



Faculty Senate Meeting

MINUTES

December 5, 2024 | 3:15 p.m. | Virtual

Zoom Meeting ID: 840458227876

Present: Rodney Farrington, Randy Erikson, Julie Bezzerides, Gina Lott, Jennifer Cromer, Jenna Chambers, Katie Roberts, Eric Stoffregen, Jessica Savage, Rachelle Genthos, Angela Wartel, Debra Lybyer, Suzanne Rousseau, Thomas Hill, Charles Bell, Peter Remien, Kim Tuschhoff, Lorinda Hughes

Guests: Royal Toy, Carlee Rhodes, Michelle Pearson-Smith

Quorum present (15 voting members present)

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:15 pm by Faculty Senate Chair Peter Remien

II. Approval of Senate Meeting minutes from November 7, 2024

Motion to approve Faculty Senate meeting minutes from November 7th, 2024, as written, made by Rodney Farrington. Motion seconded by Jessica Savage. No further discussion. Call for vote. Unanimous approval. No abstentions. Motion carries.

III. New Business

A. State Board of Education resolutions 03j, 03k, 03l

Discussion of three draft resolutions sent via email to Faculty Senate today by Faculty Senate Chair Peter Remien. These draft resolutions are subject to change from the documents sent. Some version of all three of these will likely be passed by SBOE.

03j: Resolution on DEI Ideology (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education)

In policy 03j, the SBOE defines diversity, equity, and inclusion ideology (“DEI ideology”) “as any approach that prioritizes “personal identity characteristics” (race, color, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, age, or gender) over individual merit”

This policy expressly forbids establishment of central office, policies and procedures, DEI ideology, and student resource or success centers related to DEI ideology. The policy also includes a number of bullet points to describe things that are allowable. Allowable areas include academic research, student recruitment, supporting citizens of Native American tribes, or addressing

cultural education or celebration. Items like Women's History Month or Native American History Month would be allowed under this resolution.

03k: Resolution on Governance in Higher Education

This policy stipulates that Presidents have the authority to terminate tenured employees for adequate cause – unsatisfactory or less than equivalent during faculty and peer review. Peer review should also occur to ensure faculty, employees, and student voices are considered in administrative decisions for tenured employees. Final decisions at institutional levels rest with the Presidents of the institution.

03l: Resolution on Freedom of Expression in Higher Education

This policy discusses academic freedom of expression for faculty and students. Policy 03l encourages political neutrality, but does protect a speaker's right to free expression, including free inquiry, intellectual debate and freedom of scholarship within the bounds of academic responsibility and institutional policy.

Please share with divisions. All three drafts are subject to change. If you have any questions or feedback, please reach out to Provost Chilson, the person of contact for corresponding with the SBOE. You can also send questions to the Faculty Senate Chair to forward to the Provost.

Call for questions from Faculty Senate. No further questions. Faculty Senate will devote time to the three resolutions at spring Faculty Senate meetings.

B. Curriculum Proposals: New Programs

Reminder of Curriculum Committee workload -the Curriculum Committee processes a lot of changes within the committee, most having to do with changes in courses. Items that move to Faculty Senate are new program approvals. By the time programs reach Faculty Senate, they are thoroughly vetted through the diligent work of the curriculum committee. All new programs have been vetted by the Curriculum Committee.

Clarification from Faculty Senator: Regarding curriculum roles in vetting new programs, curriculum committee members are proofreaders of documentation provided and ensure all documentation is submitted correctly. The role of vetting the programs moves on to Faculty Senate. There is work to be done in Faculty Senate to identify if these programs match college mission, vision, and need, etc.

i NU-MSN: Nursing Leadership in Healthcare, Direct Entry

PDF was provided regarding information on this new program. Call for questions or discussion. No further discussion. Motion made to approve NU-MSN: Nursing Leadership in Healthcare, Direct Entry program as written by Katie Roberts. Motion seconded by Eric Stoffregen. No further discussion. Poll sent out by Faculty Senate Chair. Quorum present. Unanimous approval with 15 "aye" votes. 0 "nay" votes. Motion carries.

ii NUCTE-AAS: Physical Therapist Assistant

AAS in Physical Therapy Assistant falls within the NHS Division and the

new HEC (Healthcare Education Center). No further discussion regarding program. Motion made by Katie Roberts to approve program as written. Motion seconded by Charles Bell. No further discussion. Poll sent out by Faculty Senate Chair. Unanimous approval with 15 “aye” votes. 0 “nay” votes. Motion carries.

iii NUCTE-AAS: Medical Laboratory Technology

Clarification on NUCTE programs: It is proposed by the HEC which is under the NHS division. This degree is an Allied Health program but falls under a CTE.

Question from Faculty Senator: Would it require instructors to have a CTE certificate in their content area since it falls under CTE.

Response from NHS Division Chair Michelle Pearson-Smith: They would be required to have CTE certificate.

No further discussion.

Motion made by to approve NUCTE-AAS program Medical Laboratory Technology as written Katie Roberts. Motion seconded by Jessica Savage. No further discussion. Poll sent out by Faculty Senate Chair. Unanimous approval with 15 “aye” votes. 0 “nay” votes. Motion carries.

iv ED-MA/MAT: Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education

Question from Faculty Senator for Teams Division Chair Royal Toy: When reviewing the Degree Audit and syllabi, the MA/MAT courses ED 525, 545, and 518 that are cross listed with the bachelor’s courses are not distinguishable from ED 225, 345, or 318 regarding differences between undergraduate and graduate program.

Response from Teams Division Chair Royal Toy: Additional documentation was provided for those cross-listed courses after initial submission to differentiate between the course levels. These courses are like what undergraduates would take, as the content is different with a bachelor’s degree. Examples shared with Faculty Senate – in the Technology course, graduate students are given specific assignments related to master’s level work and research. In the Assessment and Data course, graduate students are expected to be doing assessments of data sets in the classroom and across the curriculum, dependent on content area. This information was not included in the syllabus itself, as the syllabus is used for both levels. The course would also focus on four additional assignments than those at the bachelor’s level.

Response from Faculty Senator: As the cross listed courses have identical titles, course descriptions and syllabi does it not cause concern that we are asking too much of our bachelor’s students or is it not distinguishable.

Response from Teams Division Chair: The initial submission was a different division chair. I had the opportunity to rewrite most of the syllabi and resubmit. What was seen originally is not what is being presented today.

Response from Faculty Senator: Thank you for the clarification.

Response from Royal Toy: Many of these courses, these students may have not taken at the undergraduate level and may not be specific to the content they are certified in, as this degree is not for individuals who have obtained a prior education degree. It is a retooling for people who have a prior bachelor's degree in another area to obtain an education degree.

Response from NHS Division Chair Michelle Pearson-Smith: Thank you to Royal for answering those questions as our master's degree direct entry is similar regarding students who are entering this program with a bachelor's degree in a different field.

Response from Faculty Senator: I noted the differences in the education degree when reviewing them was education's cross-listed courses were copy and pasted versus when viewing the nursing degree, the differences between level of coursework were distinguishable.

No further discussion.

Motion to approve ED-MA/MAT program made by Thomas Hill. Motion seconded by Jennifer Cromer. No further discussion. Poll sent by Faculty Senate Chair. Unanimous approval 15 "aye" votes. 0 "nay" votes. No abstentions. Motion carries.

v TI-CERT: Auto Mechanics Specialized Certificate

Certification from T&I – No further discussion.

Motion to approve certificate by Charles Bell. Motion seconded by Rachele Genthos. No further discussion. Poll sent by Faculty Senate Chair. Unanimous approval (15 yes votes). 0 no votes. Motion carries.

The Faculty Senate approved all programs presented today.

IV. Good of the Order

- A. Institutional Development Grants applications due Friday, February 7th (1st Friday in February). *Reminder this is early in the semester.*
- B. Faculty Development Grant applications due Monday, March 3rd.
- C. Charles Bell – Faculty Affairs committee report

1 Item regarding discussion on FDG – Based on conversation in Faculty Affairs, many faculty felt there was lack of funding, and lack of discussion about money distributed to all divisions for professional development. Faculty feedback demonstrated that many faculty had never heard about this source for faculty development and felt there was a communication drop there.

It does appear many faculty feel they are underfunded in professional development, and if there are additional funds, this needs to be communicated.

Motion to adjourn by Katie Roberts. Motion seconded by Rodney Farrington. Call for a vote. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 3:49 pm.