



## Faculty Senate 2023-2024

MINUTES: February 21, 2024

Location: Zoom Meeting

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

K. Hall, Chair; J. Lim, Recording Secretary

**Present [23]:** M. Bacchiocchi, S. Badenas, A. Bosman, K. Cave, G. Chi, V. Corredera, B. Davis, S. Elkins-Bates, R. Gatón, A. Galeniece, E. Galenieks, B. Gibson, D. Gonzalez-Socoloske, K. Hall, S. Hatfield, B. Henry-Saturné, N. Isaac-Dennis, M. Keller, J. Lim, B. Maguad, M. Moreno, R. Orrison, B. Sanou

**Regrets/absent [7]:** L. Hamilton, J. Johnson, J. Kidder, D. Nowack, Z. Plantak, K. Reiner, L. Sabas.

**Guests [10]:** K. Bailey, R. Bates, Y. Cantillano, A. Coria-Navia, C. Kelly, S. Kwon, D. Myers, D. Ortiz, A. Rosenthal, D. Weber.

**Votes & Actions taken** (numbers [n] represent items on original agenda)

**[2] Minutes of Prior Faculty Senate Meeting** (K. Hall)

**MOTION:** VOTE passed [16 yes]. To approve the minutes as presented with corrections.

**[4] Council Reports** (V. Corredera)

Council reports were received as follows:

- Undergraduate Council (December 4, 2023). Voted program changes and deactivations.
- Graduate Council (December 6, 2023). Voted program changes and deactivations.
- Faculty Policy and Development Council (None)
- Academic Operations and Policy Council (January 29, 2024). Discussion of the attendance policy.

VOTE to accept the council reports passed [19 yes].

**[7] Faculty Senate Representative to Serve on Staff Senate.** Staff senator who will come to our meetings, Maxine Umana. A Faculty Senate representative is needed to serve on Staff Senate. S. Badenas volunteered. VOTE to approve passed [19 yes]. In addition, interest expressed in a joint fun night for the summer but not during spring break.

### **Senate Discussion & Announcements**

**[1] Worship & Prayer** (A. Bosman). Reflection on Proverbs 16:9 in the context of mental health and wellness in times of uncertainty.

**[3] ETLAC Announcements** (A. Coria-Navia). Projects underway include the policy on classroom visits, syllabi resources, and the graduate exit survey, to be piloted this spring. Proposals due for upcoming events including the Andrews University Teaching and Learning Conference on April 11 (counts for FAR) (proposals due February 23), Higher Education Adventist Society Virtual Conference on May 30 (counts for FAR) (proposals due March 15), and Faculty and Staff Institute on August 14 and 15 (proposals due March 8). Reminder of other upcoming events: Social Consciousness Conference, February 29-March 2; First Future Futures on March 1; and Research Writing Retreat, May 15-16. Two course design opportunities: Universal Design for Learning series and the Notre Dame Inclusive Pedagogies Workshops (email [ctale@andrews.edu](mailto:ctale@andrews.edu) for more information).

**[5] Attendance Policy Revisions.** [A. Rosenthal]. Dean Rosenthal gave an overview of the main changes to the attendance policy which are clarifications. The language of excused absences was removed. An absence is an absence; students need to make up the work and notify faculty. Verification of illness longer than the equivalent of one week of class will be processed in the dean's office. Fewer people touching medical information is better. Improvements to the process for the involvement of student life with student athletics and other events. Rosters will be sent to dean's offices for distribution to faculty.

Discussion. Appreciation when changes in policy and practice centralize decision making and simplify tasks for teachers. Discussion regarding the attendance related settings, defaults, and points in LearningHub. Discussion regarding clinicals and other situations. Faculty need to put information in the syllabus. Faculty have the authority to decide how to handle attendance and should make that clear in the syllabus. Every absence applies to the 20% threshold where faculty could assign an F for non-attendance.

**[6] Faculty Rep for Staff Presidential Search Taskforce.** [K. Hall]. The taskforce is looking how representation happens on presidential search committees. H. Ferguson had accepted this position; however she is leaving to take the Associate Provost position at Advent Health. The other name was L. Muhlenbeck. Muhlenbeck is willing to serve. Faculty Senate had already approved these two names.

**[8] Faculty Policy Committee Chair for Fall 2024.** [K. Hall]. Tabled. Nothing to report.

**[9] Assistant to the President for Mission and Culture Search Committee Update.** [B. Henry-Saturné]. The search process has been steadily moving forward and is expected to conclude within a few weeks. The search committee has representation from various sectors from the campus family. The members have consistently made a special effort to have an open mind and to treat the applicants with respect and fairness. The pool of candidates is significant. The committee has spent substantial time in prayer. Faculty make

express input or concerns to B. Henry-Saturné. The President will share additional information when he is ready.

Discussion of the process, the secrecy of the committee, and precedent for the future.  
Review of working policy, which does not speak to the assistant to the president positions.

**[10] Program Prioritization: Criteria Committee Report.** [V. Corredera and J. Lim].

Program prioritization is different from program review in that all the programs are reviewed at the same time. The criteria committee is composed of faculty. The criteria being discussed fit into the big categories of mission, reputation, and metrics/finances. The committee that meets after the criteria committee and reviews the data on all the programs will also have faculty representation nominated by the colleges.

Discussion. Audience for the data. Identifying areas for investment. How to make the process as fair as possible. Programs that are subsidized vs. programs where people are willing to pay. Strategic planning done by programs that have programmatic accreditation. Currency of the data. Narrative plus data. National recognition. Current tentative timeline: finish criteria in March; programs write narratives in May; committee to review works in late summer and early fall.

**[11] Academic Calendar Update.** [A. Bosman]. Thank you for engaging in feedback.

Result: no edits to the fall calendar. In January 2025, starting a week later but ending at the same time. Courses meeting only on Mondays and Fridays will have 12 instructional days. Discussion of the dates. Appreciation and support for the new spring semester calendar. Issues with internships for nursing. Some programs will need to make adjustments.

**[12] Creation Care Council.** [K. Hall]. The President is establishing a Creation Care Council to promote a culture of creation care and environmental stewardship. The membership will include leadership, faculty, staff, and students. Likely at our next meeting we will work on faculty representation.

**[13] Reminder.** Our next meeting will be in person in the Whirlpool Room (No Zoom).