

Senate minutes December 17, 2020

Members present: *Aloi, AlSalman, Ball, Barclay, Barry, Berven, K., Berven, D., Boruff-Jones, Bradley, Campoy-Cubillo, Cesmelioglu, Chamra, Cheng, Clark, Corcoran, Corso-Esquivel, Cortes, Dean, Debnath, Didion, Dinda, Discenna, Doherty, Epstein, Estes, Giblin, Guessous, Knox, Landolt, Law-Sullivan, Liptak, Margerum-Leys, Mazzeo, Meyres, Mezwa, Miller, J., Miller, K., Miree, Parkash, Paul, Petrescu, Piskulich, Reger, Roach, Rodriguez, Roumani, Southward, Tracy, Van Til, Wells, Zhang*

Members absent: *Battistuzzi, Caushaj, Edrisinha, ElSayed, Gooren, Hay, Latcha, Massoud, McMillon, Wadsworth*

Interim Provost Piskulich called the virtual meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

Program modification to BS in Exercise Science

Change to evaluation of International credits for students admitted under articulation agreements with international partner

Change to competency credit policy

Provost's Updates

ACTION ITEMS

Motion approved to update the graduate English language proficiency policy

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

Interim Provost Piskulich updated and provided an opportunity for senators to comment on the following information items:

- Program modification to the BS in Exercise Science : Deb Doherty was present to explain that the 26 credit specialization is part of the BS in Exercise Science for which there is a need. She added that this modification is a great background for pre-PT students.
- Change to Evaluation of International Credits for students admitted under articulation agreement: Beth Zou was present to explain that the ABET accreditation found a problem involved with transcripts from students from the Changchun University of Technology were not showing required 32 credits of math and science. She explained that this had to do with how Oakland University figures transfer credits which has not been consistent. She said that courses are equivalent, so ABET thinks the credits should be equivalent since they use the same book and syllabus. She noted that their new way of calculating will give equivalent credit, which UCUI agreed as well.

- Competency credit change: Matt Zeig was present to explain the proposed policy change to course catalog copy for competency credit for which students may apply up to 60 credits based on non-classroom experience toward a degree program. He observed that 1900 institutions in all 50 states already use the DSST competency exam which he pointed out is cheaper and will help with Gen Ed and other classes. He stated that the current policy is not changed much. Students seeking second degrees are limited to 16 credits of non-classroom experience. Students may apply non-classroom experience course competency, advanced placement, IB, CLEP, and/or DSST credits to satisfy Gen Ed requirements

Provost's Updates

Ms. Piskulich updated senate members on the following:

- The message has been sent out about classes in the upcoming Winter 2021 semester which will be online for two weeks.
- OU is anticipating action on renovations to South Foundation Hall which have been recommended.
- Faculty members should know there is an Employee Hardship Fund available for financial relief, for which there is a link to HRC for the process of making an application.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of November 19, 2020

The minutes of the meeting of November 19, 2020 were approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS

Motion from the Graduate Council to update the Graduate English Language Proficiency policy

MOVED that the Senate approve the updated Graduate English Language Proficiency policy

Duolingo and IELTS Indicator will be added to the list of acceptable tests providing evidence of English language proficiency. Acceptance of the IELTS Indicator will be temporary, and will cease when there is a return to normal operations post-pandemic. Duolingo will be evaluated in one year.

The motion passed.

D. GOOD AND WELFARE

Ann Hitt noted that grades will be due at 10 A.M. She said that students that get an 'I' will not be eligible for S/U grading unless they complete soon. She said it is important for faculty members to enter the last date of attendance for failing students.

Kevin Ball thanked Ms. Piskulich for her excellent work as Interim Provost. There was a round of Zoom thumbs up and virtual applause from senators. She in turn thanked the university for their open communication during the crisis and for working with her as a team.

E. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (Senate secretary)