

Senate minutes November 19, 2020

Members present: *Aloi, Al Salman, Ball, Barclay, Berven, D., Boruff-Jones, Campoy-Cubillo, Cesmelioglu, Clark, Corcoran, Dean, Debnath, Didion, Dinda, Discenna, Doherty, ElSayed, Epstein, Estes, Gajewski, Giblin, Gooren, Guessous, Jannkowski, Knowx, Latcha, Law-Sullivan, Liptak, Margerum-Leys, Mazzeo, Meyers, Miller, J, Miller, K., Miree, Parkash, Paul, Petrescu, Piskulich, Reger, Rodriguez, Tiegs, Southward, Tracy, Van Til, Wadsworth, Wells, Zhang*

Members absent: *Barry, Battistuzzi, Berven, K., Bradley, Caushaj, Chamra, Cheng, Cortes, Edrisinha, Hay, Landolt, Leibert, Massoud, McMillon, Mezwa, Roach, Roumani*

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

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

Program Modifications approved by Graduate Council

Discontinuation of Graduate Certificate in Neurological Rehabilitation

Discontinuation of Graduate Certificate in Pediatric Rehabilitation

Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy to Doctor of Philosophy in Human Movement Science

Elementary Education Program Redesign

Bachelor of Integrated Science On-Line Program Request

CAS Linguistics change of Rubric from ALS to LIN

SHS Environmental Health and Safety Modification to Major and Minor

Faculty Committee of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Report

DSS Update

Provost's Updates

NEW BUSINESS

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

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

Ms. Piskulich provided senators with the opportunity to comment on the following Program Modifications and Information Items:

- **Discontinuation of Graduate Certificate in Neurological Rehabilitation** – Graduate Council
- Discontinuation of Approved Graduate Academic Program for Graduate Certificate in Neurological Rehabilitation in the department of Human Movement Sciences, School of Health Sciences. No enrollment for the past several years.
- **Discontinuation of Graduate Certificate in Pediatric Rehabilitation** – Graduate Council
- Discontinuation of Approved Graduate Academic Program for Graduate Certificate in Pediatric Rehabilitation in the department of Human Movement Sciences, School of Health Sciences. No enrollment for the past several years.
- **Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy to Doctor of Philosophy in Human Movement Science**
- Change the Doctor of Science in Physical Therapy (DScPT) to Doctor of Philosophy in Human Movement Science (PhD). Add a Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation program requirement.

The comprehensive examination will be competency based and require a formal research proposal presentation, a grant submission and a teaching portfolio.

- **Elementary Education Program Redesign** – Michael McDonald was present to explain that Committee
 - the proposed changes to teacher preparation are designed to meet the state’s new grade band licensure system while also addressing national accreditation standards. The redesigned program will also provide students with a high-quality, cost-effective program that can be completed in four years, regardless of where a candidate’s coursework originated. He said the approvals will happen in rapid succession, and he noted that OU will be the first university in the state to respond to the new landscape and so they are excited about that.
 - **Bachelor of Integrated Students On-Line Program Request** – The Committee on Instruction approved BIS requests to be designated an online program. The online program designation will allow out of state BIS students completing their degree online to receive the tuition reduction approved by the Board of Trustees.
 - **College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) - Linguistics** – The Committee on Instruction approved Linguistics requests to change the rubric of a subset of their courses from ALS to LIN. This change will update the course rubrics to be consistent with current thinking in Linguistics
 - **SHS - Environmental Health and Safety Modification to Major and Minor** - Committee on Instruction approved the following:
 - Create a new course EHS 1100 (3 credits) entitled - Healthy Workplaces: Protecting People and the Environment
 - Replace EHS 1000 (1 credit) and EHS 1150 (2 credits) with EHS 1100
 - **Faculty Committee of Diversity Equity and Inclusion** – Jason Wasserman was present to provide an update. He noted that this is a new committee. He stated that OU faculty is 9% URM, and the student body is 15% URM and so there is room for improvement. He observed that in 2019-20, there was improvement with 42 hrs, 9 (21%) of which are URM. He said it is a working committee with a subcommittee structure of 2-5 members. He explained that the goal is to integrate their findings into the overall OU structure.
 - **DSS Update** - Sarah Guadalupe was present to provide an update. She said that ADA requires reasonable accommodations. Occasionally, this accommodation is a course substitution. She said it is important for faculty members to know that there is a process for this. Students need to be registered as a DSS student, and then it has to be determined whether this would be a fundamental alteration of the academic program or not. The substitution goes through the Dean and/or the Associate Dean. But no individual person can make a decision about course substitutions outside the process, and they should not attempt to do so.
- Provost’s Updates**
- Ms. Piskulich said that the administration was not happy to have to transition to remote towards the end of the semester, but she said it was clear from some outbreaks that it was necessary to do so for health reasons. She noted that when the State made their restrictions, it meant that the Science and Engineering labs could no longer meet either.
 - She said that in-person classes will not start until after January 19, and that classes will be online for at least 2 weeks. She opined that it is possible that the current order would be extended due to serious concerns among university populations.
 - She provided an update on the progress of building projects.

- She announced that the Bio-buttons had arrived and have been distributed to athletes and dorms as the priority. She said thanks were in order to Dave Stone who had worked hard on this project.
- She congratulated Karen Miller who has been elected the new president of the AAUP.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of October 15, 2020

The minutes of the meeting of October 15, 2020 were approved.

C. NEW 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
(Discenna, Rodriguez)*

Brandy Randall was present to explain that the two English language tests, Duolingo and IELTS Indicator, will be added to the list of acceptable tests providing evidence of English language proficiency. She noted that acceptance of the IELTS indicator will be temporary, and will cease when there is a return to normal operations post-pandemic. She added that Duolingo will be evaluated in one year.

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (secretary)