

6-21-2020

2020-06-21 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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Recommended Citation

University of Dayton. Academic Senate, "2020-06-21 Minutes of the Academic Senate" (2020). *Academic Senate Minutes*. 159.

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UNIVERSITY OF

DAYTON

DAYTON, OHIO

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

June 12, 2020

Zoom, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Senators Present: Joanna Abdallah, Philip Appiah-Kubi, Paul Benson, Connie Bowman, James Brill, Lissa Cupp, Neomi De Anda, Mary Ellen Dillon, Lee Dixon, Sam Dorf, Jim Dunne, Sharon Gratto, Mark Jacobs, Jake Jagels, Jay Janney, Carissa Krane, Catherine Kublik, Sayeh Meisami, John Mittelstaedt, Andrew Moyer, Leslie Picca, Jason Pierce, Maher Qumsiyeh, Fran Rice, Eddy Rojas, Andrew Sarangan, Andrea Seielstad, Tereza Szeghi, Kathy Webb, John White, Mary Ziskin

Senators Absent: Michael Davies, Deo Eustace, Katherine Kohnen, Brennan Mooney, Grant Neeley, Andrew Strauss, Jacob Troutwine

Presenters: Carolyn Phelps (Associate Provost for Faculty and Administrative Affairs)

Guests: Sean Falkowski (Chair, Faculty Board), Cali Anne Cleaves (Parliamentarian), Christopher Agnew, Lucy Allbaugh, Erin Holscher Almazan, Philip Anloague, Jackie Arnold, David Ashley, Adrienne Ausdenmoore, Janet Bednarek, Jana Bennett, Deb Bickford, Justin Biffinger, Omer Bilgin, Jaro Bilocerkowycz, Ann Biswas, Treavor Bogard, Sharon Bommer, Aili Bresnahan, Tonya Breymier, Christopher Brough, Jonathan Brown, Mary Buchwalder, Larry Burnley, Una Cadegan, Sarah Cahalan, Christopher Calvin, Faisal Chaudhry, Ying-Ju Chen, Andrew Chiasson, Jen Christman, Kim Conde, Emily Fehrman Cory, Donna Cox, Anne Crecelius, Garry Crosson, Carola Daffner, Corinne Daprano, Simanti Dasgupta, George DeMarco, Prajakta Deshpande, Wiebke Diestelkamp, Gloria Dodd, Pat Donnelly, Shannon Driskell, Said Elhamri, Jeremy Erb, John Erdei, Elizabeth Evans, Matthew Evans, Curtis Farnsel, Bill Fischer, Jim Froehlich, Sandy Furterer, Colleen Gallagher, Karishma Gangwani, Amy Jones Gibbons, Hunter Goodman, Daria Graham, Mary Grilliot, Jennifer Haan, Miranda Hallett, Kathrin Hanek, Casey Hanley, Karolyn Hansen, Umesh Haritashya, Beth Hart, Michelle Hayford, Joshua Heyne, Aparna Higgins, Jeanne Holcomb, Andrew Horner, Sawyer Hunley, Liz Hutter, John Inglis, HUNTER's iPhone, Joel's iPhone, Michelle's iPhone, Molly iPhone5, Tracey Jaffe, Denise James, Eric Janz, Bill Johnston, Kathy Kargl, Tharanga Kariyawasam, Mary Kay Kelly, Micheline Kidwell, Ryu-Kyung Kim, Katie Kohnen, Miriamne Krummel, Suki Kwon, Brian LaDuca, Laura Leming, Margaret Lisjak, Li-Yin Liu, Ruihua Liu, Melissa Longino, Amy Lopez-Matthews, Geno Luketic, Heather MacLachlan, Angela Mammana, Nancy Miller, Tom Morgan, Cori Mowrey, Andrew Moyer, Monti Moyer, Sabrina Neeley, Robin Oldfield, James Olive, Donald Pair, Michelle Pautz, Carolyn Phelps, Kyle Phelps, Margaret Pinnell, Russell Pirlo, Danielle Poe, Rebecca Potter, Joel R. Pruce, Shazia Rahman, Sri Ramamoorti, Julia Randel, Mary Ann Recker, Lis Regula, Mary Robinson, Mark Ryan, Mary-Kate Sableski, Lisa Sandner, Phillip Schnell, Christine Schramm, Kristina Schulz, Laura Sextro, Cilla Shindell, Thomas Skill, Emily Sullivan Smith, Tiffany Taylor Smith, Eric Spina, Andrew Strauss, Beth Stuart, Ivan Sudakov, Yvonne Sun, Sam Surowitz, Kimberly Trick, Hsuan Tsen, Joseph Valenzano, Alan Veliz-Cuba, Anuradha Chimata Venkatakishnan, Caroline Waldron, Ryan Wantland, Melinda Warthman, Jia Wei, Jayne Whitaker, Joel Whitaker, Julie Wolters, Michaela Woods, David Wright, Shirley Wright, Shuang-Ye

Wu, Sandra Yocum, Jerome Yorke, Angela Zukowski, Anastasie , Andrew , Elizabeth , iPad , iPhone , Katie , Kehler, 7 phone-in guests no name provided

1. Opening Prayer – Sam Dorf (poem/prayer)
2. Approval of the agenda for the Special meeting of the Academic Senate Special Meeting agenda was approved with a vote of 29 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
3. Minutes – Minutes of April 24, 2020. Amend minutes to include Senators M.E. Dillion and Lissa Cupp to list of outgoing senators. Approved with revision, vote 28 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.
4. Announcements – Academic Senate President Leslie Picca thanked all ECAS members and outgoing ECAS members attending as invited guests for agreeing to work through the summer. ECAS approved an expedited a process for UNRC to quickly develop a pool of applicants. This new process resulted in a broader applicant pool of 80 nominations for the 5 academic working groups; Graduate studies team, Testing and assessment of learning team, Experiential learning team, Faculty Review Processes and the Hybrid and online pedagogies. In the fall, ECAS will be presenting a proposal to the senate outlining a method to include full time NTT faculty representation on all three of the Senate’s standing committees. Law student Cali Anne Cleaves is the new senate parliamentarian.
5. Presentation by UD Path Forward Task Force, Academics Working Group—Carolyn Phelps. Everyone was encouraged to participate in campus discussions and send questions or comments via email to the path forward group. Updates from the task force were posted on the faculty tab in Porches. Work of the task force included a review of classroom occupancy, existing technology in classrooms, and a review of fall enrollment numbers. The task force focused on university processes that needed special consideration during the pandemic. The task force encouraged everyone to continue to offer feedback. The floor was opened for questions.
 - The students want more information on what to expect in the fall, especially experiential learning courses.
 - Faculty and staff want to be consulted about their comfort level in returning to campus. There are concerns about the mental health of faculty, staff and students. There needs to be a plan for disruptions in teaching if faculty become ill.
 - What is the class size that determines if a class is taught online?
 - Is the length of time people spending together in a classroom being considered?
 - Will the class schedule be changed to accommodate cleaning and disinfecting between classes? Response: Although this is being reviewed, there is a concern any changes would cause students to reschedule their classes.
 - Will events, performances, speaker series, and other activities outside the class be cancelled? Response: Information will be forthcoming.
 - How will labs, like organic chemistry be taught? Response: The experiential learning group is looking at on and off campus activities.
 - Will cleaning protocols and traffic patterns be shared? Response: Yes, information is

forthcoming.

- What can faculty do to enforce social distancing and PPE? Response: You can ask them to leave if they do not choose to wear a mask. For a number of reasons, however, not everyone will be wearing masks.
- Why will classes be online after Thanksgiving? If it is to reduce travel, what is the difference between going home and going off campus into the community? Response: Moving classes to online after Thanksgiving is an effort to reduce travel. There is a potentially higher risk travelling out of state than there is travelling into the community.
- What criteria will be used to determine which faculty will be required to teach face-to-face? Some faculty are unwilling to teach in a face-to-face environment. When will students be told the delivery method for their class in the fall? Response: This information will go out as soon as possible.
- Are there protocols in place if a student becomes infected? Will the classes the student attended be cancelled? Response: There are processes in place to protect people. We will be following public health guidelines. Students will be quarantined.
- We need to plan for teaching, and we need to know what we're doing. We need to explore alternative PPE, other than face masks, like face shields. Having faculty clean is absurd. We need to hire people to clean. The university needs to invest in plexiglass barriers. Response: The group is considering a transparent mask option. Installing plexiglass shields was discussed, but there were concerns the shields would restrict the movement of faculty. But a portable plexiglass shield could be an option.
- When will professors know if they will be teaching online? What is the timeline for professors to decide not to return to campus, and when will students be told?
- Why wasn't the decision made to be totally online instead of experimenting with people's health?
- Where did the funds come from to ensure a safe return to campus? Why were there no cuts to athletics? Response: The money will come from the normal operating budget. Response: Athletics is more self-reliant, mostly driven by men's basketball. Many of UD's teams bring net revenue through students who don't have scholarships. Athletics had more furloughs than any other area on campus.
- Why have anyone back? Response: The university recognizes this is a disease with high impact, there are people working and attending UD with compromised immune systems and other health related issues. The decision to return to campus will be made by the President. The university has been consulting with an expert medical panel as well as the Dayton Public Health Dept. A return to campus will only happen if we are confident we have taken every precaution to protect people. We anticipate COVID-19 testing will be better and easier in August. Based on student input, it won't be surprising if less than half do not enroll. Some students would be gone a semester, while others would never return. If the campus opens, we would be spared fiscal carnage. But it would be a different university. It will push everyone to explore multiple ways to open with as little

risk as possible. We are educators, this is our mission. Should the campus remain closed until there is a vaccine? How long do we wait before reopening? If the pandemic risk is too high, then campus will not open.

- How will you determine who can and cannot return to campus? Response: This is a complicated decision; surveying faculty was seen as an invasion of privacy. There were concerns about who receive the results of the survey.
- Have we narrowed down alternative modes of classroom delivery? Response: The hybrid and on-line pedagogies sub group is addressing this question. Tools and resources to help faculty are available on the [keep teaching](#) site.
- This is a concern for first year students; their course load, adjusting to college life, and taking classes online. It will be difficult for faculty to help with this transition. Could more sections be offered reducing the number of students in a section? Would hiring more NTT faculty help with this? Can the risk of spreading the virus be minimized by acquiring air sterilizers and filters and increasing ventilation? Response: The academics working group is taking multiple steps to not be totally online. All of these options are on the table, face to face, hybrid and smaller sections with more people hired. Students want to engage with students and faculty, not always in a virtual format.
- Having faculty clean classrooms would take time; why not let individuals take responsibility for their own spaces, not the entire classroom? Response: The expectation is to perform entry cleaning, clean your own space, and students wipe down their own space.
- Is there a working group looking at co-curricular events? Response: Two groups, the experiential learning group and the large gatherings and events group, are looking at this.
- The teaching modality for some courses requires writing on a board, helping one on one, or interacting with students during problem sessions. This doesn't translate well in an online environment. What technology will be available to help? Has a gradual reopening been considered? If it has, why was it rejected? Response: Consider using a document camera, your writing would be streamed to remotely.
- Do you believe students will cooperate with social distancing in the fall? Response: Communications to students need to address the severity of the problem and the need for social distancing. If protocols are not followed it could result in all classes returning to online, and students being sent home. There needs to be assurances that students are returning to a safe environment.
- We need to commit to our students we will continue to provide excellent teaching even if some classes will be taught fully online.
- Questions received through chat:
 - Will there be plexiglass dividers?
 - Won't classroom space free up if some classes are taught online?

- The anxiety of coming back to campus is incredibly high among the faculty.
- Will there be contact tracing and who will do this?

Everyone was encouraged to continue to provide feedback to the Path Forward group, Professors were encouraged to review the materials on the keep teaching site.

6. Adjournment 5:30

Respectfully submitted: Fran Rice