Faculty Senate 2016–2017

MINUTES: June 21, 2017
Whirlpool Room, Chan Shun Hall
6:00-8:00 pm
J. Ledesma, Chair; K. Bailey, recording secretary


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

Seconded; VOTE PASSED.

[3] Committee Reports
K. Koudele
There were no committee reports provided to the Faculty Senate between the May and June senate meetings.

[4] Overview of the AU UFO
K. Bailey, R. J. Bailey, K. Mattingly, and R. Root represented the AU UFO Steering Committee. A. Coria-Navia was present via online meeting software.

The AU UFO Steering Committee reviewed the purpose and history of the AU UFO project, including the events at the May Working Retreat. A Unified Framework of Outcomes is Unified because it is a project that we all work on together for the benefit of our students. It involves a Framework that is a shared structure used to coordinate across the University so that students receive a systematic and purposeful education, both inside and outside of the classroom. The Outcomes in the UFO at a picture of what we want for every graduate of Andrews University.

The Steering Committee noted that the AU UFO is a framework for critical thinking that involves building dispositions for effortful thinking, developing skills, recognizing the arenas in which skills can be applied, and then thinking about your own thinking in order to learn about how you learn. Students especially need explicit instruction in order to learn how to recognize when their skill scan be applied, and how their skills fit together. The AU UFO document draft was handed out to the Senators. The presentation of the AU UFO document to the Faculty Senate fulfilled the mandate given to the Steering Committee in the Fall of 2016.

The Faculty Senate noted that oversight was still necessary to implement the AU UFO and discussed the continuation of the Steering Committee with a new mandate.

MOTION: “That the AU UFO Steering Committee oversee implementation of the AU UFO throughout the process, reporting to the Faculty Senate once in the Fall and once in the Spring semester. Membership of the committee may be reviewed yearly.” (J. Lim). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

AU UFO Steering Committee
The Steering Committee gave an overview of the three-day process at the working retreat. More than 40 faculty, staff, and administrators met for three days to finalize the AU UFO document. On the first day, the working group reviewed and edited the basic skills outcomes. On the second day, the group reviewed and edited the arena outcomes. The Steering Committee met after each day in order to compile the edits into a final draft. On the third day, the group voted the document and engaged in bridge-building discussions across curricular and co-curricular units.

The Senate Executive informed the Senate of a plan to write formal letters thanking each of the Working Retreat participants.
The Steering Committee gave an overview of the 8 skill areas and 5 arenas of learning in the UFO. AU students will build 8 foundational skills: information literacy, academic reading skills, quantitative literacy, engaging diverse perspectives, ethical reasoning, analytical inquiry, communication (written, spoken, visual), and holistic wellness and life skills. These skills are deployed in 5 arenas of learning: Intentional Exploration with Interdisciplinary Connections, Specialized Knowledge, Faith Development and Integration, Civic and Global Learning, and Applied and Innovative Learning.

The Working Group had referred a question about a foundation-level math outcome to the Senate for a final decision. The Senate decided to combine two proposed options into a single outcome.

**MOTION:** “To REVISE and FINALIZE the IS.FND.3a outcome to Interprets quantitative information, communicates evidence about that information in applications or projects, and uses mathematical methods to solve problems and analyze data in context. Describes assumptions or limitations of these methods.” (G. Lovhoiden). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

The Senate voted to approve the AU UFO proposal (with the voted change to IS.FND.3a).

**MOTION:** “To APPROVE the Skills and Arenas components of the Andrews University Unified Framework of Outcomes to the Faculty Senate for approval with affirmation of the work of the AU UFO Steering Committee and AU UFO Working Retreat participants.” (S. Moncrieff). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

The Steering Committee recommended an implementation timeline over the next 4-5 years beginning with a mapping stage in the Fall of 2017, an initial focus on lower-division (foundational) courses, and then moving to upper-division (baccalaureate) courses. Faculty would be asked to update one courses each semester. Drafting of the graduate component would begin in 2019.

The Senate discussed the usefulness of the May Working Retreat in the development of the document and suggested that the discussions that included faculty, staff, and administrators might be useful in setting the targets for outcomes (that is, reviewing and discussing assignments that met the outcome criteria), building curricular-co-curricular strategies, and reviewing the AU UFO document.

**MOTION:** “To REQUEST that the Provost’s office fund an annual May retreat to develop capacity at Andrews University for implementing the AU UFO, and to leverage the knowledge and skills of Andrews University faculty, staff, and administrators in developing new innovations that increase the impact of the AU UFO. To include in that budget a $500 bonus for participation in the retreat in order to expand the base of willing participants.” (B. Sedlacek). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

There was some concern raised about the perception of the participation bonus. It was noted that the motion was a request that did not bind the Provost’s Office to a particular implementation plan.

**Senate Discussion & Announcements**

[1] **Worship & Prayer**

A video reviewing the 2016-2017 Faculty Senate.

**Next Faculty Senate meeting:** To be determined by the 2017-2018 Senate Executive.