

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of January 19, 2021
FACULTY SENATE

<http://www.utoledo.edu/facsenate>

Approved @ FS on 2/16/2021

Summary of Discussion

Note: The taped recording of this meeting is available in the Faculty Senate office or in the University Archives.

President Brakel: Okay, I have 4 o'clock, so I will call the January 19th Faculty Senate meeting to order and ask Secretary Nigem to call the roll.

Present: Ali, Anderson, Bigioni, Brakel, Chaffee, Chou, Coulter-Harris, Day, de le Serna, Duhon, Edgington, Elgafy, El-Zawahry, Garcia-Mata, Gibbs, Giovannucci, Gregory, Guardiola, Hall, Harmych, Heberle, Insch, Jayatissa, Kistner, Krantz, Kujawa, Lawrence, Lecka-Czernik, Lee, Lipscomb, Metz, Modyanov, Molitor, J. Murphy, Niamat, Nigem, Oberlander, Wood (substitute for Pakulski), Pattin, Ratnam, Reeves, Smith, Stepkowski, Steven, Taylor, Teclhaimanot, Templin, Thompson-Casado, Tiwari, Topp, Van Hoy, Wedding, Welsch, Zietlow

Excused Absence:

Unexcused Absence: Bailey, Barnes, Case, Chaudhuri, Duggan, Koch, Longsdorf, Milz, L. Murphy, Perry

Senator Nigem: We do have a quorum, President Brakel.

President Brakel: Thank you, Secretary Nigem. You have today's agenda, which is on the screen right now. I'll entertain a motion to adopt today's agenda.

Senator Day: So moved.

Senator Edgington: Second.

President Brakel: Thank you. Please put yes in the chat box, 'n' for no, or 'a' for abstain. Okay. It looks like that has passed. *Motion to Adopt Agenda Passed.*

You also received the Minutes from our last meeting, which was November 24th. President-Elect Bigioni, can you get those on the screen please? Are there any corrections or additions to the Minutes? Hearing none. I'll entertain a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 24th meeting.

Senator Kistner: So moved.

Senator Smith: Second.

President Brakel: Thank you. All in favor say, 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? That appears to have passed. *Motion Passed.* That brings us to the Executive Committee report.

Executive Committee Report: Due to the semester break and holiday break closure, the Executive Committee work has been limited. I've provided the Faculty Senate report to the Board of Trustees on December 14th, reporting on the work done on the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules. I also stated that we were initially concerned about the development of the key initiative committees – I thought those concerns have been remedied. With regard to the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules, those were submitted near the end of the semester for review by the Office of Legal Affairs. That review has been completed and a tentative meeting is setup for tomorrow afternoon to review those comments. President-Elect Terry Bigioni attended the COVID meetings representing Faculty Senate and kept the Executive Committee apprised of those meetings. As there were no changes impacting the start of the spring semester compared

to the fall, it was decided that a special Faculty Senate meeting was not necessary. President-Elect Bigioni conveyed from today's meeting to the Executive Committee that residential students return is less than a 1% positivity rate and that clinical faculty had received the first dose of the COVID vaccine. I understand the second dose will be administered starting in the next day or two. An email was sent out regarding faculty vaccinations to the Health Science Campus faculty, but that message was incorrect and has been corrected.

I've attended the Finance and Strategy meetings on December 06th and January 06th. The January 06th meeting focused on enrollment for spring semester, which was down roughly 10% at that time, and what was being done to enhance enrollment for fall. We also heard a presentation regarding the budget revitalization key initiative. I've extended an invitation to Vice President of Enrollment Jim Anderson and Budget Revitalization Co-Chair Brenda Grant to present on these issues at an upcoming Senate meeting.

This concludes the Faculty Senate Executive Committee report. Does any Executive Committee member have anything they would like to add? Are there questions or comments from the floor? Okay, moving right along. Provost Bjorkman's report.

Provost Bjorkman: Good afternoon, everybody and Happy New Year. I hope you had a great and hopefully restful holiday break. As we begin spring semester, I am mindful that we do so in quite an environment; one that is challenging in many ways, with the ongoing pandemic, of course, and also with the civil unrest in the nation's Capital and elsewhere. Like many of you, I was horrified and saddened by the violent assault on the U.S. Capital on January 06, and the efforts to interfere with the peaceful transition of power.

This week as Washington ramps up security ahead of the inauguration ceremonies tomorrow, states across the country have deployed members of the National Guard to assist with security in Washington D.C. and also at state capital buildings. Governor DeWine has activated the Ohio National Guard and members have been deployed to Washington D.C. and the state house in Columbus. I want to remind you that the University of Toledo, we have some 85 plus students who are members of our Ohio National Guard and some of our students are among the guardsmen who have been deployed. I just want to remind everyone that their absences from classes while under orders of deployment are considered excused absences and should be treated as such as we continue to support our students during these difficult and challenging times. The director of our Military Service Center, Eric Buetikofer has been in contact with all our students who are in the National Guard, and he is reminding them of the appropriate University protocols to follow if they are deployed. He will be available to help any of the students who have concerns or issues with this. I encourage you to contact Eric if you have any questions, or need additional information.

Last Friday, January 15th, the Office of the Provost held a virtual town hall meeting. I know many of you were in attendance with Dr. Postel, myself, Dr. Cockrell, Dr. Jennifer Hanrahan from UTMC, and Dr. Thompson with an update on the pandemic and vaccine roll out. As we resume instruction this semester, there were lots and lots of questions. I know people are really eager for information. If you weren't able to join us on the town hall meeting, we did record it and there is a link to that recording on the forum on the Office of the Provost webpage, and it is also in today's UToledo News. So with regard to the pandemic, there is good news that the roll out of vaccine has begun and is in the early stages. The Ohio Department of Health is guiding the order of vaccination priorities. The Lucas County Health Department is providing the sign up process and the staging of the vaccination groups.

Over the last week, as you've heard, the University tested over 3,000 students for COVID-19, including returning residential students, students living in the dorms, and also our clinical learners. It was pretty

exciting to hear the results of that testing, it showed a positivity rate of less than 1%. For comparison, just to recall that the state overall positivity rate is around 18% right now. So that is very, very good news, but that means we also need to continue our efforts with social distancing, hand washing, wearing our masks and get vaccinated when your queue opens up so we can continue to curve the spread of COVID-19 on our campus and in our community. Maintaining a safe campus is always our highest priority. We will continue to monitor the campus environment with the weekly surveillance testing. The dashboard will be updated with that. We will follow the guidelines of the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Toledo Lucas County Health Department.

In addition, as you've already heard, over the next two weeks, the University is offering free rapid COVID-19 testing for faculty, staff and students who are asymptomatic, but want to be tested. This is an antigen based test with results that will be available to you in 30 minutes. So information on how to sign up for that testing, if you're interested this month, is available on the University's coronavirus website, which is our central source of all the pandemic related information. You can access that website from a link right on the University's homepage.

I also want to remind you that a little bit is different this spring semester. We will be holding five wellness days in place of a block spring break week. There are no classes on those days. We have updated the academic calendar, so it got those dates on there. That is posted on the Provost Office website. But just a reminder, those dates are Tuesday, February 16th, Wednesday, March 10th, Monday, March 29th, and Thursday and Friday, April 30th, which is just the week before final exams. It is the same in terms of the number of days that we miss and the days that those are, Monday through Friday, as it would be during a normal block week. But we hope that this will be helpful in helping us to continue to curve the spread of the disease.

The Division of Student Affairs is planning some optional wellness activities for students on these days, and we will have more information on those activities as they are developed and put out later this month. Dr. Cockrell has told me that those events will be posted on the University's master calendar as soon as they are confirmed, so you can keep an eye out there.

I am pleased to report that the University has expanded our wireless coverage to a number of outdoor locations. By the time we get to March, you will be able to sit outside more comfortably. The list of those locations is available on the I.T. networking site, utoledo.edu/it/ns/networking. The plans are also in place to expand the outdoor coverage to additional areas. We are also working, and you may be interested to hear this, a plan to expand the access to Carlson Library and Mulford Library this semester with more evening hours for students and faculty. We heard 'loud-and-clear' that people were disappointed with the number of hours we were able to offer, and so we are going to try to remedy that. We will provide you with an update as to what those hours will be as soon as those plans are finalized - I expect that will be later this week.

I also want to bring your attention to the University of Toledo's transfer promise initiative. We are launching a marketing campaign to highlight our commitment to admit transfer students within one week of their submission of all the application materials. The transfer promise does have some exceptions where it might take longer than one week. For example, if a student has multiple transcripts or from out of state as these cases may require more time to complete a review of the student's application. And of course, courses that have not been previously evaluated for transfer would still be reviewed by faculty while the tags, the state's transfer insurance guide of transferable courses, and the Ohio transfer module courses would be transferred just as they always do. The goal of this transfer promise campaign is to communicate to prospective students that we are a transfer friendly University. We share this initiative

with the departments, the deans, associate deans, and hope that you will share this information with your faculty colleagues to help us get the word out in our community.

I also want to give a ‘shout-out’ to our faculty and medical researchers at UTMC, who are participating in a national COVID-19 drug study. UTMC is actually one of the first sites in the country to enroll patients in an NIH study aimed at identifying promising COVID-19 treatments, including monoclonal antibodies. The study is known as the ‘Big Effect Trial’ will include 40 sites around the country. And in a news release to announce the study, Dr. Fauci, Director of the NIH Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said the study will create an efficient way to identify promising treatments and eliminate those that are not. So congratulations to our colleagues at UTMC, who continue to be on the forefront of the overall public health response and are contributing to the development of therapeutics to treat the virus and save lives. Also, faculty at UTMC are working closely with the State’s wastewater surveillance system to monitor the presence of the coronavirus in our community. According to the CDC, sewage monitoring is an important method of early detection of the coronavirus in a community often providing an early alert of approximately 3 to 7 lead time days before the infections leads to an increase in case counts. So, Dr. ????? at UTMC is playing a key role with his lab, helping the Lucas County Health officials determine when the coronavirus is present in the community. That will include some wastewater testing on campus.

So before closing my remarks, I just want to make a few announcements and reminders. First, just a reminder that nominations are due on Friday, January 29th for the Distinguished University Lecturer awards. This award is the highest permanent honor that the University bestows on a lecturer. The nomination guidelines for that are on the Awards page on the Provost site. Nominations that are also due that day on January 29th at 5 p.m. for the MAC faculty award for student success, and guidelines and forms for that are also on the Provost Office website. In closing, I urge all of you, all of our faculty and staff to be patient while we support and help our students during these challenging times. I also just want to remind us that we all need to care for each other as well as faculty and staff as we focus on what matters most.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or our staff in the Office of the Provost if you need information. If you have any concerns as we begin the spring semester, I can be reached at Provost@utoledo.edu. Thank you all for everything you’re doing, and have a great semester. With that, I’m happy to answer any questions you may have.

President Brakel: Any questions for the Provost?

Provost Bjorkman: We have a question in the chat whether they can ask a question.

President Brakel: Yes, go ahead, Dr. Ohlinger.

Dr. Martin Ohlinger: Thank you. Thanks, Provost Bjorkman for the updates on everything. I am not a senator. My question, I apologize in advance. It is a little complicated because it is a confusing situation, but I received a few questions recently from parents and families regarding students at the University that are in their clinicals or some sort of clinical setting. There’s concern about some students are getting the vaccine and some students aren’t. I think a lot of that is [probably] students are getting the vaccine maybe at their clinical site, outside a university offering. It is causing some anxiety, obviously we can’t control that. But they are asking, when will university students and faculty get vaccinated. So I am wondering how I can reply to that, or where I can see clarification, or where to direct them to best answer those concerns. Thanks.

Provost Bjorkman: Yeah, thanks for that question. I know that is a question that is kind of front and center on everybody's minds these days. In terms of the clinical students, some of them did already get vaccinated and others, as you know pointed out, are being vaccinated at their worksite. We actually know that some of our student teacher folks are being included in the K through 12 vaccinations with their school groups, although, we just heard Wood County is not going to do that. As of right now that is what we know. It is a changing situation by the hour. I think Amy Thompson is in the call. Amy, would you like to answer that question? You have the information more readily available than I do.

Provost Amy Thompson: Yes. Thank you, Martin for that question. We were able to offer as many as the clinical learners that were coming in direct patient care as we could. We actually are working with the Health Science deans to provide us lists. So we were sending emails out under 1A and offering those vaccinations to some of our students. Now moving into 1B is, my understanding, we're kind of moving forward with that. And so to your point, some of the clinical sites are offering those to our students, but we were able to provide under a certain window of time vaccinations for the clinical learners. One of the things, in case you all didn't see this kind of happen in the media, as we were considered to be kind of our own closed pod initially, where we had our own vaccine distribution or handling our own registration and vaccination process. Then basically through the Ohio Department of Health and also our local health department, that then changed and so moving into now phase 1B, we are an open pod. So we are no longer are handling the vaccination process in terms of registration. Everything is handled now through the Toledo Lucas County Health Department. So we do not do any of our own prioritization anymore. The Health Department really decides who will be vaccinated in which order. That has been removed from kind of our hands and it is handled through the Health Department now.

Provost Bjorkman: I might just add to that one thing. I know the IUC President's Council has been talking a lot to the IUC and the governor about the need for faculty and students on campuses to be vaccinated. Right now I think that is a conversation and I don't know if any decision has been made. I do know that there is, of course, interest in that and unfortunately it is the state call at this point, it is the state and the local county health department. And so, as Amy alluded, it's sort of taken out of our hands and we will be following those procedures being laid out by the Health Department.

Dr. Martin Ohlinger: Thank you.

President Brakel: Senator Krantz ask if the enrollment for spring semester was down about 10% before the semester started, and has it recovered a bit more in the last week?

Provost Bjorkman: It has recovered a little bit, but not as much as [we] would have liked. We are aware that some students have decided they just want to wait it out and have decided not to register for spring. We have brought in some students who were waiting. There were some that had some issues that we were able to help resolve. So yes, it has improved a little bit, but not as much as we would have hoped.

President Brakel: And the question was, was that down from last year's spring?

Provost Bjorkman: Yes, it was. When they send out the trackers, it is basically compared year to year. So, fall is compared to the previous fall and spring is compared to the previous spring.

President Brakel: Any other questions or comments? Hearing none. Thank you, Provost Bjorkman.

Provost Bjorkman: Thank you.

President Brakel: That brings us to the Curriculum report, Chair Edgington.

Senator Edgington: Thank you, President Brakel. President-Elect Bigioni, can you take down the agenda so I can bring up the Excel sheet? So hopefully everyone can see the sheet in front of you. Right now we have four new course proposals and thirteen course modifications we will be taking a look at today.

I am going to start with the new course proposals. Our first one is **DANN 4940, Data Analytics Internship**. It is a “prearranged work study experiential learning course where students gain practical experience applying their data analytics knowledge with a specific firm, government agency, or nonprofit group.”

ENGL 3850, LGBTQ Literature. This is a “Study of literature by LGBTQ people. Individual sections may focus specifically on one geographic region or historical period.”

CSET 2520, Discrete Structures. “An introduction to the discrete structures used in computer science to develop software including proof techniques, boolean logic, graphs, trees, recurrence relationships, and functions.”

CIVE 4980, Special Topics. “A special topic at the undergraduate level in Civil or Environmental Engineering to be offered as a course during a term by a faculty member. This is intended for students nearing graduation. Credits will correspond to regular class meetings of one lecture hour per week per credit hour.”

Thirteen Course Modifications

FLAN 4980, Special Topics in Foreign Languages. “Change to Schedule Type: Lecture and Seminar. Change to Semester Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer. Students are permitted to repeat course up to 6 credits. Note: the change to this course is to make FLAN 4980 consistent with 5980 which is designated as a LECTURE.

ENGL 1010, College Composition Co-Requisite. “Change to catalog description. Note: ENGL 1010 is a co-requisite course designed for students taking negative speaker ENGL 1110. International students are not eligible to register for native speaker ENGL 1110 (international students have their own sections of ENGL 1110 and the director of that program does not wish to have co-requisite attached to those sections).

ECON 2810, Introduction to Econometrics. “Change to the course catalog. Change to prereqs (see next columns). NOTE: ECON 2810 Introduction to Econometrics requires a statistics course as a pre/co req. We are adding three new social science statistics courses as options. Since these courses review the necessary statistics and use all social science examples, we think they are best statistics prereq. for the course. However, for flexibility, we will continue to allow the math statistics courses and business statistics course as options too. The three new pre/coreq. options are: 1) PSY 2100 Statistics, 2) SOC 3290 Social Statistics, and 3) GEPL 4420 Quantitative Methods.”

ECON 4810, Econometrics Models and Methods I. “Being cross-listed with ECON 5810. Course not repeatable for credit. Modified prerequisites (see next columns). NOTE: ECON 4810 Econometrics Models and Methods I requires a statistics course as a prereq. We are adding three new social science statistics courses as options. Since these courses review the necessary statistics and use all social science examples, we think they are the best statistics prereq. for the course. However, for flexibility, we will

continue to allow the math statistics courses as an option too. The three new prereq. options are: 1) PSY 2100 Statistics, 2) SOC 3290 Social Statistics, and 3) GEPL 4420 Quantitative Methods. Lastly, we are deleting the prereqs. of ECON 1150 and ECON 1200 principles of econ courses. Our other undergraduate econometrics course, ECON 2810 Introduction to Econometrics does not require these courses as prereq. and we have found the students do not need principles of economics courses in order to learn how economists use statistical methods for economic data analysis.”

FILM 2310, Film I. “Change to catalog description. Course will not be repeatable for credit. Change to prereqs (see next column).

THR 3340, Acting for the Camera II. “New prereqs (same two courses; change from AND to OR). NOTE: The course prerequisites are currently THR3610 and THR2660. THR2660 is the current course catalog number for Acting for the Camera I, THR3610 was the course number for Acting for the Camera I prior to when adjusted our BA degree requirements. When we changed the course number the prerequisites for this course were meant to have been changed to accommodate any students who may have taken the course prior to the course number change. An error was made when previously submitting these changes and this modification is meant to correct that error and change the prerequisite to be “or” as opposed to “and.””

PSC 3790, Model United Nations/Model European Union. “Course will be repeatable up to 2 credits. Instructor approval added for registration. NOTE: More than half of students who take this course enjoy the conference aspect and retake it several times. Given that the content of the course changes semester by semester (countries represented change; simulation changes between the European Union and the United Nations), students who retake the course will benefit from earning an additional credit for their time and effort in a following semester.”

GEPL 4500, Digital Image Analysis. “Will be cross-listed with GEPL 5500. Course will not be repeatable for credit. Change to prereqs. NOTE: correct error which had listed pre-reqs as AND should be OR.”

CSET 3300, Database-Driven Web Sites. “Change to credit hours (3 lecture and 1 lab). Eliminating Recitation as a Schedule Type. Change to catalog description. Modified Prerequisites (see next box). NOTE: This course is required for students in the following programs: Bachelors of Science in Computer Science and Engineering Technology, Bachelor of Arts in Data Analytics offered by Arts and Letters, Bachelor of Science in Data Science offered by Natural Science and Mathematics, and Minor in Data Science offered by Health and Human Services.”

CIVE 4990, Special Topics. This a “Change to course title: Independent Study. Change to long and short title. Can be offered all semesters. Students can register for more than one section up to 12 credits. Registration requires Instructor Approval.”

SPSY 3100, Psychological Testing and Assessment. “Prereqs being removed. NOTE: Removing prerequisites to support increased enrollment. Course will also become an elective in the Counseling minor.”

RESM 4200, Classroom Assessment. “Course is not repeatable for credit. Change to catalog description. Addition of prerequisite (Upper Division with a score of 1). NOTE: Non-EDU students enrolled do not have the supporting knowledge and skills gained in the bachelor of education degree programs.”

SPED 4210, AAC for Young Children with Disabilities. “No prerequisite for the class. NOTE: The only change is the removal of a prerequisite. CIEC 3200 was listed as a prerequisite. This prerequisite is not needed, and is preventing students from registering.”

Senator Edgington cont’d: So those are all our new course proposals. Are there any questions?

Senator Steven: I just had a question about the process. I noticed for the new course, CSET 2520, that it is an equivalent course to something that is already being offered. I was just wondering what the process is to determine whether or not there is too much overlap between courses and new courses being offered. Is that something your committee looks at, or is it something that is looked at more closely up higher?

Senator Edgington: I would say it is something we look at usually if there is a conflict between colleges. So if one college is offering a course and maybe repeating something other colleges are doing, whereas with the program itself, I think we used to see that at the department level. If someone from EECS is online and if they want to respond to that, let us know equivalent issue.

Senator Molitor: Maybe Senator Niamat can also chime in if he’s on the call. This is actually a common occurrence in the College of Engineering where we have versions of engineering topic courses for both engineering science majors and engineering technology majors, given the different requirement prereqs for these courses and the different focus on more theoretical vs. more hand on in engineering. So actually this course of the CSET 2520 was requested created at the request of the EECS department because the CSET students that were enrolled in the engineering science, the EECS discrete structures course did not have the necessary prerequisite and not doing very well in the course. So they asked the Engineering Technology department to create their own version of this course that appropriately address the prerequisites and the background of the students that would be entering the course.

Senator Niamat: That is correct what Senator Molitor said.

Senator Edgington: Thank you everyone for the explanations. Are there any further questions? Hearing none then, we can go ahead and proceed to a vote. So we are going to be voting again on the four new course proposals and the thirteen course modifications. If you are okay with these changes, please put yes in the chat box. President Brakel, I think we are good.

President Brakel: Yes, we are. It looks like that has passed. *Motion Passed.*

Senator Edgington: Thank you.

President Brakel: Senator Edgington, I appreciate your work and the committee’s work. All right, is there any other business that we need to take care of at today’s meeting?

Senator Krantz: NSM Council has encouraged over the last three or four years that we revise the prerequisite what is considered an appropriate passing grade, [which is] up to a C- or a C, rather than the default which is not failing, which is defined by the state as a D-. Several other colleges have adopted this as they have been moving through course modifications. I would just simply encourage everyone, all departments, all programs to consider that as they are putting forward course modifications.

President Brakel: Thank you, Senator Krantz.

Senator Edgington: And just to speak to that as well. As a concern, our committee has addressed over the last couple of years and similarly, we would also suggest that program and colleges take a look at their

prerequisites. There are a number that are at the D- range as well as a passing grade, as our committee pointed out, don't necessary show the prior knowledge that maybe we want for those upper level courses. So I do think that looking at a C-, maybe that is something some colleges would like.

President Brakel: Thank you, Senator Edgington. Any other thing to come before us today? All right. We are working on several different things. The Constitution will be coming back hopefully soon. We will have more curriculum items and program items that will be coming in policies as well. We are working diligently on other things. We are also aware that one of the colleges is considering some reorganization within its college and so we will be following up on that issue as well. So if there is nothing else to come before us today, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Senator Kistner: So moved.

Senator Smith: Second.

President Brakel: All in favor, put yes in the chat box. They are already coming in faster than voting machines. Thank you, everyone. We will see you in a couple of weeks. Meeting adjourned.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 4: 37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Kimberly Nigem

Faculty Senate Office Administrative Secretary

Tape summary: Quinetta Hubbard

Faculty Senate Executive Secretary