

Faculty Senate Minutes

September 24, 2024: MS Teams, 3-5 PM

Call to Order; Silent Roll Call (0 min.)

Present:

Present:

Senator (S), ExCo (E), Other Non-Voting Member (O)

Ahmed Alsharif (S)	Douglas Gardner (E)	Matthew Duffin (S)	Stephanie Dunn (S)
Aicha Rochdi (E)	Dustin Shipp (S)	Max Aeschbacher (S)	Summer Karafiath (S)
Alex Yuan (S)	Evelyn Porter (E)	Merilee Larsen (S)	Tracy Sermon (S)
Alma Laney (S)	Howard Fullmer (S)	Michaela Sawyer (S)	Tyson Riskas (S)
Anthony Ciccone (S)	Jennifer Shubert (S) (E)	Ming Yu (S)	Wayne Vaught (E)
Ben Moulton (E)	John Newman (S)	Nate Jeppson (S)	Wioleta Fedeczko (E)
Christopher Goslin (S)	Jonathan Allred (E)	Nichole Ortega (S)	
Chris Lindquist (S)	Joshua Fagan (S) (E)	Nicole Gearing (E)	
Colleen Hough (S)	Justin Schellenberg (S)	Nizhone Meza (E)	
Dallas Smith (S)	Kat Brown (E)	Raiden Gaul (S)	
Dan Perry (S)	Kevin Smith (S)	Rich Paustenbaugh (E)	
Dan Sutliff (S)	Laura Ricaldi (S) (E)	Richard Cho (S)	
Deb Dowd (S)	Laurie Toro (E)	Rick McDonald (S)	
Diego Alvarado Karste (S)	Maria Blevins (S)	Sayed Sajal (S)	
Donna Fairbanks (S)	Matt Flint (S)	Sean Crossland (S)	
Doug Czajka (S)	Matt Withers (S)	Shelton Weech (S)	

Absent/Excused:

Ezgi Sertler (E)	Ian Gotcher (E)	Ron Miller (S)
Farzad Ahmadi (S)	Peter Sproul (S)	Terrance Orr (S)

Approval of Previous Minutes (available in Faculty Senate teams/[website](#))

- Minutes stand approved

Wioleta Fedeczko, Faculty Senate President

[3:00-3:03]

- How do we bring things to Faculty Senate? You can bring it up at the Good of the Order and the end of the meeting or you can message the Faculty Senate President or anyone on the executive committee. The topic will be discussed in Faculty Senate ExCo to determine if it should be on Faculty Senate agenda.

SRI Dashboard, Steven Clark

[3:05-3:55]

- This is a data visualization tool to look at existing SRI scores.
- The dashboard will be useful to both faculty and supervisors. Helps department chairs and reviewers manage the large number of SRI reports for faculty reviews, including RTP evaluations.
- This is a supplemental resource to the Watermark SRI tool
- This new dashboard aggregates data over five years, allowing for more comprehensive formative and summative evaluations. It is intended to assist faculty in preparing for midterms, tenure, and rank advancements, providing a clear view of their performance over time.
- The new dashboard differs from the current system in five key ways:

- **Comparative Information:** Always includes comparative data, making it easier to contextualize results.
- **Visual Representation:** Relies on graphs instead of tables, reducing the chance of over-interpreting minor numerical differences.
- **Confidence Intervals:** Uses confidence intervals to show variability and sample size, helping users gauge the reliability of the data.
- **Aggregated Results:** Aggregates results by year and by course, aligning with best practices in SRI research.
- **Long-Term View:** Displays results over five years, making it easier to discern patterns and trends.
- Faculty can only see their results. Department chairs can see the results of faculty within their department. Deans can see results of faculty in their college. Provost and President can see results of all faculty in the university.
- Hope to have it available to all faculty by October 1, 2024. An email will be sent to each faculty member with a personalized link to their report.

UVU Faculty Ombuds, Natalie Grecu

[3:55-4:05]

- Introduction of Natalie Grecu, our first Faculty Ombuds
- Contact information
 - Email: facultyombuds@uvu.edu
 - Location: LA 224B
 - Phone: 801-863-7321

HB 261 and Student Services

[4:05-4:10]

- Many student services have been moved under the Intercultural Engagement
 - <https://www.uvu.edu/intercultural-engagement/>

Curriculum Process and Procedures, Ben Moulton & Jordan Allen

[4:10-4:20]

- Policy 60 specifies that curriculum procedures will be maintained by the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) and approved by the Faculty Senate and Academic Affairs Council. Approved procedures are posted on the Curriculum Office website.
- Attendees were encouraged to review and provide feedback on the changes. The document maintains many elements from the previous version approved three years ago, with enhancements to clarify responsibilities and roles.
- A timeline will be established for comments and a voting process will be scheduled for formal approval.

Grade Changes, Nicole Gearing, CAS chair

[4:20-4:30]

- Chair provided an overview of the council's responsibilities, including the review of petitions for students who have been suspended or dismissed, grade change petitions, and other academic concerns.
- Chair discussed the updated grade dispute policy (Policy 523), which took effect in April. Key change: The updated policy removes the department chair from the dispute resolution process. If a student cannot resolve a grade concern with their instructor, they can petition directly to the Council on Academic Standards.

Process for Handling Petitions

- A new petition form is being created on the registration website for students to use when filing grade change disputes.
- Once a petition is submitted, it is forwarded to the faculty member involved, and in most cases, the department chair is also copied for input.
- The Council reviews all gathered information, discusses the petition, and votes on the resolution.

- A formal letter is then drafted and signed by the Deputy Provost, after which the decision is recorded with registration and shared with the student and faculty involved.

2023 Petition Review Summary

- 23 petitions were reviewed, with more than half submitted during the summer months, likely due to increased awareness from the Academic Integrity Survey.
- Outcomes:
 - 5 petitions were resolved directly between students and faculty.
 - 6 petitions upheld the faculty's original decision.
 - 1 petition resulted in a grade change in favor of the student.
 - 4 petitions were incomplete due to missing documentation.
 - 1 petition is still under review, pending additional information.
 - 6 petitions were outside the Council's scope and forwarded to other relevant offices (e.g., withdrawal or GPA adjustments).

Common Issues Identified in Petitions

- Technology-related issues: Faculty unfamiliar with Proctorio or Canvas led to some grade discrepancies.
- Canvas and grading issues: Misalignments between grades shown in Canvas and the final grades, often due to attendance policies or assignment weights.
- Final exam confusion: Several students claimed they didn't know where or when to take their final exams, despite faculty clearly posting exam details.

Policy

Introduce

116 Student Communications (Derek Kent) [4:30-4:40]

- In 2022, a cross-campus review of student communications was held, involving several departments. The review highlighted two major issues: excessive quantity of communications and multiple departments sending redundant information.
- The policy does not cover emergency communications or legal obligations (e.g., Clery Act safety communications). It does not interfere with faculty-student communications related to class matters.
- Communication Categories:
 - Required: Mandatory information (e.g., account balances, annual student updates).
 - Opt-out: Departmental or college newsletters.
 - Opt-in: Voluntary subscriptions (e.g., arts performances, athletics).
- FERPA
 - UVU email addresses are designated as the official "account of record" under FERPA. Communications containing FERPA-protected information must be conducted through UVU email accounts.
- Prohibited Communications
 - Business solicitations and political messages are prohibited.
 - Individual event promotions should be avoided in favor of a comprehensive communication strategy (e.g., use of the events portal, student app, or My UVU).
 - Surveys and research involving students should be coordinated with the student data collection team to ensure proper methodology and sample sizes.
- Text messaging
 - UVU uses the Cadence Mongoose platform for text communications.
 - Texts should focus on vital information or relationship-building communications (e.g., financial aid updates).
 - Consent is required before sending texts, and text messaging is not FERPA-compliant since it's difficult to verify the recipient.

Discuss

Policy 609: [Academic Scheduling](#)

[4:40-5:09]

- Motion to Extend Faculty Senate to 5:10 pm: *Rick McDonald*

- Seconded: *Joshua Fagan*
- *Motion passes to extend senate to 5:10 pm*
- Motion to suspend the rules to vote this week: Sean Crossland
 - Seconded: Rick McDonald
 - We do not have enough faculty in the meeting to meet a quorum. No action taken

Policy 101 [Policy Governing Policies](#)

- Motion to move voting on Policy 101 to two weeks from now
 - Seconded: Laura Ricaldi
 - We do not have enough faculty in the meeting to meet a quorum. No action taken
 - We will be voting on this policy in two weeks as stated by procedure

Adjourn

[session end time 5:09]

- Meeting ended at 5:09pm

Announcements: *No time allocated. Please review and send to your departments, as applicable.*

- a. **Global Engagement:** Consider attending the [Academic Freedom Symposium](#) on Thursday, March 28, 11-12:30 at Centre Stage: "The symposium aspires to examine academic freedom with both a global and a domestic lens while focusing on five topics of conversation: foundations of learning, education emergency and crisis, hate speech, gender equality, and digital transformation and AI. The purpose of the symposium is to engage in a conversation about these issues, the challenges of mis and disinformation, as well as raise awareness about academic freedom to those who may not be aware of the threats to academia and scholars around the world.
- b. **AI Resources**
 - Fulton Library's student AI [Guide](#)
 - Fulton Library's faculty AI [Guide](#)
 - Faculty Senate and OTL's AI [Resources](#)
 - AI Task Force [Events](#)
- c. **Fulton Library:** Check out Fulton Library's [faculty resource guide](#), which offers helpful information about publication in academic journals.
- d. **Office of Teaching and Learning:** The Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) has launched a [Request an Instructional Designer](#) form so you can request a consultation meeting with an Instructional Designer at any time. Consultations will typically be through Microsoft Teams but may be in-person if needed.