

Oakland University Senate

Senate meeting minutes

March 19, 2026

Members present: Al Shabrawey, Arena, Ausloos, Bartley, Battles, Blumer-Schuette, Boruff-Jones, Carpenter, Carver, Chamra, Chapman, Craig, Debnath, Dempsky, DeVore, Dinda, Dunn, Dwyer, Edrisinha, Fails, Govind, Grace, Guessous, Guest, Hartmus, Hoag, Hosch, Hodge, Jamieson, Kattner, Kauric-Klein, Gilson, Knox, Landis-Piwowar, Landolt, Lisecki, Margerum-Leys, Merchant, Naus, Mitton, Nielsen, Ostergaard, Piscotty, Rawashdeh, Rohn, Shesko, Thompson, Wadsworth, Wasserman, Wendell, Westergaard, Williams, Youngquist

Members absent: Ball, Coleman, Johnson, McCulloch, Olawoyin, Pierce, Pratt, Tilashalski, Van Loon

The agenda for this meeting is attached as Appendix A and follows at the end of the minutes.

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

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Motion approved to modify graduate degree requirement policy

Motion approved to change the undergraduate degree requirement policy

NEW BUSINESS

Motion approved to accept Senate Standing Committee changes

Motion approved to change the Gen Ed membership

Senate resolution approved by the Women Gender Studies program expressing great concern about federal immigration law enforcement activities

Senate resolution approved to support the reduced credit undergraduate program with a statement of values from the faculty

1. Informational Items

Provost Updates: Provost Thompson provided an update on the Midterm Grade reports, noting that there was a 51% participation rate with the prize for participation going to the SHS. She encouraged Senators to attend her first State of Academic Affairs coming up on March 31. In addition, she requested that all faculty get their book orders done asap.

- **AI Institute and Data Centers** (Steve Mackey, Penny Vigneau, Tom Yamin): Mr. Mackey was present to provide an update on the feasibility

phase of the Data Center. He said they have been working with the various providers to make sure they have the services needed to support the Data Center. To finish this phase in late May to prepare for the June BOT meeting, he said the next steps are the feedback. They have already considered a change to the site based upon feedback. There were questions from attendees, as follows. Q: Is this a done deal? A: There is a lot to be done before it is a done deal, to see if it is feasible. After the feasibility phase, they will enter into the due diligence phase. Q: What additional sessions will there be for the community to learn more, in addition to the town Hall coming up? A: They don't even know if there is a project yet so it is not possible to answer questions about water, noise, etc yet because that is part of the due diligence phase, and this is not the time. He said there is no additional meeting planned at this time. There will be meetings in the future during the due diligence phase but right now, they don't even know if they have the energy to build the Data Center. So there are questions to be answered.

- **Provost Thompson provided Senators the opportunity to comment on the Grad Council and Undergraduate submissions** (see attached, from agenda). There were no questions or comments.

- **Digital Accessibility Task Force** (Diane Underwood, Shaun Moore, Todd Nucci) : Diane Underwood, Todd Nucci and Shawn Moore provided a brief update on the new digital accessibility situation. They said they have a digital accessibility website, with resources for faculty, staff and students, and there will be announcements, tips, workshops, etc, to assist the community. Mr. Moore thanked the ADA Task Force for finding that more support was needed, and they now have new staff including an instructional designer and four OU students as design technicians. In addition, there is a course remediation form so faculty members will be able to work with those.

- **Update the Senate Committee** (Co)Chairs for the Senate Record - Amy Banes-Berceli provided this update. There were no comments.
 - **Artificial Intelligence Committee**
Seong-Yeon Cho (SBA)

Senate Ad Hoc Policy 482 Language Review Committee Update - Amy Banes-Berceli provided this update. There were no comments. Per the

committee charge, the committee has completed their work and this committee is being dissolved.

Committee on Academic Resilience and Success (CARS) Update to change Academic Standing terminology to begin Fall 2026. Note, the changes are only to academic standing terms, not policy. (Nick Sanders, Jamie Franklin, Amy Gould, Neil Baumgartner)

- **Course Evaluation Update** (Anthony Tuf Francis, Nivedita Mukherji, Sarah Hosch): The committee provided an update, indicating that they want to call Course Evaluations Student Feedback instead. They said that the implementation group was very diverse. They provided a history of this group of which the present group is the third iteration. They decided that a new platform is needed because there are problems with the current systems. For example, there is no common set of questions or criteria and there is limited supervision of the system. So they want to bring all feedback questionnaires under one system to provide flexibility to use a common set of questions. Ms. Hosch said the platform they have selected is Explorance Blue, a leading platform used by universities across the country. She said Blue uses a multimodal approach to remind students (emails, QR codes, SMS). Benefits were listed, such as the ability to add a core set of questions, complex course support, ability to provide extensive reporting, integrated feedback that includes paper feedback, student feedback, and self feedback—in other words, there is extensive reporting. She said the platform is very robust, easy to access and it provides a lot of information. She said the timeline with the full university roll-out is expected to be in Fall 2027. There were questions, as follows: Q: Mr. Dinda said there are core questions across the university, but SHS has accreditation questions that have to be asked. He said they don't want the core questions. A: All entities can add questions because the system will be very customizable. It can be tied to the learning objectives of the course. Q: The timeline is unrealistic because it will take while to come up with the questions. A: They will get started but hopefully by the end of the next academic year, they will have the questions. Q: Is the presentation available on the Senate website, and how do faculty get the feedback to the committee? A: The chairs have access to the questions on the Chairs' E-Space.

2. Approval of [Minutes from February 19, 2026](#)

There was a motion to approve the minutes of February 29, 2026 (Seidel, Guessous).

The minutes were approved. (50 yes, 0 no).

3. Unfinished Business

- 3.1. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the Graduate Council to revise the Graduate School Policy reducing the minimum number of Ph.D. program credits from 80 to 60, and to clarify the continuous enrollment registration requirement (Brandy Randall)

***MOVED** that the Graduate School Policy be updated as presented.*

Motion approved (42 yes, 8 no).

- 3.2. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction proposing the following changes to Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy modifying to change the upper-level degree requirements in the Undergraduate catalog, in the following sections; (1) Undergraduate Degree Requirements, (2) Dual Degrees, (3) Post-Baccalaureate (PB) Students, and (4) University Honors changing from 32 credits in courses at the 3000 level or above to 30 credits in courses at the 3000 level or above, and if pursuing a Dual Degree, changing from 16 credits at the 3000 level to 15; aligning the catalog with the Undergraduate Residency Requirements approved at the November 20, 2025 University Senate Meeting (Kristin Landis-Piwowar)

***MOVED** that the Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy be updated as presented*

Motion approved (39 yes, 9 no).

4. New Business

- 4.1. **Procedural Motion** to staff Senate Standing Committees

***MOVED** that the persons below be appointed to the designated committees for the indicated terms: (Guessous, Mitton)*

Senate Budget Review Committee

Katie Greer (UL) for the 2025-2028 Term
Amy Rutledge (SBA) for Henry Aigbedo Winter 2026 Sabbatical
Leave
Eralda Caushaj (SBA) moving to SON vacancy for Winter 2026
Term
Elizabeth Kattner (CAS-SMTD) for the 2025-2028 Term
Victoria Lucia (SOM) for the 2023-2026 Term
Hongwei Qu (SECS) for the 2023-2026 Term

Senate Planning Review Committee

James Naus (CAS) for the 2024-2027 Term

University Research Committee

Betty Tonui (CAS) replacing Paul Jung (SHS) for the 2024-2027
Term (clerical
error)

Motion approved: 49 yes, 1 no.

- 4.2. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** brought forward by the senate General Education Committee to reconfigure the thirteen faculty appointments to align with units providing undergraduate instruction and to better meet the charge of the committee, to adjust the Vice Provost appointment to allow a designee, and to adjust the Registrar designee to designee(s) to allow flexibility for representation from both the transfer as well as the technical aspects required. (Liz Shesko, Tim Donahue)

MOVED to accept the changes to the General Education Committee membership as presented. (Guessous, Wendell)

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

Comment: Rationale and proposed new membership
Presentation

Following a short discussion to update that the purpose of this motion is to update the membership to ensure representation from all units which would mean, however, that there would be no change of voting members, the motion was made to move to second reading.

Motion to move to second reading (Wendell, Guessous)

The motion was approved (44 yes, 5 no).

The original motion was then approved: 42 yes, 3 no.

- 4.3. **SENATE RESOLUTION** brought forward by the Oakland University Women and Gender Studies Program to call upon the Oakland University Senate to reaffirm the President's message on February 24, 2026 to affirm the heart of the university's Strategic Vision to be "stewards of place" and by standing in solidarity with immigrant faculty, staff, and students amidst heightened federal enforcement concerns. The Oakland University Senate recognizes the need for a greater show of support for our student population at this time of heightened fear and uncertainty surrounding federal immigration enforcement and resolves to reaffirm their commitment to protecting and supporting the university's diverse community. (Erin Meyers)

RESOLUTION: *The Oakland University Senate resolves to support the Supporting Oakland University's Diverse Community Resolution.* (Edrisinha, Lisecki)

The resolution was presented by Erin Meyers. She said that this is a moment of national concern regarding federal immigration law enforcement activities. She said that the resolution was being submitted by the Women and Gender Studies Program and has been endorsed by the AAUP. The resolution in its entirety is attached and was read by Ms. Meyers. A statement from the student body president to support the resolution fully was read by Mr. Lisecki. Mr. Seidel expressed his support for the resolution and said that he hopes to see support of diversity in every way. Autumn Baker expressed the student support for this resolution. Ms. Freed stated that the resolution is in alignment with OU's mission.

The resolution was unanimously approved (50 yes, 0 no).

A copy of this resolution is attached as Appendix B.

- 4.4. **SENATE RESOLUTION** brought forward by Oakland University Senator Doug Wendell to call upon the Oakland University Senate to

resolve to accept the proposed resolution to ensure all undergraduate reduced credit programs align with the Oakland University mission and brand and adopt the proposed outlined guidelines. (Doug Wendell)

RESOLUTION: *The Oakland University Senate resolves to support the Statement of Values for Reduced Credit Undergraduate Programs Resolution.* (Wendell, Guessous)

Mr. Wendell presented this resolution, which he read (see attached). He noted that the resolution was written by the Senate Steering Committee. Ms. Carver added that since it was a very close vote in a previous meeting, the SSC wanted to make sure that the reduced credit programs are done right. Provost Thompson said that she applauds the SSC for coming up with the document and guidance, and said that this re-affirms the things that the university already should and will collect. Mr. Chabi said he would like it to be more specific so the right programs are selected as far as impacts on enrollments and how the reduced credits will affect present programs. Mr. Seidel supported that statement. Ms. Thor asked how often should the data be collected and presented? Provost Thompson indicated that it is meant to be collected every other year.

There was a ***motion to amend the wording of the resolution to say that the data should be presented every two years instead of twice a year.*** (Seidel, Lewis)

The motion to amend was approved: 42 yes, 4 no.

Ms. Randall thanked the committee for the thoughtfulness for including the effect on graduate school applications in their resolution. The motion was then approved (4 yes, 3 no).

A copy of this resolution is attached as Appendix C.

5. GOOD AND WELFARE

Ms. Jameson announced that April 8 there will be an Earth Month Celebration hosted by student congress with a keynote address by a best-selling author of “Nature’s Best Hope”. She said that we can all

help support bio-diversity. They are asking people to register for this event which will be held in the Habitat area of the OC on April 7. She noted that there are already 100 people registered and she encouraged both faculty and students to attend.

Ken Mitton: There has been a new effort in the state-- probably by the chair of UM Senate—he noted that many of our fellow universities have a faculty Senate, whereas OU has a Senate made up of faculty, administrators and students. The larger group of Senates from all the Michigan universities is arranging a meeting in Lansing with each other, to talk about the following topics: for example, the impact of support within the state, funding, the ability to get students, to run programs, etc. Participants are encouraged to bring concrete examples of what we need for our students, what we lack and what is impeding us. Mr. Mitton indicated that OU had to find someone to go to it, and the Provost thought it would be proper for a faculty to go to Lansing, and so he volunteered to go to that meeting. He said anyone can email him about this at: mitton@oakland.edu. The Senate can think about in the future how this person should be picked in the Senate since they will meet twice a year. He suggested a resolution. He will attend, and make a report to present at the Senate.

Chris Carpenter said it is a fun time for the Medical School because it of Match Day yesterday when students opened up envelopes where they found out where the students will be going for their next stage. They have 98% match rates.

Janelle Townsend said there is an upcoming fun event: Driving Michigan's Future, bringing together business leaders, policy makers and students tomorrow. The keynote speaker is the CEO of OneStream. She said this can connect students directly with professionals in the field. The event will be held in the Banquet Rooms from 9:00-12:00.

Student Congress representative reported that the Annual OU Day at the Capitol was coming up in one week. Also, heritage week will be at the end of March, and finally Student Congress elections the last week of March 30.

Autumn Baker said that today there was a march on Wilson Hall which was a protest against the Data Center, and that students are fired up about the plans for a data center. The students oppose the Data Center for ethical reasons, due to concerns about the sustainability of the Data Center, the impact on water and power, and

others. In addition, on Tuesday in the Habitat area of the OC, there will be a creative event for students to come together in preparation for the Town Hall regarding the Data Center.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (Senate Secretary)

Appendix A

Oakland University Senate Agenda

Meeting Details

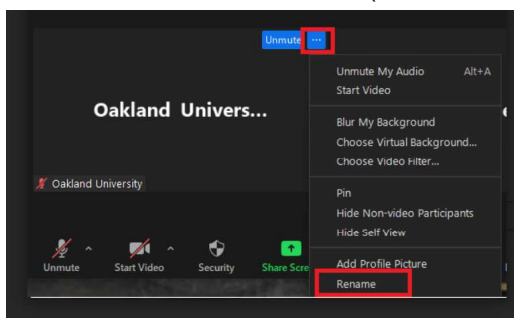
March 19, 2026

Meeting Time: 3:10 pm

Hyflex: Oakland Center - Banquet Room B or ZOOM Registration Link

Meeting Materials and Documents

- Only elected senators for the 2025-2027 term may vote
- Vote Yes (1) or No (2)
- If you wish to Abstain, simply do not vote
- If you are attending remotely, please rename yourself for voting purposes. To rename yourself-- hover over individual icon (2) click the 3 horizontal dots (3) click “rename” and rename yourself using SEN and first and last name (ie: SENKevinBall, SENKarenMiller)



- If senators leave the meeting, or join late, they are required to indicate *via* the Zoom chat for the minutes. Your departure or arrival may affect having a quorum that is necessary for a vote.
- If attending virtually and have a question or comment, please raise your virtual hand and turn on your camera.
- If attending virtually please have your camera turned on especially if you are speaking.

1. Informational Items

1.1. Provost Updates

1.2. Graduate School Curriculum Submissions

- 1.2.1. **Music, Master of Music program will discontinue** the following (8) programs for the purpose of streamlining degrees and to help optics of enrollment numbers for the accreditation body (National Association of Schools of Music, NASM). These discontinued degrees will be redesigned into a single major with approved major-dependent concentrations: (Melissa Hoag, Beth Dawson)

Master of Music in Conducting*

Master of Music in Vocal Pedagogy

Master of Music in Vocal Performance

Master of Music in Instrumental Performance

Master of Music in Piano Performance

Master of Music in Piano Pedagogy

Master of Music in Music Education

Master of Music in World Percussion

- 1.2.2. **Music, Master of Music program modification** to redesign the (8) discontinued stand alone degrees into the one single Master of Music degree with major-dependent concentrations. The single degree will have an 8-credit common core with 24-credit concentrations and are as follows: (Melissa Hoag, Beth Dawson)

Master of Music with Concentration in Choral Conducting*

Option 1 from Master of Music in Conducting

Master of Music with Concentration in Instrumental Conducting*

Option 2 from Master of Music in Conducting

Master of Music with Concentration in Vocal Pedagogy

Master of Music with Concentration in Vocal Performance

Master of Music with Concentration in World Percussion

Master of Music with Concentration in Music Education

Master of Music with Concentration in Piano Pedagogy

Master of Music with Concentration in Piano Performance

Master of Music with Concentration in Instrumental Music

- 1.2.3. **Mechanical Engineering, PhD, graduate program modification** to remove unnecessary language and further modify existing language to improve the overall clarity and flexibility of the listed requirements related to the Mechanical Engineering PhD Doctoral Advisory Committee; Department of Mechanical Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science (Laila Guessous)

1.3. Undergraduate Curriculum Submissions

- 1.3.1. **Business Administration, Business Economics, B.S., modification** to (1) remove MTH 1222 (the calculus requirement) from the precore requirements, to accord with other business degrees in the School of Business Administration, and (2) change the Economics electives requirements from 3 to 4 at the 3000 level; Department of Economics, School of Business Administration (Tim Hodge/Zeina AlSalman)
- 1.3.2. **Orthotist and Prosthetist Assistant Studies Minor, modification** to the catalog language from a minimum grade of a B- to a C (2.0) for the prerequisites, as per unit standards; Department of Human Movement, School of Health Sciences (John Krauss, Josh Haworth)
- 1.3.3. **Theatre Minor, modification** to revise the required credits from 20 to 16 and allow for more flexibility when choosing courses; Department of Theatre, School of Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences (Jeremy Barnett, David Gram)
- 1.3.4. **Bioengineering, B.S., modification** to add an additional professional track option, Human Movement Engineering, for students preparing to work in fields of Orthotics & Prosthetics and exoskeleton/assistive devices; Department of Bioengineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science (Shailesh Lal)
- 1.3.5. **Theatre Design and Technology B.F.A., modification** to revise the Theatre programs, changes will focus on new courses, new requirements and a clearer pedagogical path for our students to follow; Department of Theatre, School of Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences (Jeremy Barnett, David Gram)
- 1.3.6. **Theatre, B.A., modification** to revise the Theatre programs, changes will focus on new courses, new requirements and a clearer pedagogical path for our students to follow; Department of Theatre, School of Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences (Jeremy Barnett, David Gram)

- 1.3.7. **Musical Theatre, B.F.A., modification** to revise the Theatre programs, changes will focus on new courses, new requirements and a clearer pedagogical path for our students to follow; Department of Theatre, School of Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences (Jeremy Barnett, David Gram)
- 1.3.8. **Exercise Science, B.S., Concentration in Orthotist and Prosthetist Assistant Studies, modification** to the catalog language from a minimum grade of a B- to a C (2.0) for the prerequisites, as per unit standards; Department of Human Movement, School of Health Sciences (John Krauss, Josh Haworth)
- 1.3.9. **Biology, B.S. Concentration in Pre-Veterinary Medicine, new major dependent concentration** designed for Biology students who are planning on entering the field of veterinary medicine; Department of Biology, College of Arts and Sciences (Gerard Madlambayan, Mark Sturtevant, Sandy Troxell-Smith)
- 1.3.10. **Criminal Justice, B.A., modification** to add COM 3303, American Sign Language for Healthcare Personnel and First Responders, to the elective options, and reduce the credits required from 124 to 120; Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences (Jo Reger)
- 1.3.11. **Criminal Justice, B.A., Concentration in Homeland Security, modification** to add COM 3303, American Sign Language for Healthcare Personnel and First Responders, to the elective options, and reduce the credits required from 124 to 120; Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences (Jo Reger)
- 1.3.12. **Nutrition, B.S., Specialization in Dietetics, modification to rename the program** to Dietetics, B.S., a stand alone major to be consistent with other institutions, align with the university moving away from specializations, noting no substantive changes to the degree requirements; Department of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, School of Health Sciences (Amanda Lynch)
- 1.3.13. **Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, B.S., Specialization in Medical Laboratory Science (MLS), modification to rename of the program** to Medical Laboratory Science, B.S., a stand alone major to be consistent with other institutions, to be aligned with other accredited MLS programs in the US which are standalone B.S. degrees, align with the university moving away from specializations, noting no substantive changes to the degree requirements; Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, School of Health Sciences (Sumi Dinda)
- 1.3.14. **Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, B.S., Specialization in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, modification to rename the program** to Diagnostic Medical Sonography, B.S., a stand alone major to be consistent with other institutions, align with the university moving away from specializations, noting no substantive changes to the degree requirements; Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, School of Health Sciences (Sumi Dinda)
- 1.3.15. **Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, B.S., Specialization in Radiologic Technology, modification to rename the program** Radiologic Technology, B.S., a stand alone major to be consistent with other institutions, align with the university moving away from specializations, noting no substantive changes to the degree requirements; Department of Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, School of Health Sciences (Sumi Dinda)
- 1.4. Combined Graduate School and Undergraduate Curriculum Submissions
 - 1.4.1. **Spanish Language in Literature, B.A./Court Administration, Graduate Certificate, Combined B.A. and Graduate Certificate, new** combined BA to Graduate Certificate program for students pursuing a world language degree that

want to pursue a career in Court Administration, Department of Modern Languages and Political Science, The College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Doug Carr)

- 1.4.2. **Spanish Language in Literature, B.A./Criminal Justice Leadership, Graduate Certificate, Combined B.A. and Graduate Certificate, new combined** BA to Graduate Certificate program for students pursuing a world language degree that want to pursue a career in Criminal Justice Leadership, Department of Modern Languages and Political Science, The College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Doug Carr)
- 1.4.3. **Spanish Language and Literature, B.A./Health Care Administration, Graduate Certificate, Combined B.A./Graduate Certificate, new combined** BA to Graduate Certificate program for students pursuing a world language degree that want to pursue a career in Health Care Administration, Department of Modern Languages and Political Science, The College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Doug Carr)
- 1.4.4. **Spanish Language and Literature, B.A./Local Government Management, Graduate Certificate, Combined B.A./Graduate Certificate, new combined** BA to Graduate Certificate program for students pursuing a world language degree that want to pursue a career in Local Government Management, Department of Modern Languages and Political Science, The College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Doug Carr)
- 1.4.5. **Spanish Language and Literature, B.A./Nonprofit Organization and Management, Graduate Certificate, Combined B.A./Graduate Certificate, new combined** BA to Graduate Certificate program for students pursuing a world language degree that want to pursue a career in Nonprofit Organization and Management, Department of Modern Languages and Political Science, The College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Doug Carr)
- 1.5. AI Institute and Data Centers (Steve Mackey, Penny Vigneau, Tom Yamin)
- 1.6. Digital Accessibility Task Force (Diane Underwood, Shaun Moore, Todd Nucci)
- 1.7. Update the Senate Committee (Co)Chairs for the Senate Record - Amy Banes-Berceli
Artificial Intelligence Committee
Seong-Yeon Cho (SBA)
- 1.8. Senate Ad Hoc Policy 482 Language Review Committee Update - Amy Banes-Berceli
Per the committee charge, the committee has completed their work and this committee is being dissolved.
- 1.9. Committee on Academic Resilience and Success (CARS) Update to change Academic Standing terminology to begin Fall 2026. Note, the changes are only to academic standing terms, not policy. (Nick Sanders, Jamie Franklin, Amy Gould, Neil Baumgartner) not presenting, document provided
- 1.10. Course Evaluation Update (Anthony Tuf Francis, Nivedita Mukherji, Sarah Hosch)

2. Approval of **Minutes from February 19, 2026**

3. Unfinished Business

- 3.1. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the Graduate Council to revise the Graduate School Policy reducing the minimum number of Ph.D. program credits from 80 to 60, and to clarify the continuous enrollment registration requirement (Brandy Randall)

MOVED that the Graduate School Policy be updated as presented.

Second Reading: Amendable, debatable and eligible for a final vote at this meeting

Comment: Graduate Council Minutes
Graduate Policy Revision
Presentation

- 3.2. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction proposing the following changes to Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy modifying to change the upper-level degree requirements in the Undergraduate catalog, in the following sections; (1) Undergraduate Degree Requirements, (2) Dual Degrees, (3) Post-Baccalaureate (PB) Students, and (4) University Honors changing from 32 credits in courses at the 3000 level or above to 30 credits in courses at the 3000 level or above, and if pursuing a Dual Degree, changing from 16 credits at the 3000 level to 15; aligning the catalog with the Undergraduate Residency Requirements approved at the November 20, 2025 University Senate Meeting (Kristin Landis-Piwowar)

MOVED that the Undergraduate Degree Requirements Policy be updated as presented

Second Reading: Amendable, debatable and eligible for a final vote at this meeting

Comment: UCUI Minutes (January 27, 2026)
Senate Minutes (November 20, 2025)
Proposed language for Catalog

4. New Business

- 4.1. **Procedural Motion** to staff Senate Standing Committees:

MOVED that the persons below be appointed to the designated committees for the indicated terms:

Senate Budget Review Committee

Katie Greer (UL) for the 2025-2028 Term

Amy Rutledge (SBA) for Henry Aigbedo Winter 2026 Sabbatical Leave

Eralda Caushaj (SBA) moving to SON vacancy for Winter 2026 Term

Elizabeth Kattner (CAS-SMTD) for the 2025-2028 Term

Victoria Lucia (SOM) for the 2023-2026 Term

Hongwei Qu (SECS) for the 2023-2026 Term

Senate Planning Review Committee

James Naus (CAS) for the 2024-2027 Term

University Research Committee

Betty Tonui (CAS) replacing Paul Jung (SHS) for the 2024-2027 Term (clerical error)

- 4.2. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** brought forward by the senate General Education Committee to reconfigure the thirteen faculty appointments to align with units providing undergraduate instruction and to better meet the charge of the committee, to adjust the Vice Provost appointment to allow a designee, and to adjust the Registrar designee to designee(s) to allow flexibility for representation from both the transfer as well as the technical aspects required. (Liz Shesko, Tim Donahue)

MOVED to accept the changes to the General Education Committee membership as presented.

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

Comment: Rationale and proposed new membership
Presentation

- 4.3. **SENATE RESOLUTION** brought forward by the Oakland University Women and Gender Studies Program to call upon the Oakland University Senate to reaffirm the President's message on February 24, 2026 to affirm the heart of the university's Strategic Vision to be "stewards of place" and by standing in solidarity with immigrant faculty, staff, and students amidst heightened federal enforcement concerns. The Oakland University Senate recognizes the need for a greater show of support for our student population at this time of heightened fear and uncertainty surrounding federal immigration enforcement and resolves to reaffirm their commitment to protecting and supporting the university's diverse community. (Erin Meyers)

RESOLUTION: The Oakland University Senate resolves to support the Supporting Oakland University's Diverse Community Resolution.

Comment: Proposed Resolution: Supporting OU's Diverse Community
Presentation

- 4.4. **SENATE RESOLUTION** brought forward by Oakland University Senator Doug Wendell to call upon the Oakland University Senate to resolve to accept the proposed resolution to ensure all undergraduate reduced credit programs align with the Oakland University mission and brand and adopt the proposed outlined guidelines. (Doug Wendell)

RESOLUTION: The Oakland University Senate resolves to support the Statement of Values for Reduced Credit Undergraduate Programs Resolution.

Comment: Proposed Statement of Values for Reduced Credit Undergraduate
Programs Resolution

Good and Welfare

Adjourn

Appendix B

Supporting Oakland University's Diverse Community

Preamble:

Dr. Ora Hirsch Pescovitz's message to the Oakland University community on February 24, 2026 affirmed that "it's at the heart of our strategic vision: to be stewards of place."

We call upon the Oakland University Senate to give meaningful expression to this vision by reaffirming its commitment to the well-being, dignity, and safety of all members of our campus community. In particular, we urge the Senate to stand in solidarity with our immigrant faculty, staff, and students and with all citizens both naturalized and birthright by actively upholding the University's core values of inclusion, respect and stewardship.

At a time of heightened fear and uncertainty surrounding federal immigration enforcement, including actions by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the University must actively demonstrate its responsibility as a steward that protects learning, fosters belonging, and safeguards the conditions necessary for all individuals to thrive academically and professionally. We therefore respectfully ask the Senate to reaffirm the University's commitment to protecting and supporting our diverse community and to take clear, principled steps that reflect our shared values during this moment of national concern. -----

WHEREAS, Oakland University ("University") welcomes, supports, and respects all students, including U.S. citizen students and students who hold other lawful grounds for presence in the United States; holds student equality as one of its core values essential to its educational mission; and is committed to its policies of non-discrimination and equal opportunity;

WHEREAS, federal immigration law enforcement activities in Pontiac, Rochester and across greater Southeast Michigan include surveillance, interviews, demands for information, arrests, detention, and other actions that significantly interfere with the ability of all students to pursue their education;

WHEREAS, through its policies and practices, the University has made a commitment to a quality education for all students, which includes a safe campus and learning environment free from threat and harassment;

WHEREAS, the Oakland University community, along with numerous higher educational institutions nationwide, are concerned about the rise in anti-immigrant rhetoric and actions that have taken criminal, discriminatory, and/or intimidating forms adversely affecting students and the educational environment;

WHEREAS, such increased anti-immigrant rhetoric and activity impacts students' physical and emotional safety and well-being both on-campus and off;

WHEREAS, members of the University community have expressed fear and uncertainty about their physical and emotional safety with regard to their ability to fully access education and University programs; **WHEREAS**, educational personnel often serve as primary sources of support, guidance, and resources for students, providing assistance that fosters academic success, promotes emotional and mental well-being, and helps students navigate challenges both within and beyond the classroom; **NOW**,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the President and University leadership shall ensure that the University serves as a trusted resource and central hub of information, guidance, and support for immigrant students and their families, and all citizens, both naturalized and birthright, promoting their safety, dignity, and full access to educational opportunities.
2. That the University leadership shall encourage relevant offices to increase and enhance partnerships with community-based organizations and legal services organizations that provide resources for students facing immigration-related challenges.
3. The University shall provide all students with information, educational programming and community resources that support their understanding of immigration rights, protections, and related legal and community services.
4. The University shall provide accessible, ongoing opportunities for students and the Oakland community to provide feedback on campus climate and community safety to support a safe learning environment.
5. The University shall protect student privacy and will not collect information about immigration status unless required by law.
6. Requests for personally identifiable student information from immigration authorities must be reviewed by the Office of Legal Affairs, as per OU policy, to ensure compliance with FERPA and other applicable legal protections before any disclosure.
7. The Faculty shall retain full academic freedom to discuss this Resolution, and students and the Oakland community will be provided with clear information on accessing counseling, mental health support, community, and legal resources to safeguard their well-being.

Resolution Submitted by the Women and Gender Studies Program Endorsed by the Executive Committee of the AAUP-OU

Appendix C

Statement of Values for Reduced Credit Undergraduate Programs

Resolved: The decision to approve reduced credit undergraduate degrees has the potential to fundamentally change higher education at Oakland University and across the country for years to come. We foresee significant implications for students, programs and departments, our university, and higher education more generally. To ensure these changes align with our mission and brand, we propose the following.

In addition to the existing requirements for new program proposals, all proposals for reduced credit undergraduate programs must include a separate justification specifically addressing the reason for proposing it as a reduced credit program and include

- evidence of a need for the program by employers or the community including a comparative analysis illustrating acceptance of the program in the relevant employment markets and across comparable institutions with similar programs,
- a description of how the program will impact Oakland University's mission and "brand" and how it will enhance our academic offerings,
- address potential impacts on students who may be interested in pursuing additional graduate or professional degrees,
- any potential financial aid implications for the students,
- an analysis of any potential impact on enrollment in existing full-credit programs, and
- for programs with similar learning outcomes to existing full credit programs, an explanation of what is being removed and how this credit reduction will not affect program quality or student preparedness.

Furthermore:

- Reduced credit programs must meet the same general education requirements as full-credit programs.
- All recruiting materials must address impacts for application to graduate/professional school.
- All reduced credit degree programs will undergo the same assessment process as existing degree programs.
- To track the growth and effectiveness of reduced credit programming, and to inform continuous improvement of these programs at Oakland University, the university will regularly collect data on its reduced credit degrees including graduation rates, employment rates, student/employer satisfaction, and graduate program acceptances. This data will be presented to the Senate at least biannually.