Faculty Senate Minutes

March 9, 2021

**Virtual Meeting**

*Primarily paperless, wou.edu/facultysenate*

# 3:15 - 3:30 p.m.

*Better Know a Colleague* (informal gathering, optional)

# 3:30 – 5 p.m.

# *Business Meeting*

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# 1. Call to order

# 2. Call of the roll (by typing your name into the chat)

#

# 3. Corrections to and approval of minutes from previous meeting (see website)

* Minutes approved as posted

# 4. Institutional Reports

# 4.1. Faculty Senate President

* Report available on the Faculty Senate website

# 4.2. University President

* Report available on the Faculty Senate website
* Unavailable to attend

# 4.3. University Provost

* Report available on the Faculty Senate website

# 4.4. IFS Report

* Report not available.
* No report to give.

# 5. Executive Committee Business

* 5.1 Nominating Committee (Kristin Latham-Scott, Chair/Past President)
* Document posted on FS website (order of events for nominations)
* Executive member volunteer: Stewart Baker
* Will send out email to try to fill positions

# 6. Consideration of Old Business:

* 6.1 Article 15 Drops - Reports posted (Initiated by Faculty)
* 6.1.1 Earth Resources Minor
* 6.1.2 Geology Minor
* 6.1.3 MS, Management and Information Systems
* Comment: Urgence to vote “no” for drops as we have heard that departments would not otherwise have endorsed these. We also heard that that our voices will not be considered in whether or not this drop occurs, so we should make a statement. There is no justification for dropping these, so I urge fellow Faculty members to vote “no”.
* Motion to approve (drop as a block)
* Earth Resources Minor - 5 yes, 10 no
* Geology Minor - 5 yes, 10 no
* MS Management and Information Systems - 4 yes, 8 no
* **Motion does not pass**
* 6.2 STEM Educational Leadership Certificate (Adele Schepige) - Report posted
* 6.3 Enabling Leadership Certificate (David Foster) - Report posted
* **David Foster**: This focuses on helping develop social skills to create teams and task forces, emphasizing problem solving and innovation. Within certificate, opportunity to take 3 elective courses. Now trying to collaborate with faculty across campus to create tracks - eg., CJ leadership track. Later with Political Science, developing a track in leadership/government, maybe nonprofit. Looking across different departments to see where collaboration can be effective. Just wanted to highlight the collaborations we are hoping to put together as we move forward. It can be difficult to engage in these, but there are good outcomes. For example, one of our programmatic changes is to collaborate with Writing to teach a class to enhance competency in written communication. Previously we had developed a writing class without having contacted Writing Department, and when the Chair identified this and pointed out our mistake, we worked together. This is an example of how interdisciplinary work and collaboration opportunities can be available at the university level.
* 6.4 Ethics and Social Justice Minor (Mark Perlman) - Report posted
* Motion to approve 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 (as a block)
* **Motion passes with 21 YES votes for 6.2 and 6.4, 20 YES votes for 6.3**

* 6.5 Change to Graduate Policies - Reports posted
* 6.5.1 Transfer Credits
* 6.5.2 Admissions Procedures
* Motion to approve (as a block)
* **Motion passes with 21 YES votes for each**

# 7. Consideration of New Business: None

* 7.1 Article 15 Drops (Initiated by Faculty)
* 7.1.1. Homeland Security and Community Preparedness Certificate
* 7.1.2. Homeland Security and Community Preparedness Minor
* 7.1.3. Forensic Anthropology Minor, Anthropology Majors
* 7.2. Update to Academic Load G-1, Credit Caps for Graduate Students, Summer Term (Melanie Landon-Hays)
* **Melanie Landon-Hays:** Dean Fouts identified language in the catalog that affects students at the graduate level taking summer courses. They max out at 9 credits, and we would like for them to be able to take 12 credits in the summer. This would lessen the amount of paperwork because they would not need to request an overload.
* Motion to suspend normal order of business to make item both old business and new business.
* **Motion passes with 22 YES votes**
* Motion to approve the changes to Update to Academic Load G-1, Credit Caps for Graduate Students.
* **Motion passes with 22 YES votes**

# 8. Discussion items

* 8.1 Curriculum and Collaboration
* Call for ideas, questions or comments about how university could support more curricular collaboration
* Comment: We were talking about this and curious if it would be helpful to create a forum to allow programs to collaborate before they go to Curriculum Committee
* Comment: Agreed - would be great to have asynchronous discussions threads to communicate across campus
* Comment: The example of catching the writing class - we have done better in making sure Curriculum Committee agendas go out, but this is still a bit haphazard, so it would be great if we could be more proactive and have a forum for collaboration.

# 9. Informational Presentations and Committee Reports

* None

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# 10. Announcements:

* Kevin Helppie is retiring, this is his last FS meeting and he wanted to invite folks to closing events as retirement approaches (Flyers posted on website):
	+ March 14th 7pm Kevin Helppie livestream concert (Henry Hughes poetry featured as well)
	+ March 13th – video on WOU TV, Sweeney Todd opera production - performance were recorded remotely and put into a video, fairly innovative idea
* Also announced that the Kevin Helppie and Mary Ruth Helppie Education Scholarship has been established, Mary Ruth taught music education and French Horn at WOU. Both wanted to create a legacy, starting with $10,000 and would like to see this scholarship grow.

## 4:16pm motion to adjourn

# 5 – 5:15 p.m.

*Better Know a Colleague* (informal gathering continued, optional)