Regrets/absent:  C. Gane, B. Gibson, K. Hall, J. Markovic, G. Doss, R. Wells.
Guests:  A. Bosman, L. Carroll (Staff Senate Representative), L. Weldon

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

[2] Minutes of October 16, 2019 Senate Meeting. MOTION: To approve the minutes as presented including record of the e-vote concerning the Bridge to Success Program (K. Bailey). Seconded; VOTE PASSED.

[4] Council/Committee Reports (J. Lim)
    Undergraduate Council (11/4) & Graduate Council (11/6): These councils mostly covered PDRC changes.
    No other issues were raised to the level of Faculty Senate concern from committee minutes [Faculty Policy & Development Council (10/21); AUUFO Steering Committee (11/4)].

[5] Social Committee Representative

The Social Committee has been established to bring the campus together through a variety of activities. The committee needs representation from the Faculty Senate.

Senators noted that this committee appears to represent additional workload distributed from a paid position onto existing faculty and staff positions that already had full-time workloads, and that continued expense for social events during an on-going financial crisis might be a cause for concern.

Xiaoming Xu was nominated as the faculty senate representative (J. Lim). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

[6] LearningHub Use by Faculty

The Faculty Senate considered Illustration 2 from the voted Shared Governance document for understanding this situation [the request by Deans’ Council that the Faculty Senate examine the feasibility of requiring learning management system use].

The Senate and guests noted several concerns during this discussion. One concern was that we should not over-interpret the ability of governance to require particular pedagogical approaches for every class—pedagogical requirements have to be bounded by academic freedom (to instruct as deemed necessary by the instructor). Senators also discussed whether or not the Deans’ Council has communicated the reasons for the request as suggested by the shared governance illustration. A number of possible reasons for the request were identified:

[1] Andrews University is an attendance reporting institution. [2] Andrews University students pay for this learning management system. [3] Andrews University students are coming from backgrounds (i.e. high schools and academies) that use learning management systems and expect them for all classes. [4] Deans have suggested that the University could pull together information about at-risk students from a learning management system (although this is not currently a functionality of the system).
In order to gather appropriate information and develop a framework for decision making about any learning management system requirements, the Senate took the following actions:

MOTION: To form an ad hoc committee to look into the recommendation of the Dean’s Council regarding the use of a learning management system. (Ade-Oshifogun), Seconded, VOTE PASSED (19 Yea, 1 Nay, 2 Abstain)

MOTION: To accept the attached terms of reference for the Learning Management System and University Teaching Ad Hoc Committee. (T. Goodwin) Seconded, VOTE PASSED (19 Yay, 2 Abstain).

MOTION: That Janine Lim chair the committee (Ade-Oshifogun). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

[7] Academic Reading Outcome in the AU UFO

The Faculty Senate discussed a recommendation from the AUUFO Retreat in May 2019. Working groups recommended that the Academic Reading Outcome be removed from the AUUFO because it is difficult to measure and because it is contained within other outcomes or arenas. This is being recommended to the Senate from the AUUFO Steering Committee.

MOTION: To remove the Academic Reading Outcome from the Skills section of the AUUFO. (A. Coria-Navia). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

[8] Campus Labs Assessment Support Tool

In the summer of 2018 faculty and assessment staff expressed an interest in software to streamline the reporting of assessment data out (i.e. for accreditation). The DLTC then considered a number of options and refined those options, including visits from candidate software vendors. Deans have voted to acquire Campus Labs software for assessment tracking--the University now needs Faculty Senate support to move towards securing funding for the project.

The current system for assessment tracking is very effortful. Campus Labs would automate much of this process--both gathering data and reporting. It also allows much more detailed analysis of data.

MOTION: To support the acquisition of Campus Labs. (J. Lim), Seconded. (17 Yay, 3 Abstain)

Several senators expressed concern about charging students direct fees for this tool, and recommended that the University find a more sustainable funding source.
Senate Discussion & Announcements

[1] Worship & Prayer: (H. Ferguson) When we are tired and stressed we don’t have to worry about hiding from God. Prayer: B. Henry-Saturné.


We are thankful for the contribution of our Andrews University teachers who contribute the majority of programming for faculty development. There is one last faculty book club session this week for the fall book (*Education*/*Ellen White*). In the spring the faculty book club will be *In Defense of a Liberal Education*/Fareed Zakaria. The Zakaria book was provided to all faculty attending Faculty Institute in August 2019. Invitations will be circulated at the end of the semester. Innovations in Teaching and Learning grant applications will be circulated at about the same time—they will be due about three months later. The keynote speaker for AUTLC will talk about how to recover bandwidth in students who face challenges. Senator were encouraged to invite students to attend as well. Digital Commons is ready to receive applications. Please remember that CTL and DLIT are available on-demand to support faculty development needs.

Next Faculty Senate meeting: December 11, 2019.