

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of November 05, 2019
FACULTY SENATE

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

Approved @ FS on 11/19/2019

Summary of Discussion

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

President Brakel: Welcome to our sixth Faculty Senate meeting in the Fall semester. At this time I will ask our Secretary, Mark Templin to call the roll.

Present: Anderson, Bailey, Barnes, Bigioni, Brakel, Bruce, Case, Chou, Compura, Coughlan (proxy for S. Molitor), Coulter-Harris, De le Serna, Dowd, Edgington, Ferris, Frank, Garcia-Mata, Gibbs, Giovannucci, Gray, Gregory, Hall, Hammersley, Harnych, Heberle, Insch, Kistner, Lammon, Lecka-Czernik, Lee, Lundquist, Maloney, Modyanov, Niamat, Nigem, Oberlander, Ohlinger, Pakulski, Reeves, Rouillard, Sheldon, Steven, Stepkowski, Taylor, Templin, Thompson-Casado, Tiwari, Wedding, Weldy, Welsch, Zhang

Excused Absence: Dinnebeil, Hefzy, Jayatissa, Phillips

Unexcused Absence: Duggan, Koch, Longsdorf, Menezes, Murphy, Park, Ratnam, Roseman, Schlageter, Schroder

President Brakel: Do we have a quorum?

Senator Templin: Yes.

President Brakel: Okay. You have before you today's agenda. I'll entertain a motion to adopt today's agenda.

Senator Dowd: So moved.

Senator Compura: Second.

President Brakel: All in favor say, 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? *Adoption of Agenda Passed.*

You've also seen the draft Minutes that came out yesterday. There is one correction to the draft Minutes, and that is Senator Phillips is marked as 'excused' and she should be marked as 'present.' That is the only correction that I am aware of. Are there any other corrections to the Minutes? Hearing none. May I have a motion to approve the corrected Minutes?

Senator Hammersley: So moved.

Senator Dowd: Second.

President Brakel: All in favor say, 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? *Motion Passed.*

That brings us to *The Executive Committee Report:* The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on October 25 at which time we received an update on the Academic Dishonesty Policy revision which is begin conducted by an ad-hoc committee from the Provost's Office. We anticipate a final draft of this policy will come forward sometime during the Spring Semester.

We also looked at the summary information that was provided regarding the Foundation. This information was also discussed with President Gaber who joined us at our October 25 meeting. The Executive Committee is continuing to look into the Foundation's practices and is requesting additional detailed information and will be requesting a meeting with Brenda Lee, President of the Foundation.

We also alerted Dr. Gaber regarding a couple of instances in which students were attempting to change colleges or change programs within a college and were told that they would encounter additional fees for doing it at this time of the semester. As this seemed unusual, we needed to learn how or why or if these isolated instances occurred as it is important that students are in the right college or program in order to register for certain courses – namely within a major. The response we received after the meeting was that if a student changes his/her major (not classes) after the 15th day of the semester, they are not reassessed/charged. The new major will be recorded in the system but college level charges (e.g. tech fee) will not go into effect until the next semester.

Additionally, if a student changes his/her major (not classes) prior to the 15th day of the semester, and after fees have been activated on the student's account, they will be reassessed/charged. Tech fees are assessed at the college level not based on program or course.

The Executive Committee also discussed the path forward for approving the revised Constitution, Bylaws and Rules with Dr. Gaber. President-elect Jeff Hammersly and I also discussed this same issue with Interim Provost Karen Bjorkman in our meeting yesterday. We are still waiting for Legal Affairs to review the revised documents that were previously provided and anticipate that response will be coming soon.

While we await a response from Legal Affairs, we will engage in a discussion – not a vote --- on the current draft of the Revised Bylaws during today's meeting. This will provide an opportunity for Senate to provide feedback to the Constitution Committee as well as for Senate to examine the revised Bylaws and, at another meeting, the revised Rules before we vote on the second reading of the Constitution.

I attended a meeting on the Good Idea Initiative that solicited ways to save money or improve efficiency in processes within the university. Several ideas are undergoing further review to determine their viability if implemented.

Additional meetings that I attended concerned the Affordable Learning Initiatives/Textbook affordability and a kick-off meeting for a new University Diversity Strategic Plan. President-Elect Hammersly attended the kick-off breakfast for the Higher Learning Commission accreditation. On behalf of Faculty Senate, I also attended and congratulated the faculty that were promoted last year at the Tenure and Promotion Reception in Carlson Library.

This concludes the Faculty Senate Executive Committee report. Executive Committee members, did I leave anything out? Any questions? All right, we will move on then to Provost Bjorkman.

Provost Bjorkman: Thank you. Good afternoon, everybody. It's been a busy day for the University as you know. We had students and their families on campus for a preview day today. We had a great turnout. We had over 400 perspective students who brought with them 300 family members and guests. So, it's been a busy day across the university. I've heard good feedback so far initially. We will get a little more in-depth information about that once we can sort-of back up and look at what all happened today. I really appreciate all the faculty and staff who pitched in to help with these visitors who came to campus today. Fortunately, we ordered good weather and it actually held, so that helped. We really have a lot of excellent academic programs here at the University that we need to showcase. I appreciate all of your help in trying to do that. I know many of you are engaged in trying to help us to recruit our next class. Yes?

Senator Anderson: Does that activity include them going to the football game tonight?

Provost Bjorkman: They had that option, yes.

Senator Anderson: Good.

Provost Bjorkman: At least it is not raining this week and so that is a good thing.

Senator Anderson: Right.

Provost Bjorkman: So one of the other things I want to mention, I mentioned this to you a couple of weeks ago I think, the Graduate Professional Fair was held this past week and it was pretty successful. We had over 40 academic programs there. Over 120 students attended and that didn't include just UT students. We also had students from surrounding universities who stopped in. We even had some folks from some of the employers we have been talking to, to stop in because they wanted to learn more about graduate options that their employees might be interested in. I think that went really well, and I want to thank everybody who helped participate in that. We think it was enough of a success that we are going to make it an annual event and I am sure we can figure out ways to improve that. I also want to thank all the faculty who submitted their midterm grade reports. Our initial analysis showed we had an increase of over 50% compared to last year in midterm grades. Those students have been notified of their midterm grades, as have their success coaches and their advisors. They are currently working with students who may be struggling right now to try and intervene before it is too late and they get too far down that path.

I just wanted to remind you about our campaign for Spring registration. Our goal is to register 90% of our current students by December 2nd, before they leave for winter break. The priority registration window opened toward the end of October and we are now in the senior registration period. I think tomorrow the window opens for juniors to begin to register, and so by November 20th, all the current students will be eligible to get registered. Just a reminder, they are also eligible to register for winter intersession at the same time – that is in the same registration period. We have about 15 courses being offered through winter intersession. Most of the courses are online which may appeal more to students than having to come to campus over the break. We will see how that registration goes. We don't obviously have any early numbers yet because registration is still open. I wanted to let you know, this is important for your students to know about, we have a new financial aid initiative, it is called 'Rocket Aid.' You may have heard about this. It is a financial emergency program to assist students in need. The new program is available. Students can apply for that assistance on their own, or faculty or staff can also refer a student. If you know they are facing financial difficulties that might impact their ability to continue, there's an application form on the student Financial Aid website. So under 'financial aid' if you look for 'Rocket Aid,' you can find that there. The form can either be filled out by a student or it can be filled out to refer a student by a faculty member or a staff member. We hope that will help. We know that our Rocket Recovery program was heavily used last year, so the Financial Aid folks have put together this package to help students with unexpected emergencies in terms of finances.

Finally in closing, I just want to invite you to attend the open house and ribbon cutting for our new Pre-Health Professions Advising Center, which will be held Thursday this week from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in University Hall, Room 2160. We will also be celebrating the relocation of the Nursing Advising Center, which is right across the hall conveniently located for students in those programs. The ribbon cutting and the remarks will take place at 9:00 a.m., and then there will be an open house on either side of that so you can sort of tour the facility and see what we're setting up in there. It is not 100% up and running, but it is pretty darn close. We are thinking this is going to be a great 'boom' for our students. That is kind of all the announcements that I have for you today, but I will be happy to take any questions you might have, if there are any.

Senator Ohlinger: We currently got some very good press. I am thinking about the National Lab Day that we hosted over Fall break; I was just wondering if you had any additional comments on that.

Provost Bjorkman: We got a lot of good feedback both from the National Labs and from the people who were here. There are a number of initiatives that are now rolling forward to make better connections with the National Lab. I think you probably heard about Engineering did a signing and there were discussions with some of our science programs about that. The folks working on water quality are talking to the Pacific Northwest Labs about they have a big water quality program there. There is discussion about on-going relationships between those. I think it was very fruitful in a sense that it set up a lot of introductions. I will tell you that the lab directors went away uniformly impressed with what we have going on here in so many different areas. So, that certainly helped I think to put us on the map and I think there's going to be a lot more to come out of that. It was a very successful day.

Senator Coulter-Harris: Provost, this is in regards to Rocket Aid. How exactly will the students be informed of this new program? Is it going to be through news article?

Provost Bjorkman: Yes. I think there is or already has been a UT news article that just came out about it. If it hasn't come out yet, it is about to. We would also appreciate if you would all spread the word about that as well. Thanks. Is there anything else?

President Brakel: The College of Nursing accreditation?

Provost Bjorkman: Oh yeah, I have to share good news for those of you who have not heard. Our College of Nursing received full tenure – no demerits, no nothing – accreditation on every program, except for their BM program which is only allowed to get five years and they got five years. So that is awesome.

[Applause]

Senator Gray: That was really good news to hear.

Vice Provost Ayres: You also want to mention CTS.

Provost Bjorkman: Oh, yeah. For curriculum changes the old curriculum tracking system is going to be closed at the end of this calendar year. By closed, I mean, gone; everything that is in there is going to disappear. So if you want to there are two things [you could do], you can either go head and get it through before the end of the year, and it is fine, or you can migrate it over to the new CIM system which is now up and fully running. But, if you have stuff in there you need to make sure you save [any document] that you don't want lost forever to the “gods” of removing servers.” Please make sure you do that. Thanks for that reminder.

President Brakel: Just to piggyback on that. Senator Edgington is over here and he is the Chair of that committee and he has informed me that they will be bringing some stuff out of that old system to our next meeting.

Provost Bjorkman: Good. Thank you. Anybody else? Thank you, President Brakel.

President Brakel: Thank you, Provost Bjorkman. So that brings us to the Committee on Academic Policy which is chaired by Senator Wedding.

Senator Wedding: The Academic Regulations Committee met. We were given these three policies: Residency requirement for a degree; Repeating a course and calculating GPA; and Academic forgiveness. There are more coming, but for today I thought I will limit it to three.

The first one is ‘Residency requirement for a degree.’ This is a reaffirmation of an existing policy - there are no changes. Our committee does not oppose it and we have no changes in it. I am not having our committee vote on it per se; I figure if there is going to be any vote it will be here at Senate. Do we vote on this?

[\[View Policy\]](#)

President Brakel: Yes.

Senator Wedding: It never occurred to me what our role is with respect to these policies. Are we just simply blessing it and sending it forward?

President Brakel: A little bit more than that.

Senator Wedding: Pardon?

President Brakel: Yes. So, is there a motion to accept this policy, ‘Residency requirement for a degree?’

Senator Wedding: I know that much about my role<laughter>.

President Brakel: I do apologize. I stand corrected. Thank you. Are there any additions or changes to this particular policy? It just basically says that it is deferring to the colleges to establish residency requirements. That is basically what it says.

Senator Ferris: Which is reaffirmation of continuation.

President Brakel: Right.

Senator Wedding: So no changes.

Senator Insch: This is a curiosity question. Where is that housed? I mean, where would you find that if I were a student? Is that embedded in their website somewhere?

Provost Bjorkman: In the catalog I believe.

President Brakel: It is in the catalog.

Senator Insch: The course catalog?

President Brakel: Right.

Senator Insch: Thank you.

Senator Wedding: So we should take a vote. Do I do the vote or you, Sir?

President Brakel: It doesn’t matter.

Senator Wedding: Well, I am the Chair of this committee<laughter>.

President Brakel: Go head<laughter>.

Senator Wedding: All in favor of approval of this policy, please---

Senator Dowd: Point of order.

Senator Wedding: Dr. Dowd, I will never forget you. Go head.

Senator Dowd: You are a ‘peach.’ I appreciate that.

Senator Wedding: Thank you.

Senator Dowd: We are not approving it; instead, we are receiving or endorsing.

Senator Wedding: That is my question.

Senator Dowd: We are just receiving it, and Senate does not have the authority over approving policies. We are just acknowledging that the Curriculum Committee reviewed it, the Senate received it, and we don't have any objections. Would that be fair?

President Brakel: That is fine. We are endorsing this.

Senator Dowd: We can't move to approve.

President Brakel: Correct. Thank you.

Senator Wedding: Would you repeat that please?

Senator Dowd: The motion is, and Senator Wedding you can choose this if you like, it is either to endorse or the Senate is simply receiving the proposed policy from the committee.

President Brakel: I prefer the 'endorse.'

Past-President Rouillard: Yes.

Senator Wedding: The 'endorse' is fine.

President Brakel: Okay.

Senator Niamat: So if we have a question to get feedback does it go back or is that feedback ignored all together?

Senator Wedding: Oh, I think we will wait for that to happen. If it happens, [then] we will look at that.

Senator Niamat: Okay.

Senator Wedding: All who are in favor of endorsing this, please raise your hand. All who oppose, please raise your hand. All who abstain, please raise your hand. ***Policy Unanimously Endorsed.***

President Brakel: All right.

Senator Wedding: The next policy, and this is going to go quick, is 'Repeating a course and calculating GPA.' This also is reaffirmation of an existing policy. I'll give you a chance to look at it. Can you see it from the back of the room okay?

[\[View Policy\]](#)

Senator Ferris: I can't see it from the front of the room.

Group of Senators: It is a little blurry.

President Brakel: I'll see if I can make it larger.

Senator Wedding: It was sent out so you should have it.

Senator Anderson: Senator Wedding, there seems to be a contradiction in 'C' on the first page. It says, "No more than a total of 12 semester hours or the equivalent of coursework may be deleted from a

student's transcript..." And then in the second paragraph below the Policy statement it says, "... *all attempts and grades are listed on the transcript.*"

Senator Wedding: Where is that second place you were reading at?

Senator Anderson: The second in the second paragraph under Policy statement. It states, "*Credit for any repeated course will apply only once toward degree requirements. Grades for all attempts at the course will appear on the student's official academic transcript...*" So, it seems to be a contradiction saying that the coursework may be deleted from the student's transcript.

Senator Wedding: I am reading that in terms of 'C.' In other words, I take the two together, but---

President Brakel: What I would recommend is maybe delete it from the GPA calculation.

Senator Wedding: Where do you see that at?

President Brakel: It is right here where I have the cursor at right now, "...*maybe delete it from the GPA calculation from the students' transcript.*"

Senator Wedding: Would you accept that, Sir?

Senator Anderson: Yes. I mean, it puts it so it is not a contradiction.

Senator Wedding: Is the *friendly amendment* in there?

President Brakel: Yes, that is in there.

Senator Insch: I am sorry, I am new, so I have a 'dumb' question. Who wrote this?

Senator Wedding: Well, it is an existing policy. It is like a lot of these policies, they come from a source.

Senator Insch: Well, it will have to go back to the original author to say they will accept it. We can't change policy.

Senator Dowd: Right.

Senator Insch: So, what we need to do is say 'no, we don't like this and here is an edit to see, and when you make the edit bring it back?'

Senator Wedding: I disagree with that, Senator Insch. This is an editorial change. Somebody after us can certainly reject it in the Provost Office or whatever -- all we are doing is giving them our feeling as a Senate. We are not actually putting this in place.

Senator Insch: No. But if we change it, we are. Right?

Senator Wedding: It is not going to become policy from us. All we are doing is sending it forward.

Senator Pakulski: I am not sure if we are changing anything because at the top it says, "...*excluded from GPA computation...*" I think it is just providing a condition for that, so, it is really not a change as much as it is maybe a clarification.

Senator Wedding: I think it is a clarification and that is why I am calling a *Friendly Amendment*. We don't want to concern ourselves with this beyond today. Yes?

Senator Dowd: All I was going to say was for your motion to approve or endorse, couldn't we just say 'with the suggestion with what Senator Insch is saying?' That is all we are doing here.

Senator Wedding: I don't want to take this back to my committee and then bring it back again.

Senator Dowd: The Senate can endorse this with the suggestion that the subsequent level of review is they consider the notion of what President Brakel just pointed out.

Senator Wedding: Okay. I agree with that, but I think that is what we are doing.

Senator Dowd: It is just a recommendation.

Senator Wedding: Yes, it is just a recommendation. Would you go along with that, Senator Insch?

Senator Insch: Yes.

Senator Wedding: Okay, fine. Anyone else?

Senator Gregory: I have a question. I have had the opportunity to speak with some faculty advisors across my college who have mentioned that they feel that no more than a total of 12 semester hours [that] can be deleted from a student's transcript is a little low. Actually, some students would benefit from a slightly higher number. I haven't done any benchmarking on this at all and so I was just curious to know is this typical for other schools that it is about 12 hours? Do we have a sense of where this falls?

President Brakel: I have an answer for you.

Senator Gregory: Okay.

President Brakel: It is not a complete answer, but at least a partial one. This is kind of a heads-up that this might be an issue. I did check with I believe the five schools in Ohio that are part of our MAC Conference. From what I can tell, Kent State, Bowling Green, Akron and Miami University do not appear to have an upper limit threshold. Wright State appears to have five courses that they can take. All of them have the caveat that it has to be some type of 'C' or lower that can be done. So you know if a student gets a 'B' and they wanted to get an 'A' out of the course, too bad on that instance. So, there is that issue that could be done.

Senator Gregory: So some other schools have allowed this more than we do, but then also put stricter regulations on what kind of grade you can request?

President Brakel: Right. And they can only do one course a maximum of three times; so the original attempt and then two attempted repeats.

Senator Gregory: Is it worth visiting that or revisiting the 12 semester hours?

Senator Wedding: I am open to anything this body would like. Does anyone feel that we should be higher than 12?

Past-President Rouillard: No. I think that given the cost of credit hours and given the pressure to graduate students, I think there has to be a limit. If their GPA is so low, a better option might be for them to consider a different major, or a different college, or a different program rather than continually taking the same course over and over again in the hopes of finally getting a 'C.'

Senator Wedding: Anyone else have a view, please.

Senator Ferris: Do we have any data on how often the grade recalculation is used?

Senator Wedding: I can't provide that data.

Senator Ferris: Maybe the Provost does.

Provost Bjorkman: I am sure we do and I do not have it at hand.

Senator Ferris: Do you have a sense?

Provost Bjorkman: I don't.

Vice Provost Ayres: It is not uncommon.

Provost Bjorkman: Yes, it is used frequently.

Senator Wedding: Five schools don't have any limit at all. Are we interested in removing the 12 and making it open-end as other schools?

President Brakel: Correction. Four out of the five that I looked at.

Senator Wedding: Well, it is four.

President Brakel: Okay.

Senator Wedding: Any interest in changing the 12?

President Brakel: Senator Wedding, I would like to comment as a senator and not as the president.

Senator Wedding: Go head, you are not chair of this committee.

President Brakel: Knowing from my standpoint, looking at Music Ed., I get a lot of students that have originally attempted to go [in] engineering, chemistry, or something else and they try to come in our program. Then they have to have a minimum of 2.7 GPA at the time they go up to admittance into Professional Ed. Having additional potential grade deletions would help my majors.

Senator Wedding: What would you like to see?

President Brakel: Well, my own preference since we have four other institutions that we are competing against, that it would be open.

Senator Dowd: Just to clarify President Brakel, for the example that you gave, a student from engineering switch majors to music and their GPA is low, are you suggesting that they would have to retake engineering courses?

President Brakel: Often times [with] those courses they have figured it out like their freshman year, and so many of those course are gen ed. courses. So, at least it opens up a possibility for them.

Senator Dowd: Thank you.

Senator Ferris: I have a question for Senator Gregory. Did the advisors give you any suggestion on what might be a suitable cap?

Senator Gregory: No. My conversations were ad hocs. So, honestly this issue had not really been on my radar until the past six months or so and I happen to encounter it a couple of times. We can certainly ask them. And I guess maybe one response is, is this particular policy one that we might want to investigate in a particular way? You know, to collect some of the data you were asking about. But I don't know, it was just a question.

Senator Wedding: Do you want me to pull this back and look to get more information on the flexibility of either 'A,' opening it up, raising the limit or 'B,' staying the same? Does anybody show any interest in that?

Senator Thompson-Casado: Yes, let us revisit it. I don't recall I have had students that had this issue. We do not want to exclude them when there is a possibility that they do not have to be excluded.

Senator Wedding: Unless there is great opposition, I am going to make the unilateral decision to pull it back and we will take it up next time or some other time. Is that okay?

Senator Thompson-Casado: Yes.

Senator Heberle: Can I just ask for one clarification?

Senator Wedding: I am sorry?

Senator Heberle: A small clarification. Are there any limits in this policy? I am not seeing it up there as to the number of times students can retake one class to change their grade?

Senator Wedding: I thought there was.

Provost Bjorkman: There is I believe.

Senator Ferris: That is what I thought too.

Senator Heberle: Because so much of this is contingent on advising. I had students with advisors to recommend 'retake all these classes and fix your GPA first and then take all your other classes.' It is just so much advising on this issue which is not great. So, I get students coming in who are retaking classes and spinning their wheels. So, I am not a huge fan of the idea that retaking a class is good, either retaking a class over and over again or as Past-President Rouillard was saying, inviting them to take these classes over again is the best policy. I have some doubts.

Senator Bigioni: To that point, the third sentence says, "...students who retake a course and earn a higher grade may petition their college and have the first grade excluded." So it sounds like they can only do it once.

Senator Wedding: So, I am going to pull this back and bring it another time. Is that okay?

Senator Hall: Before you do that, can I just make one comment?

Senator Wedding: Yes.

Senator Hall: I got a better idea of what this is about from the discussion than I did from reading it. In terms of when does this apply, it talks about readmission to the university, but it does so rather vaguely. So it conditions under which individuals are readmitted to the university. The definition of readmission which is necessary for this, is that defined elsewhere or should that be defined in this policy?

Senator Anderson: Readmission doesn't apply to this policy.

Past-President Rouillard: There is another policy on academic forgiveness. It is related to---

Senator Anderson: It specifically says that this cannot be applied with academic forgiveness.

Senator Hall: Well, it says, "...under certain conditions, an undergraduate student who reenroll in the university..."

Senator Wedding: That is the next policy I think.

Senator Hall: Oh, am I in the wrong one?

Senator Wedding: Yes. Academic forgiveness is the next policy.

Senator Hall: Oh, I am sorry. Never-mind.

Senator Wedding: All right. I think we had enough of this. Thank you.

Next policy, Sir. This is the 'Academic Forgiveness policy.' Take your time looking at it. If anybody want to use a copy, I have one here. I am open to comments.

[\[View Policy\]](#)

Senator Dowd: Just for clarification. I am not really questioning anything. It says all grades for 'C-' through 'WF' are forfeiting. I take that to mean grades and credit hours earned. Plus, grades of 'A' down to 'C' will be counted for credit, does that mean it counts for credit? This also is tied directly to credit hours earned as well. I am not challenging, but is that the meaning, the intent of those sentences?

Senator Wedding: Where are you reading on credit hours? What part?

Senator Dowd: Policy statement where it list the various grades from 'C-' through 'WF.'

Senator Wedding: That is right, those are the grades, but where does it talk about---

Past-President Rouillard: It is on page 2.

Senator Wedding: On page 2? Are you going back to that now?

Senator Dowd: No, it is the same paragraph and the same sentence where they list the grades in that paragraph. All I am asking is, when it says, "...are forfeit," is it also the credit hours they've earned.

Past-President Rouillard: It is spelled out on page 2.

Senator Wedding: Under Procedure on page 2, "*Credits from all credits taken in the previous enrollment at UT with a grade of 'C-' or lower are removed (although the grade are retained on the academic transcript with the notation 'academic forgiveness policy.'*" Then 'Credits for all courses taken during the previous enrollment with a grade 'C' or better will be counted for credit.' Is that your question, Sir?

Senator Dowd: I was actually asking for the material above it on the very first page right underneath the Policy statement.

President Brakel: I think in Part A where it talks about all grades, he is wanting also credits reviewed as well.

Senator Wedding: You are saying that the credits gets removed on page 2. Are you saying you want the credits removal to be referenced on Part A, the preamble?

Senator Dowd: No. I am actually asking a much simpler question. When they say grades, that means the grades and the credit hour earned? That is the only thing I am asking.

Past-President Rouillard: Yes, it is in there.

Senator Wedding: It is in there, but on the preamble to 'A,' it says, "*all grades are forfeited*" and then the business of the credit hours comes on page 2.

Past-President Rouillard: Yes, but even in this first paragraph it says that "*only these grades will be counted for credit.*"

Senator Dowd: Senator Wedding, number 2. that you pointed out addressed my question. It is not an issue. Sorry.

Senator Wedding: Anyone else has a comment?

Senator Steven: This is just a minor point. I think if we want to be consistent with the branding we should replace UT with UToledo.

Senator Wedding: Whereabouts?

Senator Steven: Everywhere.

Senator Wedding: Okay, we will do that. That is a *friendly amendment*. Senator Insch, is that okay.

Senator Insch: I don't know how we will put that in the Minutes.

Senator Wedding: Okay. Anyone else have comments?

Senator Case: I just have a question. 'C-', though it is a low grade, it is a passing grade. When we are doing grade forgiveness, if we include 'C-' in there it is actually going to extend the amount of time it takes the student to graduate. Shouldn't we be making it a 'D+' instead of the 'C-'?

Senator Lundquist: One of the problems with that is Comp I, because 'C-' is not a passing grade for Comp I.

Senator Wedding: In other colleges, ours included, a 'C-' is a failure; you got to have 'C' or better.

Senator Case: In core classes – yes, but in electives – no, at least in our program.

Senator Ohlinger: Does anybody in here know if this is all or none when students petition for this? Is it all grades 'C-' or lower or could they pick and choose?

Senator Wedding: It is all.

Senator Ohlinger: Okay.

President Brakel: So call for an *endorsement*.

Senator Wedding: Yes. We will have a vote for an endorsement. All in favor say, 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? Thank you very much. ***Policy Unanimously Endorsed.***

President Brakel: Thank you. So just so you are aware of the next steps once these little edits gets taken care of, whatever policies, they will be sent out for comment for a 30-day period. So if you have additional comments that you want to make or other colleagues want to make they can do that through the website at the time.

So that brings us now to the discussion of the Bylaws. Again, this is a discussion only. I am going to turn it over to Senator Templin.

Senator Templin: The purpose of tonight is to explain to the senators who are new to Senate this year, what the overall point to the Bylaws are, and also to familiarize everybody with the document.

[\[View Bylaw\]](#)

We are not going to be voting on it tonight, but the more familiar you are with it, the better, and the faster the conversation will go later when we do vote. The point of the Bylaws is if you are new to Senate, the bylaws should contain all the procedures for how we handle business. So, as you go through the document you are going to see what the size and the apportionment of the Senate is, the terms of senators, and so on. Then a little bit later it comes back to what the Executive Committee does. I think in here there

are officer duties - so if you are an officer, what are your duties and it lists those by officer title. Then it talks about how a meeting goes. It is just basically how do we govern ourselves such as how does a meeting go, and here's what the agenda should look like at a regular meeting - the order of business - and what does voting within Senate look like. We just did some votes to recommend what are some rules that kind of govern us there. Then it talks about what is the log and calendar of the Faculty Senate and what does it do and what are the committees of Senate? We put the committees here because anything you put in the Constitution, if you change the name of a committee, that has to go back to a vote of the faculty as a whole whereas things that are in bylaws, Senate can change those things for itself much easier.

Then Article IX there is implementation and reconsideration of action taken by the Faculty Senate in the name of the University faculty. So, if we want to reconsider, those bylaws are there so we can reconsider previous resolutions that we've made.

Next is election and the removal of officers and what happens in the event if we need to do that. This is election of the university representatives to university committees and other bodies. We have some things that are special such as the athletic committee; there are some other things there that are not Senate, but we have to elect people to. College governance and structure for newly forming colleges - so if a new college is being thought about and actually does form, there is some bylaws in there for how the new college becomes part of Senate. And then, how do you amend the bylaws? It concludes with the history of the approval so we can go back in time to look at, if we want to go back to an earlier version and look at, bylaws, we can find those. Are there any questions about the bylaws?

Senator Insch: I really appreciate the fact that you identified this for my benefit, so thank you. I just have a couple of kind of historic questions that I am curious about.

Senator Templin: Okay.

Senator Insch: Why is the Senate 64?

Senator Templin: That is the size that historically been chosen. In the committee we were talking about that. It could be any number we want. The problem is if you make it '300' then you have to have a room for 300. So, 64 seems like a reasonable number to still get rooms so we are not meeting in the Glass Bowl.

Senator Wedding: Historically we are 50 or less.

Senator Templin: Is that right?

Senator Wedding: Yes. Back before we merged with the Health Science Campus.

Senator Templin: Well, that was before [we merged with] the Medical?

Senator Wedding: That is correct.

Senator Dowd: It was moved to 64 to accommodate that to a certain extent. But also the fact that it is 64, not 65 or 60 was to permit the possibility of, for example someone get elected to be president-elect in their third year of service that they could actually be elected to president-elect of Senate for the following year, so that the actual number of senators could actually move up to 65. That occurred at the time of the merger.

Senator Insch: I guess as a person who is new to this, room size dictating faculty governance doesn't seem like a very reasonable answer. I'm just saying. I was hoping there was a better answer than that, but that is okay.

The second question, I only have three, is, “*The formula for apportionment of our seats shall be established by Senate and may be reexamine*” – where is that posted? I apologize; I’ve been searching the internet to find it.

Senator Templin: Say that again.

Senator Insch: “*The formula for apportionment of our seats,*” so I guess [it is] the allocation of seats. Where is that? Is that in the Rules?

Senator Templin: There is a formula, and I believe it is in the Rules where it goes by how many faculty your college have and there is a formula for determining that. Senator Dowd, correct me if I am wrong. It works out that 64, you have about one senator for every 20 faculty. Is that right?

Senator Dowd: I think it is right.

Senator Templin: As I recall, there is a 1:20 ratio. It may not work out exactly, but as a rough ballpark it is that. So, it is that and room size.

Senator Insch: My last question is number 5. I am curious to why we meet bi-weekly as opposed to monthly. Other places I’ve been the faculty met monthly and in full disclosure, I don’t feel like some of the meetings we had have really been forwarding faculty business as opposed to just hearing people talk about stuff, which we can get that information from other sources. I think sometimes that commitment every two weeks stops some people from being on the Senate. So, I am just curious if there is a strong reason for that. My other counterproposal to that is if we did go to monthly then that will open up Tuesdays from 2-4:00 as a time for committees.

Senator Templin: To my knowledge, which goes back to the early 2000’s, we’ve always met bi-weekly. The committee really didn’t think of it as monthly. We can talk about that.

Senator Dowd: Senator Insch, you are also looking at the Senate at the beginning of the academic year. When we start to get curriculum issues and program issues, everything will start to heat up. The notion of meeting every-other-week, it becomes a necessity later on. Maybe not now, but the business will become before the Senate, it just haven’t happened that quickly this year.

Senator Insch: Just a comment to that. I read the Faculty Senate Minutes this last year and it seems like every time a curricular issue comes up the discussion is actually really, really short. Conversations that are in the Minutes are conversations of people reporting on their college or things that we’ve seen. It seems like most of the decisions about curriculum with a few exceptions is actually just a ‘yes’ up and down vote of what was presented by the committees. So, I didn’t see historically a lot of conversation about curriculum. So, putting it off for an extra couple of weeks when it is not going to go into effect till the following Fall doesn’t seem to be a huge burden. We should try to get more people to be involved with Faculty Senate, but I am just the new guy.

Past-President Rouillard: I think it is a lot easier to have bylaws and rules that call for bi-weekly meetings and cancel unneeded meetings rather than trying to call for extra meetings at that point when there is either a crisis or there is a backlog of curriculum and you need to get through it. I just think this gives the Senate much more flexibility.

Senator Insch: My point being is have you ever canceled a meeting?

Group of Senators: Yes.

Senator Insch: Because so far I’ve been to four meetings and we have not voted on anything of substance other than self-governance which been going on for a one year-and-a-half, which we could

have done in one meeting instead of the four that I've been to. I don't know-- It seems to me like tradition seems to drive a lot of what we do in thinking, and I am just curious if there is an openness to getting more efficient and being better prepared to use our time better by meeting once a month rather than every two weeks.

Senator Weldy: Just changing the subject. This is sort of a technical issue. Number 5. Section 6. it just caught my eye today that the agenda has to be out two days prior to the meeting. For this meeting the agenda didn't come out till yesterday. I don't know if that is a problem for Quinetta. But what happens if the agenda doesn't come out within two days? I think that needs to say two working days rather than two days.

President Brakel: I will take the blame for Quinetta. For this particular agenda I waited on the policies to make sure where we are at.

Senator Weldy: So what happens if it doesn't come out two days before the meeting?

Senator Templin: So, in theory, when the vote for the agenda is cast, if Senate doesn't feel as though they had enough time to think about that agenda they can turn that agenda down. So they can vote 'no' to approve the agenda. What makes it regular is the combination of sending it out ahead of time and the approval of that agenda, the consent of the senators at the meeting.

Senator Weldy: I think that ought to say two working days.

Senator Templin: Okay. Any other questions?

Senator Wedding: An answer to Senator Insch's point, which I think is well-taken by the way. I do agree that we need to have every-other-week, as Past-President Rouillard said, we can cancel. But, I do think what we put on this agenda in the way of people showing up from across campus to give us reports, some of which go on for a long time, maybe we don't need to hear all of that. Maybe there ought to be a time limit on what some of these people present that is outside of Senate's business, sort of informational stuff. I am not trying to be critical to anybody that is coming here giving this info, but maybe it could be a little abbreviated.

President Brakel: Thank you. I am aware of that and I've been trying to be consciences of that these last couple of meetings.

Senator Wedding: Thank you.

Senator Insch: Is it possible for people to put things into the Minutes without actually having to speak at a meeting? For example, some deans have a lot of information that they've written up...and they have 20 minutes to present. Could they just put their extra notes into the meeting's minutes?

Senator Dowd: No. The reason is because the Minutes taken at Senate are 'special' minutes; they are what goes on at the meeting. Now, if you were to go to Graduate Council, they have other rules, but... It may be permitted at Research Council, but historically, the Senate Minutes has to be presented at the Senate or the speaker at the Senate can say here is a webpage that has this material, and they can provide that material to Quinetta to include in the Minutes, but the presentation has to be made. Sorry I answered that, Senator Templin.

Senator Templin: No, these are things we need to apprise ourselves of. Any other questions about the bylaws? I turn it back over to you.

President Brakel: That is shorter than I anticipated. So that brings us to Items from the Floor. Are there any things for the 'good of the cause?' Hearing none, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn?

Senator Kistner: So moved.

Senator Compora: Second.

President Brakel: All in favor say 'aye.' Any opposed? Any abstentions? Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Templin
Faculty Senate Executive Secretary

Tape summary: Quinetta Hubbard
Faculty Senate Administrative Secretary