 2014 Spring Graduates

Those applicants completing all requirements for various degrees in the 2015 Spring Semester shall be approved for graduation. (see attachment 1 for a list of candidates for graduation, current as of 4/24/15).

B. Motion FS_2015_21. Academic Calendar and Schedules Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting) To approve the AY17-18 Calendar

The AY17-18 calendar shown in attachment 2 shall be approved.

C. Motion FS_2015_22. Athletics Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting. No Second Required.) Commend the Women's Basketball team

Whereas the Women's Basketball team achieved a difficult accomplishment by gaining a berth in the NCAA division I championship and

Whereas the team won the Sun Belt Conference Championship,

Therefore Be it Resolved that the Faculty Senate recognizes their hard work and commends their success.

D. Motions FS_2015_25. Faculty Appeals Council, Academic Integrity and Grievance Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting. No Second Required.) Judicial Appeals revisited

Motions FS_2015_12, FS_2015_13, and FS_2015_14 were jointly referred to the Academic Integrity and Grievance Committee and the Faculty Appeals Council. Both bodies recommend rejection of the motions.

Substitute Motion FS_2015_25. Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting. No Second Required.) Judicial Appeals Revisited

> Whereas the issue of Judicial Appeals requires attention, and
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> Whereas the existing policies are disorganized, and
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> Whereas the matter of Judicial Appeals cuts across two Standing Committees, and
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> Whereas these Standing Committees are too large to effectively consider the matter,
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> Therefore be it resolved that the organization of existing Faculty Senate legislative policies on judicial appeals into a single policy shall be referred to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and
>
> Be it further resolved that the revision of policies shall be referred to a committee of <u>twelve</u> members to be appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee,
> - one of whom must be a representative of each college or school represented in the faculty senate,
> - one of whom must be a representative of the library,
> - one of whom must be a member of the Faculty Appeals Council,
> - one of whom must be a member of the Academic Integrity and Grievance Committee,
> - one of whom must be an undergraduate student,
> - one of whom must be a graduate student,
> - one of whom must be a representative of each administrative unit that manages appeals (for instance, provost's office, human resources, dean of students).

VIII. Open Forum

A. Discussion of Motion FS_2015_xx. Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting. No Second Required.) eVersity Curricular Governance

Whereas the faculty of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock are supportive of the UofA System's efforts to start a fully on-line eVersity to reach students not currently able to access or afford the UofA's four year or two year campuses, and

Whereas the faculty of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock are willing to partner with eVersity as long as such partnership can be done consistent with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation and the requirements of national accrediting bodies, and

Whereas HLC accreditation requires faculty review of both curriculum and credentials, and

Whereas a start-up such as eVersity and the relationship with partner institutions continues to evolve and requires an amendable process,

Therefore, Be it Resolved that eVersity curricula will follow the Curricular Governance Structure for eVersity Programs stated here:

Curricular Governance Structure for eVersity Programs

Program: The bundle of degrees and certificates and credentials offered by eVersity in an area, defined in the initial curriculum proposal and added to or subtracted from in subsequent Program Changes, will be governed as defined below.

Curriculum and Academic Policy Review Process: Curriculum and other policy decisions will be developed by the Back-stop Department (see below), reviewed by the eVersity Program Administrator (see below), and then passed on to the appropriate College curriculum Council. From the appropriate College curriculum Council, the matter will be passed on to the curriculum process as detailed in the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Back-stop Department: A UALR department will serve as the Back-stop for each Program (see ~~Program~~ above). Should the formal relationship between UALR and eVersity dissolve, this faculty will have the responsibility to "Teach Out" (the Higher Learning Commission [HLC] term for transitioning out programs) students who have started in the Program but not yet completed, as well as to wind down the curriculum.

Initial selection or replacement of the Back-stop department will follow the Curriculum and Academic Policy Review Process (see above) as a Program Change. The selection of the Back-stop department must be part of the initial Program Change for any new program.

The Back-stop Department will develop an assessment plan and submit it to the Curriculum and Academic Policy Review Process (see above).

The Back-stop Department Chair will serve as the conduit for information between the eVersity Program Administrator (see below) and the Program Assembly.

Program Assembly: The faculty supporting each separate eVersity Program shall constitute a Program Assembly. This Program Assembly will consist of all faculty members, whether from UALR or elsewhere, whose credentials have been validated by the Back-stop Department and who are participating in the program through teaching courses and advising students. Members of this Assembly may initiate Program and Curricular Changes.

eVersity Program Administrator: An administrator will be appointed, through a process in an associated Memorandum of Understanding, to serve as the eVersity point of contact, oversee resource allocation, course teaching assignment, and other administrative aspects of the Program

Minimum Program Faculty: If there are too few instructors to teach the courses in a Program, the Program will suspend without a Program Change, and the Back-stop Department faculty will teach out those students who have started the program. This suspension may be halted by curricular action of the Back-stop Department.

Credential Policy: Each eVersity Program must develop a policy detailing minimum credentials required to be eligible to teach in the Program. The original policy and modifications to the Credential Policy must be submitted to the Curriculum and Academic Policy Review Process as a Program Change. For faculty of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, professor, distinguished professor, and university professor rank who are full-time faculty members at any University of Arkansas campus, the Credential Policy should review only appropriateness of degrees by subject and level to the Program. For any other credentials, the Credential Policy should be more detailed.

Validating Faculty to Participate in the Program: Any faculty member who wants to teach classes in the Program (including members of the Back-stop Department) will submit credentials to the Back-stop Department (once), which will decide by applying the Credential Policy.

Appeal of credential decision: The decisions of the Back-stop Department are final.

National Accreditation: For programs that may impact national accreditation in UALR programs, such as business or social work, the faculty of those accredited programs must write a letter indicating how program changes will impact their accreditation (if at all) to accompany any Program Change.

Advising students: Students will be advised by eVersity staff as detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding.

Equivalency of Courses: eVersity courses and UALR courses may be similar enough that courses may be automatically transferred between an eVersity program and a UALR program. The Back-stop Department who is over-seeing the eVersity course and the UALR department faculty offering the UALR course may establish or modify an equivalency between courses by submitting a joint curriculum change document to the curriculum process. The eVersity curriculum change will follow the Curriculum and Academic Policy Review Process. The UALR curriculum change will follow the curriculum process described in the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Once an equivalency has been established, it may be rescinded by curriculum change from UALR department faculty or the Back-stop Department.

Once eVersity becomes independently accredited by HLC or equivalent accrediting body, these equivalencies will be maintained.

Modification: This document can be modified as a piece of legislation through majority vote of the Faculty Senate (see Article III of the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock).

B. Discussion of Motion FS_2015_xx. Executive Committee (Legislation. Majority Vote at One Meeting. No Second Required.) eVersity MoU recommendation

Whereas administrative details involved with partnering with eVersity are handled in a Memorandum of Understanding, rather than through legislative action of the Faculty Senate, and

Whereas a Memorandum of Understanding does not abrogate the Faculty Senate's responsibilities under the Constitution of the Assembly of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock or University of Arkansas Board Policies,

Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Faculty Senate recommends that the Chief Academic Officer sign the draft Memorandum of Understanding for all campuses (see attachment) with the following caveats,

Regarding **University of Arkansas System Colleges and Universities Obligations:** 2. Aca-

demic Polices, that UALR Academic Policies also apply to all UALR students, including those that are participating in a joint degree program between UALR and eVersity, and

Regarding **University of Arkansas System Colleges and Universities Obligations: item 2:** Academic Polices, that the process of transferring eVersity courses will be handled through the Equivalencies process defined in eVersity Curricular Governance legislation (FS_2015_xx), and

Regarding **University of Arkansas System Colleges and Universities Obligations: item 2:** *Access to UA System College and University Facilities and Network*, that the expense of maintaining these facilities, especially the library databases, may depend on the number of students served and any use of facilities that might incur additional costs to UALR will be managed through an Addendum to this MoU, along with appropriate fees, and

Regarding **University of Arkansas System *e*Versity and University of Arkansas System College or University Shared Obligations: 2.** *Degree Conferral*, and **University of Arkansas System Colleges and Universities Obligations: 1.** *Joint Degree Conferral.* And **University of Arkansas System Colleges and Universities Obligations: 2.** *University of Arkansas System College or University Students Enrollments in eVersity Courses that* any degrees conferred jointly between eVersity and UALR and any eVersity course UALR students enroll in through the UALR student information system (Banner) must be approved through the eVersity Curricular Governance legislation (FS_2015_xx), and

Regarding eVersity Program Administrator defined in the Curricular Governance Structure for eVersity Programs, that a process for appointing an administrator serve as the eVersity point of contact, oversee resource allocation, course teaching assignment, and other administrative aspects of the Program must be developed as an Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding.

IX. Adjourn