

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

December 11, 2017

The Pittsburg State University Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11, 2017 in the Sunflower Room of the Overman Student Center with Amy Hite, President, presiding.

Past Minutes

Minutes from November 27, 2017 meeting were approved.

Announcements

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs – Dr. Lynette Olson

Dr. Olson spoke to the KBOR policy of 120 credit hour minimum for degree completion. She noted that this policy had been around for a long time and that we need to align with our bachelor degree requirements in the next two years. Dr. Olson provide a handout (see attached) outlining our process and timeline to meet this alignment goal. She stressed that more clarity will be provided at a later time and that there was no need to rush out and do anything at the department level at this time. The changes will all transpire as a process.

Dr. Olson shared that a petition on behalf of the University would be submitted to KBOR for all programs that remain over 120 hours at the end of this process. The thought being that going through the General Education review will very likely identify 4 hours that can be removed from the curriculum. For programs needing an exception, departments will create their own request for approval to be part of the annual March submission to KBOR. More will be known about this process after the March 2018 KBOR meeting.

The changes being proposed through the Academic Affairs committee are to initiate the process and hopefully build a case for tolerance by KBOR in our process to meet the required 120 hours for most every baccalaureate by Spring 2020. Fort Hays University is also reviewing their General Education courses & their process will look very similar to ours.

PSU/KNEA – Dr. Laura Washburn, President

Dr. Washburn advised of a recent email reminding faculty of contract changes. Some of those changes included goals and objectives having an earlier deadline as a separate document submitted at same time as performance approval.

Student Senate – Nick Bartelli, President

Mr. Bartelli advised that there were no complaints submitted about possible dead week violations and that the professor grant was still open for applications.

Unclassified Senate – Erin Sullivan, President

Not present. Dr. Hite read remarks presented by Ms. Sullivan. Voted December 6 to change our senate from Unclassified Staff Senate (USS) to Unclassified Professional Senate (UPS). The hope is the name change will help staff on campus be able to distinguish us from USSS a little easier.

University Support Staff – Michael Klor, President

Not present.

General Education Review Committee – Phil McNew, Mike Carper, Steve Horner and Katherine Hooey

Phil McNew started the group conversation displaying the Canvas webpage with announcements, actions taken thus far, and an invitation to join. Catherine Hooey advised that 78 faculty have accepted an invitation to the site and encouraged others to participate. The mission statement and other information found at the site was derived from input from focus group meetings, the strategic plan and feedback through surveys and various meetings. There have been 5 General Education outcomes with 2 objectives that were partially developed by reviewing what other Universities have on their websites. (See Mission Statement, Preamble, Outcomes as taken from the Canvas website attached).

The next step on the journey is to create job description and invite people to join in the process by becoming part of a subcommittee. According to Mr. McNew the plan for this group would be to create a rubric to match objectives. Once courses are being submitted this group would also align courses with objectives and rubric to fulfill one or more objective. A fast turnaround is anticipated from a faculty member applying for this job and the first meeting scheduled

for January 10th. Per Dr. Hooey these individuals would not be representing their own department, but instead representing the entire campus. The question to be answered is what do students need to know when they graduate and this should not be a territorial concern. Mr. McNew added the work is to be done by March 1st and anticipating 3 – 6 hours of meeting time weekly. A breakdown of representation by college and other administrative offices has been identified as well as budget constraints recognized. Only 1 or 2 of these subcommittee members may be able to attend the AACU meeting in February.

Dr. Mark Johnson asked if the objective is to have work done by March 1 and course info to be developed when? Mr. McNew answered yes and beginning the next day courses need to start to be identified. Stating that high school juniors will begin enrolling in 'dual credit' courses at their high school and will need to know by the fall if not before.

Dr. Khamis Siam asked about the possibility of different disciplines having substitutions. Dr. Hooey responded that it was not for the gen ed committee to decide and that substitutions would need to be made case by case. Dr. Hite thanked the gen ed committee members of their hard work and diligence.

Faculty Senate President – Dr. Amy Hite, President

KBOR had not met since the last Faculty Senate meeting in November. The next KBOR meeting will be held on December 20.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs – Maeve Cummings, Chair

Brian Moots presented for a second reading the catalog copy changing the minimum credit hours from 124 to 120 for the Bachelor of General Studies, Bachelor of Integrated Studies and all Baccalaureate Degrees to be effective for the Fall 2018 semester. Jorge Leon noted there had been no other business submitted to the committee. He asked for any questions regarding this second reading. No questions were presented. The motion presented by Dr. Hite unanimously passed.

Undergraduate Curriculum – James McBain, Chair

Dr. McBain noted that all curricular items presented were approved by the committee after a few format changes. He was submitting for approval of this committee. All curriculum items passed Faculty Senate with a unanimous vote.

Information Systems – Tracy Rampy, Chair

Dr. Jim McBain reported as a member of the committee. The committee met on November 29th and reviewed charge and Bylaws. There was discussion of the overlap or similarity/differences between ITC and ISS. Angela Neria indicated that ITC is comprised of all campus stakeholders, not just faculty, but indicated that faculty were serving on ITC. ITC faculty representation includes one faculty-at-large and the chair of ISS. Library representation is through the Dean and other Deans and Chairs also have revolving positions and are considered administrative representatives, not faculty.

After a great deal of discussion, proposal to take to Faculty Senate to update/re-define a current charge for the committee and if there is none, to consider having the Faculty Senate Constitution Committee either revise the charge or disband the committee, if there is no faculty mandate. The last update to the committee was believed to have been in 1999 or 2000.

Michelle Hudiburg commented that there was discussion 8 years ago when she was on the committee that ISS would serve as a bridge to share information. Mark Johnson posed several questions that came down to if faculty senate would want to give up any charge of governance instead of only a rep on someone else's committee. Dr. Hite recommended this be taken back to departments to discuss further in January. She will also discuss with Dr. Scott at her next meeting with him.

Honors College – James Green, Chair

Dr. Hite read what was presented to her regarding the last committee meeting on December 6 at which the selection process was reviewed. Anticipate receiving applications for Fall 2018 in January. Dr. Fuchs reviewed the evaluating process and timeline. The evaluations are to be completed by February 2 and on-campus interviews are scheduled for February 11.

Writing Across the Curriculum – Rebecca Book, Chair

Rebecca Book initiated the discussion again from November's faculty senate meeting proposing that any course in which an undergraduate enrolls can be designated as a Writing to Learn course as long as it meets all other requirements for a WL course. Dr. Hite showed on the overhead the catalog copy that denotes course numbering at PSU reflecting that 700 level was to be primarily graduate. Discussion gravitated toward the bulk of 700 level courses offered as part of the undergraduate curriculum. There was discussion to cap the WL as no higher than 699. Laura Washburn spoke of a 700 level course in English titled Senior Fiction Writing and concerns with Jump Start program and undergrads taking graduate course while remaining undergrads. After a great deal of discussion on appropriate wording there was a vote on what was presented in the agenda and eliminating any course number designation. By a show of hands the vote to approve the new wording passed with 14 approving and 8 opposing.

General Education Committee – Mark Johnson, Chair

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

Open Forum

Well wishes for a Happy Holiday and good finals week

Meeting Adjourned Motion to adjourn was approved at 4:05 p.m.



Debbie Greve, Recording Secretary

**FACULTY SENATE MEMBERSHIP
(2017-2018)**

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
Childers, (History, Philosophy & Social Sci)	X	X	X	X					
Cooper, (At-Large)	X	X							
Cox, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Daley, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Elliott, (Technology & Workforce Learning)			X*	X					
Fincher, (Teaching and Leadership)	X	X	X	X					
Fogliasso, (Management and Marketing)	X	X	X						
Franklin, (English and Modern Languages)	X	X	X	X					
Frisbee, (Nursing)	X	X	X	X					
Gupta, (Chemistry)	X	X	X	X					
Hendershot, (Family & Consumer Sciences)	X	X	X	X					
Hite, (President)	X	X	X	X					
Hollingsworth, (Military Science)									
Hudiburg, (At-Large)		X	X	X					
Jewett, (Past-President)	X	X	X	X					
Johnson, Mark, (At-Large)	X	X	X	X					
Kehle, (At-Large)	X	X	X	X					
Leon, (Library Services)	X	X	X	X					
Livingston, (Communication)	X	X	X	X					
Maxwell, (Engineering Technology)	X	X	X	X					
McBain, James, (Hist, Philosophy & Soc Sci)	X	X		X					
McBain, Rhona, (Art)	X	X	X						
McClaskey, (At-Large)	X	X	X	X					
McConnaughey, (Graphics & Imaging Tech)	X	X	X	X					
McKinnis, (Economics, Finance, & Banking)	X	X	X						
Moots, (English & Modern Languages)	X	X	X	X					
Morris, (School of Construction)	X	X	X	X					
Munguia, (Music)		X	X	X					
Norman, (Automotive Technology)	X	X	X	X					
Paul, (At-Large)	X	X							
Peterson, Mark, (At-Large)	X	X	X	X					
Runyan, (At-Large)	X	X	X						
Schiefelbein, (At-Large)			X*						
Shewmake, (Health, Human Perform & Rec)	X	X	X	X					
Siam, (At-Large)	X	X	X	X					
Spera, (Psychology and Counseling)	X	X	X	X					
Tayo, (Physics)	X	X	X						
Thompson, Kyle, (Women's Studies)	X	X	X	X					
Thuong, (Mathematics)	X	X	X						
Whitney, (Biology)	X	X	X	X					
Yarick, (Accounting & Computer Inf Systems)	X	X	X	X					
University Support Staff Senate Rep	X	X							
Unclassified Professional Senate Rep	X		X						
Student Government Representative	X	X	X	X					

*Julie Dainty substituted for Kevin Elliott and Jennifer Harris substituted for Jan Schiefelbein at the November meeting.



Pittsburg State University

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Process to align PSU undergraduate programs with Regents' 120 credit hour policy

The Kansas Board of Regents has reinforced its existing policy concerning a minimum of 120 credit hours to award the baccalaureate degree. In this, the Board is implementing a review process for any program requiring more than 120 credit hours to gain an exception. Exceptions may be requested for consideration due to requirements for licensure, accreditation or certification.

This process will begin in March 2018, at which time universities will need to petition for exceptions. Pittsburg State will at that time present to the Regents a plan for aligning our programs with their expectations. One administratively produced letter will be submitted from Pittsburg State outlining this plan. Key points in this plan at this point are listed below:

1. Change in PSU's policy for minimum required number of credit hours (reduction from 124 to 120). Timeline: Fall 2017
2. A description of PSU's general education review which is underway and the expectation that 4 credit hours will be removed from general education requirements. This will for many programs result in bringing them into compliance with KBOR expectations and policy. Timeline: Fall 2019
3. Baccalaureate programs which will exceed the 120 credit hours following adoption of the new general education requirements will prepare a rationale and justification for exception which will be submitted to the Board for approval. Timeline: Spring 2020

We are awaiting a final delineation of the process to be used by the Regents beginning March 2018. We will then make the case for a phased in process. At this time departments do not need to start to align with the 120 credit hour policy; it will be an integrated approach once General Education has been reformed.

December 11, 2017

Lynette J. Olson, Provost/VPAA

Amy Hite, Faculty Senate President

Mission Statement, Preamble, Outcomes

Dear Colleagues,

The new *PSU General Education Mission Statement, Preamble and Outcomes* are found below. Faculty ideas and input were key to the development of this document. Thank you for your participation to date in this student-focused process; we learned a great deal from our faculty focus group meetings and appreciate the input you have given, and continue to give us. The multitude of ideas you provided are reflected in this new document.

Sincerely,

The PSU General Education Leadership Team

PSU GEN ED MISSION STATEMENT

The general education curriculum serves as the heart of a university education by fostering interdisciplinary competencies that typify the educated person. It is designed to facilitate the development of key proficiencies including communication and information literacy. The general education curriculum provides a transformational experience that challenges students to think creatively and critically, and to immerse themselves in the productive examination of humans in their global setting. By encouraging the development of skills that promote life-long learning, general education fosters a sense of personal responsibility, an appreciation of diversity, and an understanding of interconnectedness in our truly global society.

CORE VALUES/PREAMBLE

General Education at PSU is a student-focused program that facilitates the development of skills, knowledge and values required for career success and global citizenship. Underpinning the entire General Education program are program-wide competencies that inspire:

- Critical Thinking
- Interdisciplinary Perspectives
- Lifelong Learning
- Innovative Thinking
- Diversity
- Sustainability

CORE GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES

COMMUNICATION

1. To communicate in formal and informal manners via oral, written, verbal graphic, visual, and auditory

modes.

2. To process and integrate existing knowledge to develop and communicate new knowledge.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

1. To manage **personal** health, wealth, and time management.
2. To work on a team and demonstrate leadership skills and ethical reasoning in a **professional** setting.

INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY LITERACY

1. To identify, access, evaluate and synthesize diverse forms of information.
2. To responsibly and effectively apply appropriate technology to access, collect, manage, integrate, and evaluate information.

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

1. To understand the diversity of human systems, the natural world, and their interconnectedness in a global context.
2. To be aware of and understand the importance of active citizenship through the application of the concepts of equity, inclusiveness, collaboration, and building constituency in government, civic institutions, business, and the community at large.

QUANTITATIVE AND SCIENTIFIC LITERACY

1. to apply methods of scientific inquiry and problem solving to scientific questions.
2. to use a set of formal tools (e.g., logical or statistical inference, probability, or mathematical analysis) to draw valid conclusions based on mathematical data.