

**Academic Senate Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2025**

The Academic Senate met at 4:00 PM on March 12, 2025, Debartolo Hall Rm 132. Attendance at the meeting has been logged separately from these recorded minutes. This meeting was video recorded and will be made available, along with, supporting documentation for presentations made during the senate meeting separately.

The meeting was called to order by Dr Chet Cooper, Chair. Dr Bob Kramer certified that quorum was present (Excused absences: Dr Martha Pallante, Dr Omar Ross). The agenda for today’s meeting was approved by the senate majority. The recording of minutes from the February 5th meeting was approved by the senate majority.

The meeting began with a report from the Executive Committee by the chair, Dr Chet Cooper. President Johnson was unable to attend the meeting today as he was meeting with the board of trustees. Dr Cooper had nothing to report from the Executive Committee.

Dr Matt O’Mansky, chair of the Academic Integrity Committee did make a brief announcement.

* The academic integrity committee is conducting a survey and urging faculty, especially part-time faculty, to fill it out by the end of the day Friday. All faculty are urged to complete the survey by then.

**Senate Committee Reports**

* Academic Programs report and Undergraduate Committee report were approved unanimously by the senate body.

Dr Chet Cooper, chair of the Academic Events Committee delivered a report:

Dr Cooper presented the list of nominations for commencement speakers to the Board of Trustees this morning.

* The Academic Events Committee met twice.
* The Academic Events Committee produced a 14-page document for review by the senate.
* Dr Cooper acknowledged and thanked the members of the committee for their work.
* Senate approved the report and commencement speaker list unanimously.

Dr Joseph Palardy, chair of the Artificial Intelligence Committee delivered a report:

* The ad hoc committee on AI is researching what other institutions are doing and planning to present recommendations based on their principles (most likely by the last scheduled senate meeting).
* Questions were taken following the report.

Dr Chet Cooper delivered a report from the Governance Committee on behalf of Martha Pallante who could not attend:

* Virtually all appointed committees have been staffed.
* Dr Pallante expresses her appreciation to those who volunteered.
* Committee worksheets are about 80% complete. Dr Pallante requests that these be completed as soon as possible.
* Committee worksheets will be uploaded to TEAMS and then posted on the Senate website.

This concluded the senate reports for this session.

**Old Business**

Dr Dawna Cerney, chair of the Academic Standards Committee, presented a recently revised policy entitled “Supporting Student Self-monitoring by Posting Grades in Blackboard LMS”. This policy was presented on 2/5/25 and was tabled for this session.

* Feedback was received from the previous proposal and minor, but significant changes were made. This information was used to modify the policy.
* Questions and discussion ensued.
* Concerns were raised about the ability to synch grades through blackboard from other sources such as Pearson MyLab where some faculty keep their grades stored.
* Some faculty voiced concerns on the time needed to manually insert grades from other sources if synching could not be done.
* Possible use of links within Blackboard LMS to outside sources where grades are kept was discussed in terms of looking at language changes.
* Students provided their perspective during the discussion. It seemed that students were more concerned about ensuring that they received their grades in a timely manner instead of where the grades were kept.
* Students reported that in some classes they do not have access to their grades, which raised a concern.
* A friendly amendment was suggested to change the title of the document to “Academic Standards Policy Proposal: Supporting Student Self-Monitoring by Posting of Grades in and through Blackboard LMS “.
* A motion was put forth for a vote on the policy with the friendly amendment to the policy title. A majority of the senate voted to approve the policy.

This concluded Old Business.

**New Business**

Dr Dawna Cerney, chair of the Academic Standards Committee introduced a revision to an existing policy entitled “Declaring or Changing a major/degree”:

* Students who meet the requirements for a bachelor's degree often find themselves continuing on with an associate's degree.
* A policy change is needed to differentiate between at-risk students and those who want to pursue a bachelor's degree.
* The policy change adding for the language “Students admitted with restrictions who are enrolled in associate degree programs”.
* Questions and discussion ensued following presentation of the proposed change.
* A friendly amendment was proposed to the language of the policy.
* A motion was made for a vote on accepting the policy with the friendly amendment.
* The policy passed with a majority of the senate voting in favor of the policy with the included friendly amendment.

Student Government President Jordan Pintar presented an informational session on exploring incorporating access to the New York Times to college students and faculty on campus.

* Jordan presented information on what access would entail, as well as statistics related to New York Times access across current universities.
* Please send any feedback to Jordan Pintar.

Jim Yukech and Rosalyn Donaldson presented an informational session on the Next Generation Classroom and cessation of email for retired faculty.

* The Academic Technologies Committee is seeking input to design the next generation of multimedia classrooms.
* We have between 2 to 5 years before we need to think about what the next classroom environment is going to be and some of the equipment within 5 years will be at the end-of-life cycle.
* The organization will need to upgrade or dispose of some equipment due to pandemic-related changes.
* The main goal is to review the current multimedia classroom.
* There are currently 128 Airtame rooms, 6 auditoriums, and 270 multimedia classrooms on campus (represents 53% of technology enabled media).
* The organization is seeking feedback on the next generation classroom and wants to focus more on classroom needs rather than technology.
* Looking to set-up a focus group to identify the needs. Please consider being a part of the group if you’d like to participate in the discussion.
* After July 1 retirees will have their ysu.edu email account discontinued (disabled not deleted). Alumni is part of this as well.
* Reasons for this were cited: 96% of malicious activity occurs through email.
* Most universities already adopt a similar policy in Ohio (13 of 14).
* Questions were taken at the end.

This concluded new business. Dr Chet Cooper adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by:

Edmund Ickert

Secretary, Academic Senate