

SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 19, 2024

Members present: *Al-Shabrawey, Aloi, Arnold, Ball, Barry, Boruff-Jones, Bzhetaj, Carpenter, Carver, Corcoran, Craig, Dinda, Edrisinha, Eis, Glover, Goble, Golinski, Guessous, Hansen, Hartmus, Keifer, Kies, Knox, Kobus, Kondratek, Latcha, Lehman-Pace, McMillon, Merchant, Mitton, Naus, Olawoyin, Qian, Rawashdeh, Reger, Rutledge, Shesko, Stanton, Tiegs, Tilashalski, Wadsworth, Wasserman, Wendell, Bennett*

Members absent: *Battles, Baxa, Brumer, Carey, Chamra, Coleman, Garcia, Gemechu, Insko, Landolt, Ligocki, Margerum-Leys, Miller, Pierce, Rodriguez, Trivedi*

The meeting was called to order by Interim Provost Kevin Corcoran on behalf of President Ora Pescovitz at 3:10 P.M.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. INFORMATION ITEMS

1.1. Graduate Program Modifications

1.1.1. **Reading and Language Arts, M.A.T.**, graduate program modification, to begin Fall 2024 to reduce course credits for two required program courses in order to make the total degree cost more competitive with other online literacy MAT programs and increase enrollment.; Department of Teaching and Learning, School of Education and Human Services (Danielle Ligocki)

1.2. Undergraduate Program Modifications

1.2.1. **Applied Data Science, BS (CAS)** name change was reviewed by UCUI (previously named Quantitative Data Science and previously approved by UCUI); Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Arts and Science (Anna Spagnuolo). Program still under review at SBRC and SPRC.

1.2.2. **Data Science, Bachelor of Science name change to Data Science Engineering, Bachelor of Science** for the purpose and need to differentiate the data science engineering major from a different major that will be forthcoming through governance; this will provide clarification for students and the campus community; Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science (Debnath Debatosh)

1.2.3. **German Studies Minor**, discontinue minor since there is no demand and the existing German minor sufficiently meets the needs of students; Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo)

1.2.4. **K-12 Modern Language Program in German (STEP)**, discontinue major since the Michigan Department of Education changed guidelines for teacher preparation. OU notified the DOE last spring that the K-12 Language programs would close effective August 2024, and that we will be teaching out students and not accepting any new students (until or if we have a new program that is approved); Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo)

- 1.2.5. **K-12 Modern Language Program in French (STEP)**, discontinue major since the Michigan Department of Education changed guidelines for teacher preparation. OU notified the DOE last spring that the K-12 Language programs would close effective August 2024, and that we will be teaching out students and not accepting any new students (until or if we have a new program that is approved); Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo)
- 1.2.6. **K-12 Modern Language Program in Spanish (STEP)**, discontinue major since the Michigan Department of Education changed guidelines for teacher preparation. OU notified the DOE last spring that the K-12 Language programs would close effective August 2024, and that we will be teaching out students and not accepting any new students (until or if we have a new program that is approved); Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo)
- 1.2.7. **K-12 Modern Language Program in Japanese (STEP)**, discontinue major since the Michigan Department of Education changed guidelines for teacher preparation. OU notified the DOE last spring that the K-12 Language programs would close effective August 2024, and that we will be teaching out students and not accepting any new students (until or if we have a new program that is approved); Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences (Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo)

1.3. **Combined Graduate and Undergraduate Modifications**

None

1.4. **Strategic Plan Update** - Josh Merchant

1.5. **Introduction of Neil Baumgartner, Assistant Vice President of Advising** - Kristin Landis-Piwowar

1.6. **Combined UG/Grad Programs Update** - Brandy Randall

1.7. **Exploring - No Major Program (Fall 2024)** - FYAC Sara Webb

1.8. **MySAIL Updates** - Bhavani Koneru

1.9. **Senator Updates for Fall 2024**

Linda Bzhetaj (CAS) for Cody Eldredge (CAS) for Sabbatical Leave
 Steven Liu (SBA) for Caitlin Demsky for Leave of Absence
 Cat Bennett (CAS) for Andrea Wenz (CAS)
 Jimena Garcia, OU Student Congress President
 Marion Brumer, OU Student Congress Vice President
 Ethan Lehman-Pace, OU Student Congress Representative

1.10. **Senate Committee Co-Chairs for 2024-2025**

Update the Senate Committee (Co)Chairs for the Senate Record - Amy Banes-Berceli

Academic Calendar Development University Committee

Tricia Westergaard

Academic Computing Committee

TBD

Academic Conduct Committee

Laila Guessous

Raquel Prieta

Julian Rrushi
Elysa White
Academic Standing and Honors Committee
Nicole Asmussen Mathew
Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee
TBD
Assessment Committee
Dale Telgenhoff
Darrin Hanna
Budget Review Committee
Chaturi Edrisinha
Campus Development & Environment Committee
Steve Stanton II
Classroom Use & Scheduling Committee
Chris Goeth (co)Chair
Faculty TBD (co)Chair
Community Engagement Committee
David Dulio
Disability & Literacy Committee
Jo Reger
Christina Papadimitriou
Experiential Learning Committee
TBD
General Education Assessment Committee (GEAC)
Cynthia Carver
Jacob Cayanus
General Education Program Revision Ad Hoc Committee
Laila Guessous
Maria Paino
General Education Committee (GEC)
Adina Schneeweis
Graduate Council
Brandy Randall
Honorary Degree Committee
Amy Banes-Berceli
Intercollegiate Athletics Committee
Melissa McDonald
Library Committee
Kate Rougeau
Mental Health AdHoc Committee
Jessie Hurse
Susan McCarty
Planning Review Committee
Lori Burrington
Research Committee
Lakshmi Roman
Olga Ehrlich
Senate Elections Committee
Tamas Horvath
Service Learning Committee (subcommittee of Experiential Learning Committee)
TBD
Student Academic Support Committee
Nicholas Lauer
Teaching & Learning Committee
Tammy Grace
University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction
Kristin Landis-Piwowar

2. ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

Motion approved to staff faculty on Senate Standing Committees

A. Information Items

Interim Provost Corcoran provided Senators with the opportunity to comment on Information Items 1.1-1.3 above. There being no comments, we moved on to the next item on the agenda.

1.4 Strategic Plan Update: Josh Merchant was present to update Senate members on the Strategic Plan. He said that the Strategic themes, top trends, top strengths and weaknesses have been identified over the summer. He stated that there is a website with all of the processes, updates, SWOT analysis and other activities of the Strategic Plan work that is going on. He thanked everyone who has participated in the process so far.

1.5 Introduction of Neil Baumgartner, new Assistant Vice President of Advising: Kristin Landis-Piwowar introduced the new Assistant Vice President of Advising. He introduced himself and indicated that he has been here at OU since the beginning of August.

1.6 Combined Program Enrollment Guidelines Update: Brandy Randall (Dean of the Graduate School) was present to explain the guidelines for combined program enrollment. She said that the nomenclature of the 4 + 1 policy has been changed because it is not accurate. The preferred name will be 'combined', not accelerated. She explained that undergrad certificate will be available up to 6 credits, and that combined Master and Doctorate programs without accreditation can have up to 12 credits. She said students need an undergraduate GPA of 3.0. She noted that a graduate plan should be developed for each student at the time of admission, and that courses that double count have to be at the 5000 level or higher, and she cautioned faculty members about the challenges of double counting classes for which the catalog should always be consulted. She stated that there is more flexibility now for this program, such as the possibility of external partnerships. She encouraged faculty members to take advantage of this opportunity. Mr. Pace asked if a retake will give a student credit for both programs? She replied that it will. He asked if 3 + 3 is still there, and she replied that at other institutions they are true 3 + 3. He asked if certificates are financial aid eligible and she answered that some are but some are not. Ms. Guessous asked how the financial aid would work with respect to undergraduate aid. Ms. Randall replied that undergraduate financial aid is not eligible for this kind of enrollment. Mr. Ball asked if we have a system in place to know which students are doing this program. She said that once students are admitted, there is an attribute on the undergraduate record.

1.7 Exploring – No Major Program (Fall 2024): Sara Webb was present to explain that there is a change of a major name. The previous no major program has been changed from 'Undecided Major' to 'Exploring' as a holding spot until students decide. She said that 80% of the 270 students with this choice are freshmen. The shift to the new terminology will be from the more passive previous designation (undecided) to a more active one (exploring).

1.8 MySail Update: Bhavani Koneru was present to explain that MySail will be on the new platform starting October 9. During the migration to the new platform on October 8, she noted that the old portal to MySail will be down from 5:00-7:00 P.M. She indicated that there is a link to the portal with how-to videos. Mr. Dinda asked if the new portal will be faster. She replied that it is hoped that the new pathways will be better but not necessarily, but it should be more intuitive than the old portal. Mr. Pace asked which student name will be listed with reference to the preferred name policy. She replied that

the content of the new system will be the same as the old one. It will show the preferred name if it is that way in the old Sail.

1.9-1.10 **Senate Committees:** Associate Provost Amy Banes-Berceli provided an update and list of Senate committee members and Co-Chairs for 2024-2025.

1.9 Provost Updates

[Honorary Degree Nomination Form - due Monday, October 7, 2024](#)

Interim Provost Corcoran informed Senate members that the Honorary Doctorate form is available on the Senate website. The nominations are due October 7, 2024.

He announced that Graham Harper and Louis Chamra have put together an AI day on October 15.

He reminded Senate members that the soft close for applications for the position of Provost was last Monday. He reported that there have been over 100 applicants. He encouraged faculty members to participate as much as possible.

He observed that today is the 10th anniversary of the Elliott Tower on campus and that there will be a celebration with a carillon concert.

He thanked Ryan Cotter, Xander Buckingham and Kathy Dailey for their work in organizing the hybrid Senate meeting.

B. Approval of Minutes from April 18, 2024

T The motion was made to approve the minutes from the Senate meeting of April 18, 2024 (Naus, McMillion).

The motion was approved (41 yes, 0 no).

C. New Business

Procedural Motion to staff faculty on Senate Standing Committees: Updates and Changes to previous year

MOVED that the persons outlined on the [attached list](#) (Faculty Appointments to Senate Committees September 19, 2024) be appointed to the committees or positions designated (Olawoyin, Guessous)

The motion was approved (41 yes, 0 no)

D. Good and Welfare

- Mr. Wendell asked about a Senate resolution about Best Practices Rubrics in the provost search process that had appeared on the agenda. Interim Provost Corcoran replied that it had been removed from today's meeting.
- Ms. Guessous encouraged faculty members to attend the Gen Ed model walks because the Gen Ed committee wants feedback. She said there is one coming the week of October 2, and there is a website with a link to a survey.
- Ms. Hansen reminded members that it is that time of the year for the weekly Organic Farm Stand on Wednesdays from 10:00-1:00 P.M. to be found around the Tower, until October 2.

E. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (Senate Secretary)