

UNO Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2022

Attendance

Present: Nicola Anthony, Sarah Black, Chris Broadhurst, Angelo Charles, Christy Corey, Laszlo Fulop, Ryan Gray, Martin Guillot, N. Tina Johnson, John Kiefer, Simon Lailvaux, David Lambour, , Leszek Malkinski, James Marchant, Ariya Martin, Andrea Mosterman, Dinah Payne, Connie Phelps, Lindsey Reno, Steve Rick, Ray Rodriguez, James Roe, Brian Seeger, Lisa Verner, Michelle Wade

Absent: Donald Barbe, Dimitrios Charalampidis, Rachel Clostio, Adlai Depano, Kabir Hassan, Linxiong Li, James Logan, Randall Menard, Robert Stufflebeam, Vincent Yu

The minutes from the 10/25/22 meeting were approved.

Updates from Faculty Senate President (C. Broadhurst)

A draft of the rubric for college level awards has been sent to Deans for feedback. The awards should proceed during the spring semester.

CB reached out to ask whether or not travel training is necessary, since the timing of the request was not ideal for faculty. Responses that faculty have received to their questions about this were confusing and conflicted. It may not be mandatory.

Updates from Faculty Senate Vice-President (D. Payne)

Homecoming went well. There was a decent turnout at the game in arena and the gala was a success. DP provided an update from the Institutional Effectiveness committee. The IE committee has two subcommittees (academic and administrative) that meet monthly. Membership now also includes a Dean or Associate Date from each college. IE plans for degree/certificate programs will now focus solely on student learning. All 2021-22 plans were reviewed by the committee to determine areas of strengths and those that need improvement. Administrative plans will use Faculty 180 to support findings related to certain goals. All IE plan items should align with strategic plan.

Updates from the Academic Committee (S. Black)

The committee is continuing to review what their charges should be. There were issues discussed regarding the academic calendar. Chris Broadhurst will ask to have faculty representation in the group that creates the calendar. There was a discussion about having multiple platforms for faculty to report concerns about students and whether or not they should be consolidated. The Senate learned that there are already efforts underway to accomplish this.

There was more discussion about the academic calendar. The summer period is too short for art students to complete internships. It was suggested that the Academic Committee investigate the fact that nine month appointments are closer to ten months in length.

There was discussion about the due dates for faculty to post syllabi to Moodle. This is to allow students more time to drop classes for a 100% refund.

Updates from the Budget Committee (R. Gray)

The budget committee has not met since the last senate meeting and they are waiting for responses to questions that they had asked.

Updates from the Administrative Committee (C. Corey)

Revisions to committee information in the Senate Bylaws was approved. There was discussion about the conduct policy. It was revised to show that the Provost would not choose the ombudsperson (it will also be removed from the grievance policy) and that the ombudsperson would not have to be full faculty member. The policy was approved with the revisions.

Old Business

There was discussion and a vote on the resolution on international education (attached). The resolution passed. Andrea Mosterman volunteered to form a group to start carrying out the resolution.

Faculty Senate Resolution Draft

Whereas international education at the University of New Orleans has been repeatedly reaffirmed as an essential component of UNO's Mission, providing benefits for both students and faculty, fulfilling important components of UNO's Quality Enhancement Plan, and contributing to externally-funded international research projects conducted by UNO faculty,

Whereas Study Abroad as a component of international education at the university is also a key factor in student recruitment and retention at UNO,

Whereas the planning and maintenance of international programs including Study Abroad requires intensive coordination throughout the academic year, and it requires complex partnerships and commitments that may span multiple academic years,

Whereas an International Education Advisory Committee was convened in the 2017-2018 academic year to make recommendations to the Provost when a suspension of some Study Abroad programs was proposed,

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the regular operations of Study Abroad programs during Summer 2020-2022, adversely impacting the operational budgets of the Division of International Education,

Whereas the University has made the decision to "pause" or put "on hiatus" all Study Abroad programs for Summer 2023 with the exception of the Innsbruck Summer School because of current budgetary concerns,

Whereas this has the potential to disrupt many of these programs beyond Summer 2023, and this has caused uncertainty for students, staff, faculty, and stakeholders involved in these programs,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate requests that the University Administration, in consultation with the Faculty Senate, the Division of International Education, and other stakeholders, develop a long-term strategic plan for the resumption of these programs, including but not limited to a review of the previous recommendations of the International Education Advisory Committee. This strategic plan will be intended to address concerns of students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders by providing a timeline for the continuation of current programs. It will also provide an assessment of immediate measures that may be undertaken to make that continuation feasible, given both the current budgetary concerns of the University and the partnerships that make Study Abroad programs possible.