

## Oakland University Senate Minutes

November 20, 2014

**Members present:** *Aloi, Andersen, Andrews, Awbrey, Baxa, Berven, D., Bulgarelli, Chapman, Cheng, Corcoran, Dereski, Dulio, Eis, Epstein, Estes, Giblin, Goldberg, Grimm, Guessous, Iwanski, Johnson, Knox, Latcha, Lee, Leibert, Licker, Mazzeo, McEneaney, Meehan, Meinberg, Mitchell, Moore, Pelfrey, Penprase, Ragheb, Rigstad, Roth, Rozek, Schartman, Sifonis, Spagnuolo, Thompson, Tracy, Wells, Westergaard, Wharton, Williams, Wren*

**Members absent:** *Barber, Buzzo, Chamra, Cole, Corso, Folberg, Groomes, Hansen, Long, Maxfield, Miller, Polis, Rawashdeh, Singhal, Switzer, Tiegs, Wood*

Provost Lentini called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

### Summary of Information and Action Items:

#### Information Items

- Program modifications approved by UCUI
  - Applied Health Sciences Program; Elementary Teaching Minor in a Modern Language (DMLL, Chinese);  
Secondary Teaching Minor in a Modern Language (DMLL, Chinese);  
Environmental Health and Safety SHS;  
Chinese Studies in International Studies; Japanese Studies in International Studies
- New Concentrations approved by UCUI
  - Addiction Studies in Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice; Gerontology in Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice
- Approval of August Graduate List
- Course Wait-listing
- Course renumbering
- Provost's Updates

#### ACTION ITEMS

New Business: **Motions:**

- The library faculty member of the General Education Committee will be moved from ex-officio and non-voting to a member with voting privileges (first reading)

- Revised charge and membership for the Senate Athletic Committee (first reading)
- Endorsement of the termination of the agreement with the Western Michigan University-Cooley Law School (approved)
- Procedural Motion to staff Senate Standing Committees (approved)

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- Provost Lentini updated Senate members on program modifications approved by UCUI in the following areas:
  - Applied Health Sciences Program (SHS)
  - Elementary Teaching Minor in a Modern Language: Ms. Meuser (DMLL) was present to explain that Elementary Teaching Minors already exist in French, German, Japanese and Spanish. The new Teaching Minor is in Chinese.
  - Secondary Teaching Minor in a Modern Language: Ms. Meuser explained that Secondary Teaching Minors already exist in French, German, Japanese and Spanish. The new Secondary Teaching Minor is in Chinese.
  - Environmental Health and Safety (SHS)
  - Chinese Studies in International Studies
  - Japanese Studies in International Studies
- Mr. Lentini updated Senate members concerning the approval by UCUI of two new Concentrations that have been approved in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice (CAS):
  - Addiction Studies
  - Gerontology
- Mr. Lentini announced that the Senate Steering committee had approved the August Graduation List.
- Mr. Lentini invited Chris Goeth (Assistant Registrar) and Karen Markel (School of Business) to make their presentation to the Senate concerning how the new 'Course Wait-listing' system will work. Ms. Markel was present to provide feedback to the Senate, noting that her department, having become fatigued with the time-consuming cumbersome old manual system of using overrides, had willingly agreed to participate in a pilot program for wait-listing. Now that her department has had experience, she has concluded that the new system is quick and easy for her department and fair for the students, because the next student in line on the waiting list automatically gets the spot. Mr. Goeth went on to emphasize that the system is optional, not mandatory, so it will not be a problem if departments prefer to continue to use their own internal processes, whatever they may be. Meanwhile, the new system is designed to create greater options for course scheduling because it is easy to do, and students will be able to sign up to waitlist on SAIL where they will be automatically notified when a seat is

available, at which point they will have 24 hours to register for the course. With this process, if the student does nothing after being notified that a space is available, the spot automatically goes to the next person on the list. Mr. Goeth observed that there will be a FAQs and instructions guideline available on the website to help everyone with the process. He added that there are some limitations to the system, such as linked courses with co-requisites which would not be able to waitlist students.

Mr. Cheng asked what happens if a student does nothing during the 24 hour period when he/she is supposed to register, namely, will the student be moved to the bottom of the list, or will the student be removed from the list. Mr. Goeth replied that the student will be removed from the list. Mr. Grimm asked if the system is voluntary by course, or by department. Mr. Goeth said that it is voluntary by course and there is a lot of flexibility. Mr. Tracy asked if wait listing can be done for multiple sections of the same course. Mr. Goeth answered that this is possible. Ms. Pelfrey asked if students will be able to see what number they are on the list, and Mr. Goeth affirmed that they will be able to see where they stand.

- Mr. Lentini then invited Mr. Shablin (Registrar) and Ms. Rammel to make their presentation concerning the new course renumbering system project that is already in the works for all courses at Oakland University. Ms. Rammel provided the background to the project which is basically that there are no longer enough new 3-digit numbers left that can be used to identify courses. So because of this, OU needs to expand to a 4-digit number like those already being used by our sister institutions—there is no other option. She explained that the goals of the renumbering are to clearly indicate course levels, course sequencing, and logic of curriculum. Mr. Shablin continued that the project will be done in four distinct phases, to begin in December 2014 and to be completed by May 2017. All of the Schools and the College of Arts and Sciences will have a point person, and there will be course renumbering guidelines online to help with the process. He encouraged academic units to begin soon to figure out what numbers they will use for their courses. He noted that at the third phase, a consulting firm will be used to help write the programs for conversion of the existing course numbers to the new ones. He emphasized that one of the major goals of the project will be to find consistency across the campus, from undergraduate through graduate courses, all the way from level one to level nine, using the numbering system. To this end, there will be a reserved number scheme that will provide shared suffix numbers, so that similar courses across the university will share similar suffix numbers which is not the case with the present 3-digit system. For example, all ‘independent study courses’ will have the same suffix. He said that an excel spread sheet has been prepared for each department by level, to help simplify the process. There will be a course renumbering website with frequently asked questions to assist as departments make this important transition.
- Provost’s Updates
  - Provost Lentini noted that there are dean searches going on in the School of Education, in the Library, and in Graduate Education.
  - He had no news concerning the IRS matter that affected OU employees but indicated that it is still an on-going federal investigation.

- Concerning the Strategic Planning process, Mr. Lentini has invited George Hynd and Betty Youngblood to the December 4<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting to provide an update.
- Mr. Lentini expressed his excitement concerning the research accomplishments of OU faculty members and the visibility this research is receiving in the outside world, such as Frank Giblin (Eye Research Institute) who is featured in and whose photo appears on the cover of a recent *Crain's* magazine.

#### **A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 18, 2014**

The minutes of September 18, 2014 were approved (Thompson, Dulio).

#### **B. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1. Motion from the General Education Committee to change the library faculty member representative from ex-officio and non-voting to faculty with voting privileges.**

**MOVED** that the library faculty member of the General Education Committee be moved from ex-officio and non-voting to a member with voting privileges (Tracy, Thompson).

First reading: amendable, debatable and not eligible for final vote at this meeting.  
There was no discussion on this motion.

##### **2. Motion from the Senate Athletic Committee to change its charge and adjust its membership.**

**MOVED** that the revised charge and membership recommended by the Senate Athletic Committee be approved (Eis, Thompson)

First reading: amendable, debatable and not eligible for final vote at this meeting.

Mr. Dulio spoke to the Senate as a member of the Senate Athletic Committee, and said that the committee is proposing the changes because there have been changes at the NCAA level. Also, he said that the committee is doing more than it used to, and furthermore, OU has moved to a new conference. He noted that the new language of the proposed charge brings in line what the committee has been doing with the charge itself.

Mr. Grimm pointed out that the new charge specifies a specific League, and he wondered whether the charge should be less specific to account for the possibility of future changes. Mr. Dulio said that he will bring this up to the committee for their consideration.

Mr. Shablin brought up the topic of the scandal at the University of North Carolina, and wanted to make sure that the OU Senate Athletic Committee is committed to providing safeguards against the same type of thing happening here. Mr. Dulio replied that the committee's work is broad, and these types of concerns are at the top of their list. He added that the committee does monitor GPAs. Ms. Schartman (Institutional Research) added that there is data from her office to show that OU's athletic program is very good as far as the academic angle is concerned.

### **3. Motion from the Senate Planning Review Committee to endorse the termination of the agreement with the Western Michigan University-Cooley Law School**

**MOVED** that the Senate endorse the termination of the agreement with the Western Michigan University-Cooley Law School (Tracy, Thompson).

First Reading: amendable, debatable and not eligible for final vote at this meeting.

Mr. Grimm said that he was thrilled to see this motion on the agenda. He moved that the Senate proceed immediately to the second reading (seconded by Latcha). This motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Iwanski asked for clarification as to what the termination of the agreement would mean going forward for students. Mr. Lentini replied that the official programs will cease to exist, and he said there will be information about this.

The motion to terminate the agreement passed unanimously.

### **4. Procedural motion to staff Senate Standing Committees**

**MOVED** that the persons listed by appointed to the committees or positions designated (Johnson, Thompson).

#### **Assessment Committee:**

McCann, Shawn (KL) 2014-2015 (replacing Frank Lepkowski 2012-2015)

#### **General Education Committee:**

McDonald, Fritz (CAS) 2014-2015 appoint as Chair (replacing Ray Liedka 2014-2015)

Zhu, Xie (SBA) 2014-2016 (replacing Barbara Oakley 2013-2016)

Pavonetti, Linda (SEHS) 2015-2017 (replacing Tim Larrabee 2014-2017)

Bowes, Anica (SEHS) Fall 2014 (replacing Tim Larrabee 2014-2017)

### **Senate Planning Review Committee:**

Tracy, Ron (SBA) 2014-2015 appoint as Chair

In making her motion, Ms. Johnson expressed sadness at the need to find a replacement for Mr. Lepkowski on the Assessment committee.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

There are openings for Senate Committee service on the General Education Committee (2014-2015 replacing Lynnae Lehfeltdt 2012-2015), and the Honorary Degree Committee (Winter 2015 replacing Jackie Drouin 2012-2015).

### **C. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven (secretary)