

**Oakland University Senate
Minutes
April 15, 2021**

Members present: *Aloi, AlSalman, Ball, Barry, Berven, D., Boruff-Jones, Cesmelioglu, Cheng, Corcoran, Corso, Cortes, Dean, Debnath, Didion, Dinda, Discenna, Doherty, Edrisinha, ElSayed, Epstein, Estes, Gajewski, Giblin, Gooren, Guessous, Knox, Latcha, Law-Sullivan, Leibert, Liptak, Margerum-Leys, Mazzeo, McMillon, Meyers, Mezwa, Miller, J., Miller, K., Miree, Parkash, Paul, Piskulich, Rios-Ellis, Rodriguez, Tracy, Van Til, Wadsworth, Wells. Zhang*

Members absent: *Barclay, Bastituzzi, Berven, K., Bradley, Campoy-Cubillo, Caushaj, Chamra, Jankowski, Massoud, Roach, Tiegs*

Provost Rios-Ellis called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEMS

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Graduate Program Modifications

SEHS: Special Education, Department of Human Development and Child Studies

SBA: Split Existing Degree Program-MSITM/MSBA

SBA: Executive MBA

Undergraduate Program Modifications

CAS: Health Communication Minor

Service Learning Courses

Special guest President Ora Pescovitz

Provost's Updates

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of Motion from Graduate Council for a new Master's Program in Social Work

**Approval of Motion from the Graduate Council to modify the Graduate Certificate
Minimum Credits Policy**

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Procedural Motion to staff Senate Committees

A. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Provost Rios-Ellis invited comments from Senators on the following information items. There were no comments.

Graduate Program Modifications

- o **SEHS - Special Education, Department of Human Development and Child Studies**

The Special Education program area under the Department of Human Development and Child Studies is increasing the number of required credit hours by 1 for the following programs: M.Ed. in Special Education with a concentration in autism spectrum disorders, Graduate Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder Education, and Advanced Graduate Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder Education. The SE 6960 Practicum/Field Experience course is changing to 5 credits. This change is to comply with the credit distributions stipulated by the Michigan Department of Education/MARSE rules/regulations. (Darlene Groomes)

- o **SBA - Split Existing Degree Program - MSITM / MSBA**

Split the Business Analytics Concentration from the existing Master of Science in Information Technology Management (MSITM) program and create a separate program – Master of Science in Business Analytics (MSBA). Department of Decision and Information Sciences. (Vijayan Sugumaran)

- o **SBA - Executive MBA**

Reduce the number of topical courses to two and add a new course titled Leadership Feedback and Development to the leadership courses section of the curriculum. Specify that one of the topical courses will cover human resources management content. (Nivedita Mukherji)

Undergraduate Program Modifications

- o **CAS - Health Communication Minor**

The Health Communication Minor is intended for any University student interested in advanced study of health communication. The minor prepares students for a variety of careers in the growing field of health communication. Typical job areas include health-related communication for hospitals, geriatric care facilities, and non-profits such as the American Lung Association, or health communication positions within the Department of Health and Human Services (e.g., CDC, NIH, FDA). A professional health communication practitioner uses a variety of communication strategies, tactics, and media to increase awareness, improve knowledge, communicate outcomes, facilitate behavior change, prevent or impede the onset of disease, and develop environments that encourage and support positive healthy behaviors. Health communication programs take place in many settings, including schools, clinics, hospitals, workplaces, and community settings. (Robert Sidelinger and Jeff Youngquist)

- o **Service Learning Courses** (Diane Baldwin and Kevin Corcoran)

Proposal to add a Service Learning Designation to sections of courses with a Service Learning component. This designation will allow the service learning courses to be on the student's official transcript. Dean Corcoran explained

that this matter was about a designator for service learning and not about changing courses. He said this would put service learning courses on the transcripts formally. Ms. Baldwin said they will pilot the process with 10 courses, and then automat them soon after.

Special Guest President Ora Pescovitz was welcomed to the meeting by Provost Rios-Ellis. President Pescovitz thanked the faculty for meeting amazing challenges, and she applauded their remarkable resilience, noting that everyone has juggled many things successfully. She said that health and safety of the campus have been a priority but without compromising any other standard. She applauded the collaborative spirit of the faculty which made all the difference throughout the year of the pandemic. She said she had seen many examples of selflessness, hope, optimism, passion and compassion throughout these months. She was glad to have seen that Oakland University had been on the front page of the NYT because of Oakland's vaccination campaign. She said the vaccination campaign was a key effort and she stated that 3000 people had been immunized this week. Regarding the planning for the fall semester 2021, she said the theme would be Grizzlies Together Again. She emphasized that we have been ranked the safest campus in Michigan. She said she wants to see us become a global university. In addition, she emphasized the importance of the sustainability initiative. With respect to enrollments, she said that OU had a decrease in enrollment during COVID, but less than other universities, and she predicted that we will be able to recover. She noted that students come to OU because of the faculty because of whom students get a personalized and engaging experience. She also predicted that OU would become the number one transfer university, and added that to acquaint them there are increasing virtual visits as well as on campus visits. She mentioned that we have moved to a test-optional admission standard. She expressed her pride of what has been done on campus to address student debt.

Provost Updates: Provost Rios-Ellis acknowledged two people who are retiring at the end of this academic year. Professor Frank Giblin is retiring from the Eye Research Institute after 47 years due to which there will be a new director of the ERI. She stated that his legacy is profound. Dean Kevin Corcoran is also retiring and she expressed her appreciation for the important impact that he has had during his years at OU.

She then expressed her appreciation of how everyone has provided examples of good stewardship through this pandemic year. She pointed to the ability of faculty to adapt to online learning and other unexpected challenges. She presented examples of selflessness, such as the food bank, which makes OU a steward of the region. She said that OU will follow CDC guidelines to the letter, adding that we have learned to be flexible. She emphasized that vaccination will be mandated for students in the dorms.

She re-iterated that strategic enrollment management under Dawn Aubry has been excellent, such that decline has been less than any other university in Michigan. She stated that they have been working on attrition triggers to watch for students in danger of dropping out.

In addition, she announced that she has met with the Mexican Consulate about supporting students from Mexico.

She observed that there have been some anti-Asian racial incidents on campus and this issue has been discussed in multiple areas to develop a plan for moving forward. Mr. Leibert expressed concern about this. Mr. Debnath asked if we are doing everything we can to make

sure our students are equipped to handle the social challenges, such as diversity and equity. He said we need to add these elements in all of four campus classes. He also said that we need to review the Gen Ed program. Ms. Rios-Ellis indicated that there should be follow-up to both of these important comments, at the DEI committee which has a sub-committee on safety. Provost Rioz-Ellis then thanked Cynthia-Miree for her contributions to running the Senate this year, and wished her the best on sabbatical next year.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of March 18, 2021

The minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2021 were approved (Meyers, Tracy).

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Motion from the Graduate Council for a new Master's in Social Work Program

MOVED that the Senate approve a Graduate Council's new Master's in Social Work Program

Summary of Proposed Master's in Social Work Program - Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work (CAS) - The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, Social Work and Criminal Justice is proposing a new graduate degree program- a Master of Social Work (MSW) program for a possible start of Fall 2022. This curriculum is designed in part to fulfill the curricular requirements associated with Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Core Competencies. Depending how students enter the MSW program there are two options for completing the proposed MSW degree: a traditional curriculum for students who do not hold a BSW, including 64 hours of coursework and 900 hours of field education, and an advanced standing program for students who hold a BSW and meet additional criteria that requires 34 credit hours of coursework and 450 hours of field education. (Maria Beam & Joseph Shivley) Mr. Leibert said that his department had had a chance to look closely at the proposal, and said that they support the proposal completely. He acknowledged that this is a tricky matter to negotiate, but noted that there will be opportunities for collaboration, and he said he appreciated the governance process.

The motion was approved.

2. Motion from the Graduate Council to modify the Graduate Certificate Minimum Credits Policy

MOVED that the Senate approve the updated policy

The motion was approved.

Summary:

Current Language - Graduate Certificate Minimum Credits (15 credits)

An Approved Graduate Certificate shall require no less than 15 graduate credit hours selected from those courses applicable to the graduate degree with which it is associated.

Proposed Language Change - Graduate Certificate Minimum Credits Approved by Graduate Council (12 credits)

An *Approved Graduate Certificate* shall require no less than **12** graduate credit hours selected from those courses applicable to the graduate degree with which it is associated.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. T Procedural Motion to staff Senate Committees

MOVED that the persons listed be appointed to the committees or positions designated:

Comment: Full Senate Committee list including continuing members

Academic Computing Committee

2021 – 2023 Faculty Appointments

Jason Moore (SEHS)

Atiqul Mollah (SECS)

Maria Beam (CAS)

Yazan Roumani (SBA)

Taylor, Tracey (SOM)

Academic Conduct Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

Joy Jiang (SBA)

Lindsay Gietzen (SHS)

Douglas Gould (SOM)

Aldona Pobutsky (CAS)

Academic Standing and Honors Committee

2021 – 2023 Faculty Appointments

Nicole Mathew (CAS)

Jingshu Chen (SECS)

Hong Qian (SBA)

(University) Assessment Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

Jennifer Heisler (CAS)

Ed Rohn (SHS)

Shawn McCann (KL)

Mohammad Mahmoud (SECS)

Yun (Ellen) Zhu (SBA)

Austin Murphy (SBA)

Budget Review Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

Chaturi Edrishinha (SEHS)

Sumi Dinda (SHS)

Campus Environment and Development Committee

2021-2023 Faculty Appointments

Stanton, Steve (SBA)

Hernandez, Joanna (SON)

Hansen, Fay (CAS)

Committee on Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

2021 – 2023 Faculty Appointments

Bruce Charlesworth (CAS)

Katie Mysen (SON)

Danielle Ligocki (SEHS)

General Education Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

Long, Michael (SEHS)

Campoy-Cubillo, Adolfo (CAS)

Tang, Jing (SECS)

Rodriguez, Julia and Daniel, Dominique (KL) - Fall Sabbatical Replacement

Jusela, Cheryl (SON)

Honorary Degree Committee

2021-2024 Faculty Appointments

Brandon Gustafson (SBA)

Intercollegiate Athletics Committee

2021 – 2023 Faculty Appointments

Aloi, Dan (SECS)

McDonald, Fritz (CAS)

(University) Library Committee

2021-2023 Faculty Appointments

Daniel, Dominique (KL)

Ma, Marsha (Zexin) (CAS - HUM)

Eldredge, Cody (CAS - SS)

Zhu, Xie (SBA)

(University) Library Committee (continued)

2020-2022 Faculty Appointments

Nidiffer, Jana (SEHS) – new appointment filling a vacancy

Senate Planning Review Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

OPEN

Nehmer, Rob (SBA)

(University) Research Committee

2021-2023 Faculty Appointments

Arena, Sara (SHS)

Want, Xia (SECS)

Kranak, Michael (SEHS)

Student Academic Support Committee

2021-2024 Faculty Appointments

Tonui, Betty (CAS)

Diesbourg, Tara (SHS)

Dwyer, Erin (CAS)

Lauer, Nicholas (SEHS)

Teaching and Learning Committee

2021 – 2024 Faculty Appointments

Anasti, Theresa (CAS)

Mohiyeddini, Changiz (SOM)

Poly-Droulard, Lynda (SON)

University Committee of Undergraduate Instruction

2021-2024 Faculty Appointments

McGinnis, Deb (CAS-SS)

Jusela, Cheryl (SON)

Govind, Chabi (CAS – MS)

Stuaugle, Emily (KL)

Uhley, Virginia (SOM)

Ambika Bhargava (SEHS)

General Education Assessment Committee

2021-2024 Faculty Appointments

Laam, Kevin (CAS)

Kashiwagi-Wood, Akiko (CAS)

Kaiser, Angela (CAS)

The motion was approved.

E. GOOD AND WELFARE

Provost Rios-Ellis wished everyone a good summer.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (Senate secretary)