

Faculty Senate Minutes
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 17, 2025 at 3:10 p.m., Blue Gray Room

I. Approval of March 03, 2025 Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted

II. Committee Reports

Assembly Committees and Representatives

A. Admissions & Credits (Senator Nichols)

Senator Nichols noted that advising begins next week on 3/26, reminded everyone that the withdrawal deadline is this Friday 3/21, and encouraged faculty to also remind students of the deadline.

B. Curriculum & Instruction (Senator Cline)

Senator Cline noted that C&I has added an extra meeting on March 31st and requested that proposals be sent by 3/24. The final meeting of the year is April 14th.

C. Core Curriculum (Monica Larson)

No report

D. Interdisciplinary Curricular Committee (Senator Groff)

Senator Groff reported that the committee discussed ownership of the BA language requirement and reached a consensus that oversight of the language requirement does not seem to fit with the committee's charge.

E. Advisory Council of Faculty (Senator Guirguis)

Senator Guirguis sent a written report prior to the meeting.

Faculty Senate Committees and Representatives

F. Library Liaison (Senator Donaldson)

Senator Donaldson asked faculty to remind students about LibGuides and to seek out library resources.

G. Professional Development, Faculty Salary, and Welfare (Senator Anthony)

Senator Anthony asked faculty to please take the Create the Future, Mini Grants, and Summer Stipend application processes seriously as lackluster submissions are being rejected.

H. Scholarship & Awards (Senators Vance and Murphy)

Senators Murphy and Vance reported that they have received no submissions for the faculty scholarship thus far.

I. Senate Bylaws (Senator Cline)

No report

J. Washington Gateway (Senator Coltrin)

No report

K. Honors Advisory Board (Director Brasher)

No report

External Committee Representatives

L. Calendar Committee (Senator Groff)

Senator Groff reported that the 26-28 calendar has been approved

M. Diversity & Equity Committee (Senator Hall)

No report

N. Enrollment Management Committee (Senators Showen and Campany)

No report

O. Graduate Council (Senator Coltrin)

No report

P. Student Success Committee (Senator ~~Campany~~, Johnston)

Senator Campany noted that he is no longer the Student Success Committee representative; Senator Johnston is now the representative.

Q. Technology Oversight Committee (Senator Guzide)

Senator Guzide reported that the committee is working on a new strategic plan, seeking input from all departments, seeking grants to support technology updates, and learned from IT that seventy-three computers are in line to be replaced.

Other Committees

R. Budget Advisory Council (Senator Beck, Senator Berenschot, Senator Campany, Senator Robertson)

No report

S. Internationalization Advisory Council (Senator Yablonsky)

No report

T. Threat Assessment Task Force (Senators Yablonsky and Murphy)

No report

III. Updates/Progress on Senate Actions/Discussions

A. Administrative prioritization

Senator Daily reported that he is the new faculty representative on the committee. He also reported that everyone should be getting a progress report in the next few days and that the committee has convinced the team to adopt the working draft and indicate which recommendations are being implemented or rejected. Jack Shaw is leading the committee. There have been no specific goals articulated for the prioritization process as a whole. There was discussion about where we are with the \$6 million structural deficit; senators noted that it is not clear where the university stands, whether or not the gap has been closed. There was discussion of the need to know how much the recommendations of administrative prioritization will cost with an itemized breakdown

B. Chair compensation

Senators reported that a group of deans, VPs, chairs, and faculty are discussing language about roles, duties and financial feasibility of changes to compensation; clarifying distinction between schools, departments, chairs, directors; and clarifying summer responsibilities. There was discussion of balancing administrative prioritization and proposed changes with the pressing issue of chair compensation

C. Document shredding

Senator Daily reached out to departments to see what needs are and plans are in the works to have a truck service on campus for a document shredding day.

D. Who owns the BA language requirement (Senator Daily)

Senator Groff reported that the Interdisciplinary Committee does not think that the BA language requirement belongs under their purview. Senator Daily raised the possibility that it belongs to Faculty Senate. There was Discussion of whether new BA or BS programs have specific criteria stipulated beyond the language requirement. Senators noted that there is nothing documented outlining the distinctions between BA and BS degrees.

IV. New Business

Senator Anthony made a motion to adopt Amy DeWitt's proposal for merging Student Academic Support Center and Student Success Center with the goal of realizing savings that could be used to increase chair/director compensation. Senator Groff seconded the motion, then withdrew the second. Senator Robertson suggested that we bring this proposal to departments/schools. Senator Nichols asked whether this is moot given the President's decision not to merge these departments. Senator Daily said to take the proposal back to departments/schools.

Senators Robertson and Vance brought up revisiting the changes made to colleges and departments from academic prioritization, asking if those changes could be reevaluated. There was further discussion about asking Dr. Barton to update the senate on the budget, including the history of what has been done and what was uncovered in the process; if the budget is in the black, and how was this achieved. Senators noted that it is difficult to know how to move forward with solving structural and administrative issues if we don't know the status of the budget.

V. Announcements

A. Board of Governors Meetings Schedule (Storer Ballroom of Student Center)

~~September 12, 2024 4:15 p.m.~~

~~November 14, 2024 4:15 p.m.~~

~~December 17, 2024 4:15 p.m.~~

~~February 13, 2025 4:15 p.m.~~

April 17, 2025 4:15 p.m.

June 12, 2025 4:15 p.m.