Faculty Senate 2019–2020

MINUTES: October 16, 2019
Whirlpool Room, Chan Shun Hall
6:00-8:00 pm
H. Ferguson, Chair; R. Wells, Recording Secretary


Regrets/absent: S. Badenas, B. Dent, C. Gane, B. Gibson, G. Gregorutti, D. Habenicht, K. Hall, J. Lim, D. Taylor, O. Glanz, G. Doss, X. Xu

Guests: T. Lowing; D. May; L. Weldon; A. Bosman

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

[2] Minutes of September 18, 2019 Senate Meeting. MOTION: Move to approve minutes as presented (R. Wells). Seconded; VOTE PASSED.

Undergraduate Council (10/7):
Items discussed/voted included: --ACE proposal voted; new terms of reference for UGC and ACE based on working policy; Bridge to success

Bridge to Success program discussion/questions by Senators
Is there a cap for students? Do we have budget and infrastructure to support this program? Will we screen for disabilities? Will students know that this will mean it will take them more than 4 years to graduate? Are they APS eligible? How does this relate to student success? If they already have a high GPA, why are they put in this program? Is there remediation on test scores? 2.5 GPA is standard for similar programs elsewhere…We need a champion of this program to come to present it, with the student success director.

MOTION: To defer discussion until a representative of the draft proposal and the student success director can come together to present it to the Senate (K. Bailey). Seconded; VOTE PASSED.

Graduate Council (10/2):
Items discussed/voted include: decisions from dissertation task force, regarding the responsibilities of the dissertation office; editing and formatting components will now belong to the chair and the student
Communication about the document from various graduate departments should go to Duane Covrig, and soon because recommendations will be voted next month.

Faculty Policy and Development Council:
Nothing to report

Academic Operations Council (9/30):
nothing needed to report to Senate

AU Unified Framework of Outcomes Steering Committee (10/7):
to be discussed at next Senate, as time ran out

Race Relations Standing Committee:
Nothing to report

[5] ACE Package approved by UGC
D. May presented the 43 credit ACE package as approved by the UGC. The Substitutions and Learning Outcomes columns were included, and this led to concern about which courses were able to substitute for others, especially HIST 204/205 or HIST 117/118 for HIST 110. The package does not yet include co-curricular, SAGES, transfer students, or other ACE substitutions. It is not perfect, but we need to move it forward so we can have ongoing conversations. Once voted, the ACE committee can make changes on anything, it is not set in stone.

MOTION: To accept all the rows of the ACE table as presented, with the exception of the co-curricular row (K. Bailey). Seconded; VOTE PASSED (13 yes, 4 no).

Senate Discussion & Announcements

When things are challenging, and people leave unexpectedly from the office, it is easy to get frustrated. However, the new hire is actually a much better fit for the department. Trusting God with the process and seeing what amazing things He does, helps us not to worry (Prov 3:5-6; Ps. 46:10).

Multiple events are coming up that are relevant to faculty. The faculty technology showcases require advance registration, along with the book club next week. Next semester, the book read for book club will be about the liberal arts. Formative dialogues are available for faculty. March 26, 2020 is the next Andrews Teaching and Learning Conference, and proposals are needed for scholarship in teaching and pedagogical practices. Proposals can also be made for the Innovation in Teaching and Learning Grant.

[4] Bridge to Success Discussion and E-vote
During the October Faculty Senate meeting there was a vote to invite the champion of the “Bridge to Success Program” and the head of Student Success to answer questions about the noted program. Because of the time sensitive nature of the vote and a desire for applicants who are eligible for this program to receive a response, the senate executive decided to proceed with an email/online vote. Dr. Arthur responded to the documented questions and he noted that both AOC and UGC have voted to support the program. It would appear that many of the same questions were also answered at those committees when they discussed the topic.

E-vote MOTION: To support the Bridge to Success Admissions Program (H. Ferguson). VOTE PASSED (19 Yes, 2 No)

Next Faculty Senate meeting: November 20, 2019.