Facility Senate Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2024  
3:00-5:00pm  
Grand Reading Room/Zoom Videoconferencing

**Members present:**

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FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
March 5, 2024, 3:00-5:00pm, Library Grand Reading Room/Zoom

- Call to Order at about 3:07pm
- Admin Reminders (Brian Ayotte)
  - Email questions or comments for invited guests to the Faculty Senate email ahead of meeting
    - Allows for presenters to prepare responses and information
- President’s Report (Brian Ayotte)
  - All materials for motions and presentations will be posted to myCourses ahead of the meeting by at least one day
  - Most committees have scheduled their meetings for the semester
    - If not, let Brian or Kari know so they can update
    - Meetings are open to non-members
      - Encourage committee chairs to provide some time for non-members to provide comments at the beginning or end of meetings
- Committee Reports
  - Research Committee (Amit Tandon)
    - Committee charge updated to reflect current responsibilities
    - Update on recent work by the committee
    - Projected work for spring 2024
      - Multiple issues with IRB and compliance issues
      - New travel program with Concur
      - Other research-related issues
- Approval of February minutes
Motion made (Andrew Revell) and seconded (Firas Khatib)
No additions or amendments – motion approved

Committee Reports (cont’d)
- Student Faculty Academic Affairs Committee (Benjamin Winslow)
  - Already met 3 times this semester; 4 more meetings planned
  - Looking at several different topics
  - Proposed policy regarding credit limits as applied to Intersession/Maymester courses
    - Currently no limits on number of credits students can take
    - Proposed: Limiting students to three credits during 3-week sessions/Maymester, six credits during 5-week sessions, eight credits during 7-week sessions
    - Calculated based on hours an average full-time student would complete during a week and scaling to appropriate credit hours

- Technology Committee (Beste Gucler)
  - Update on new LMS (Canvas) roll out/transition timeline
    - Pilot in summer with OCE
    - Pilot extended in the fall & faculty training
    - Summer 2025 - full conversion
    - All courses from AY 2023-24 will be converted
  - New Toshiba MFD replacements completed by the end of March
    - Only exception is the LARTS building – will update after renovations completed
    - All fax lines will be moved to eFax
  - Wi-Fi connectivity issues
    - If anyone experiencing issues, submit a ticket on IT Help
  - Research & technology issues
    - Hosting a meeting with various stakeholder to increase clarity and communication
  - Expanding COIN to graduate studies
    - Advising reports currently don’t exist for graduate students
    - Issue brought up by Data Science faculty

- Honors College (Amy Shapiro)
  - Introduction
    - Enrollment & complete rate have increased since 2021
    - Launching a peer mentoring program in Fall 2024
  - Benefits to students
    - Multiple benefits including engaged learning in small classes, faculty mentors, career preparation
  - Benefits to campus & departments
    - Improving campus graduation rates
- Increased number of talented students in all courses

☑ Benefits to faculty
- Teach or co-teach your dream course
- Teach classes of fully engaged high performing students
- Courses can be taught on-load or for ad comp

☑ Examples of academic pathways for Political Science/Pre-Law & Biology/Pre-Med

• New Business

☑ By-Laws Committee (Doug Roscoe)
- Proposed By-Laws Changes
  - Add section on Rules of Order
    - Adopting Robert’s Rules as the parliamentary authority
    - Lowering the quorum requirement from 40 to 32
    - Creating the “Double State” rule
      - Applies only to recommendations being made as part of the governing process
    - No limits on number of times to speak during discussion
    - Chair can participate/speak
    - Establish Order of Business for meetings
  - Remove section re Committee’s ability to establish its rules and elect its officers
  - Motion made (Doug Roscoe) and seconded (Benjamin Winslow)
    - Motion to Amend made (Jennifer Mulnix) to remove the proposal that removes the committee’s ability to establish its rules
      - Seconded (Maureen Eckert)
      - Vote: 19 Yes, 11 No, 3 Abstain
      - Motion passes; amended by-laws proposal moves to Qualtrics for voting

- New proposed by-law changes
  - Re-apportionment: increase the number of council seats and decrease the number of at-large seats so total is 40 council seats and 40 at-large seats
    - Proposed transition scheme
  - EDU council folding into SSCI council
  - TECH council members become members of their department’s academic council

• Provost’s Report (Ram Bala)
  - Postponing LARTS Dean search until after renovations completed
  - Strategic Planning update – email with details and timeline tomorrow
  - Admitted Students Day
    - First event: February 25th
Next events: March 23rd and April 21st

- Mid-Semester progress indicators
- Summer registration starts March 4th and Fall Registration starts April 1st
- MUST Research Program awarded $4.29M to UMassD
- Scholarship Celebration tomorrow
- Leadership Opportunities in the Provost’s Office
  - Chief Research Officer
  - Faculty Fellow for Student Retention

• Motion to Adjourn
  - Made (Andrew Revell) and seconded (Benjamin Winslow/Dario Borim)
• Meeting concluded at 4:59pm