

3-15-1985

## DOC 1984-04 Change in Policy Requiring Prayer at the Beginning of Class

University of Dayton. Department of Teacher Education

Follow this and additional works at: [https://ecommons.udayton.edu/senate\\_docs](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/senate_docs)

---

### Recommended Citation

University of Dayton. Department of Teacher Education, "DOC 1984-04 Change in Policy Requiring Prayer at the Beginning of Class" (1985). *Senate Documents*. 175.  
[https://ecommons.udayton.edu/senate\\_docs/175](https://ecommons.udayton.edu/senate_docs/175)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Academic Senate at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Senate Documents by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact [frice1@udayton.edu](mailto:frice1@udayton.edu), [mschlangen1@udayton.edu](mailto:mschlangen1@udayton.edu).



---

# The University of Dayton

July 15, 1985

Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M.  
President  
University of Dayton  
CAMPUS

Dear Brother Fitz,

In its meeting of March 15, 1985, the Academic Senate officially approved the enclosed Senate Document #84-4, Change in Policy Requiring Prayer at the Beginning of Class. When the FACULTY HANDBOOK is revised we will indicate this statement on page E-1 as directed by the Senate action.

In accordance with established procedures the Provost is forwarding this document to the President for his approval.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Stander, S.M.  
Vice President for Academic  
Affairs and Provost

JWS:jh  
Enclosure

PROPOSAL TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE

TITLE: Change in Policy Requiring Prayer at the Beginning of Class

SUBMITTED BY: Department of Teacher Education

DATE: January 29, 1985/ March 15, 1985

Indicate the action required: Legislative, Concurrence, or Consultative, and refer to the appropriate reference in the Senate Constitution (Article IIB, 1, 2, 3).

ACTION IS: Legislative REFERENCE IS: \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: State objectives, rationale, and how proposal is to be implemented

Meeting on March 15, 1985, the Academic Senate approved the following statement to replace the present statement on page E-1 of the FACULTY HANDBOOK.

"As befits a Christian institution, faculty are encouraged to begin class with a moment of silence, a reading from Scripture, or a prayer."



---

## *The University of Dayton*

January 29, 1985

Bro. Joseph Stander  
Office of V.P. - Academic Affairs  
St. Mary's 203

Dear Bro. Stander:

The Department of Teacher Education, at its meeting of 1-28-85, passed the following resolution:

That the third paragraph on page E1 of the University of Dayton Faculty Handbook be deleted and replaced with the following wording, "As befitting a Christian institution, each faculty member is encouraged to begin classes with some activity that reminds everyone that their mission in a Christian institution is to find the relationship between the Divine and secular science. These activities may include a moment of silence, a reading from Scripture, a personal account of a spiritual experience or a prayer."

We have two reasons for making this proposal. The first is that the present statement is written as a regulation which is most often not obeyed and never enforced. We hope that by changing it to a statement of encouragement, it can serve a useful function. Second, we hope to draw people's attention to the aim of our university which is to teach information and skills to students in such a way as to reinforce the formation of values and attitudes in students that are consonant with Christianity.

Please send our request to the Academic Senate in order that it can be adopted into University policy.

Sincerely,

John Geiger  
Chairman

JG:cr

cc: Ellis Joseph  
Joe Watras

January 1, 1982

## CONDUCT OF CLASSES

It is personally and professionally unethical for a faculty member to be arbitrarily tardy or absent from class meetings specified in the University calendar, including the first day of a term and the day before a holiday. When he has a justifiable cause to be absent, he should notify his Chairman and either he or the Chairman should arrange for a substitute to meet the class. In case of emergency when this cannot be done, the faculty member is obligated to make provision for the time lost.

It is a generally accepted rule that a class may disperse if the instructor is more than ten minutes late. If an instructor does not wish this rule to apply, he should clearly indicate this to the class.

As befitting a Christian institution, classes are to be opened with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

The faculty member must maintain attendance records for all classes. For freshmen, the allowable number of absences in the first or second term will be equal to twice the number of class meetings per week. A student exceeding this number will not be permitted to continue in the class unless he presents justifiable reasons for his absences to the Attendance Appeals Committee.

Behaviour in harmony with that of a Christian university is expected of faculty and students. Academic problems are referred to the Department Chairman or academic Dean; non-academic problems are the jurisdiction of the Dean of Students.

University policy prohibits any transfer of funds from student to faculty member in the classroom. Materials should be free or should be sold through the Bookstore.

Normally each class shall meet for the full period. Abuse of this policy is dereliction of duty.

Each faculty member should observe the usual rules of courtesy before leaving the classroom. He should erase chalkboards and arrange chairs and other furniture in the usual order. Unless another class immediately follows, the faculty member should close windows and extinguish lights.

Any needed classroom repairs should be reported in writing to the Director of Physical Plant.