

Fall General Faculty Virtual Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2020

Approved on April 30, 2021

- I. Call Meeting to Order and Welcome, Dr. David Jenks
Dr. Jenks opened the General Faculty meeting at 9:00 a.m. before soliciting approval of the minutes from the spring 2020 General Faculty Meeting held on April 24, 2020.
- II. General Faculty Business Session, Dr. Angela Insenga, Faculty Senate Chair
Dr. Insenga welcomed everyone to the Fall 2020 meeting and stated that this was an important year for the Faculty Senate. She stated that all Senators elected would remain in their seats for the 2020-2021 Academic Year. In November, Faculty Senate will take a correct census to ensure that the number of senators allotted to each college and school equals ten percent of their full-time faculty. This process should be complete by January. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, and each committee has been charged with their yearly duties.
- III. A-Day for West Georgia, Dr. Stacy Boyd and Melanie McLean
A-Day donations are incredibly important to our students and have a lasting impact. Our students need our support and our engagement, especially during this most critical time. Visit [their website](#) and follow their social media pages to learn more about this program, read Student Impact Stories, and find out how you can support this 38-year tradition by donating and/or volunteering your time.
- IV. President's Welcome & Address to the Faculty, Dr. Brendan Kelly
 - Dr. Kelly stated that while the last four months have presented unique challenges, he is hopeful for the future. We have a challenging set of circumstances that we have to emerge from and we will continue to work through a fluid, uncertain period.
 - He will be visiting all functional units on campus this semester.
 - Our success is rooted in our outcomes, and he sees those as threefold: diversity, inclusion, and equity. While Dr. Kelly believes that our instruction and curriculum should reflect the diversity of our students and our lived experiences, inclusion is a fundamental component of the student experience and critical to our success as a university. Equity falls in the realm of the President, who ensures equitable outcomes. We need to be willing to change and experiment so we can see what works and what doesn't.
- V. Interim-Provost's Welcome & Address to the Faculty, Dr. David Jenks
 - Dr. Jenks thanked everyone for all of their hard work during the challenges that we have been facing, especially Dr. Angela Insenga who organized and facilitated three Senate Forums this summer. Recordings of these meetings are available upon request.

- Thanks to Dr. Jill Drake who has done an amazing job leading the reopening team, as has Dale Driver, Mark Reeves, and Brendan Bowen.
- There has been a lot of talk within Academic Affairs about Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity, specifically about how to diversify our curriculum. Dr. Stacy Boyd is leading that charge in the University College. Hopefully this will come in the revised Core Curriculum.
- 2020 has been quite a year for UWG, and we had a number of successes. Over the last two years, we have focused on retention, and he highlighted the work done by Student Affairs, ITS, Enrollment Management, and Auxiliary Services. Amanda Thomas's work on assessment, especially in the area of student engagement, has been incredibly important and eye-opening.
- This summer our retention rate took a huge jump from 67.75% ten weeks ago to 73.89% now, and this is because of Carrie Ziglar's work within the Center for Academic Success. We owe her a huge debt of gratitude, and this is definitely something we can build upon. By linking our students' advising experience with faculty mentorship, we consistently see a direct connection to academic success. This is something we can continue to grow across colleges.
- Momentum Year: Dr. David Newton is leading the team. They met at a summit in late February and have come up with a plan that will centralize advising, and create a Momentum Center in the building that formerly housed the Health Center. This center will eventually house Career Services, Financial Aid, and the Advising Center, among other entities, in an effort to help students get the information they need in one place.
- Research and Sponsored Projects: Last year was our second highest year in funded grants, and the ORSP did a phenomenal job last year. He is hopeful that this will continue, and he encouraged everyone to reach out to the ORSP.
- There are two new colleges on campus: Dr. Meg Pearson is serving as Dean of the University College and Dr. Pauline Gagnon is serving as Dean of the College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry. He expressed his gratitude for all of their hard work.
- Dr. Jenks recognized the exceptional work of many people and entities on campus. Dr. Andy Walter with the program in Interdisciplinary Studies, our fastest growing major on campus, Janet Gubbins and her work with the library program for online students, and the Center for Teaching and Learning, who have all done a fantastic job with our transition to dual modality. He also recognized the College of Education and the Tanner Health Systems School of Nursing, who have both experienced significant growth in graduates and enrollment. The Honors College continues to do a phenomenal job integrating undergraduate research into LEAP and Momentum Year. eCampus and eMajor have an excellent team in place.
- General Education reform is still moving forward, and Ms. Amanda Thomas and Dr. Angela Insenga have done great things with GEAC. Fall 2023 is still our target date.
- Thank you to Dr. Toby Ziglar who is now serving as the Dean of the Graduate School, as

well as the Academic Affairs leadership team—Drs. David Newton, Jill Drake, and Denise Overfield—with their hard work with the IEA. Thanks also to Dr. Cathi Jenks and her work with SACS and moving us away from the recommendations made.

VI. Provost Search Update, Annemarie Eades and Dr. Laura Smith

Twenty out of 114 candidates were recommended by Myers McRae, and those twenty aligned with the search committee’s qualification and experience criteria. Interviews will take place in September, and campus visits will begin September 28. Please keep an eye out for a survey which will ask for faculty input. The result of this survey will be used during the campus interview selection.

VII. Virtual Roundtable Discussion Sessions, beginning at 10:30 am.

Before the meeting adjourned, Dr. David Newton explained the format for the virtual roundtable discussion sessions (see [Figure 1](#)) and reminded faculty to please vote to approve the 2020 spring General Faculty Minutes by noon, Wednesday, August 12.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Respectfully Submitted by Dr. Colleen Vasconcellos

Professor of History and Executive Secretary of the Faculty Senate and General Faculty

Figure 1: Fall 2020 General Faculty Meeting Virtual Roundtable Sessions

Virtual Roundtable Sessions below will be offered three times following the schedule below:

- Session I, 10:30 – 10:55 am
- Session II, 11:00 – 11:25 am
- Session III, 11:30 – 11:55 am

To access the virtual session, just click on the corresponding link below. Although not required, we invite you to complete the sign-in sheet for the session. This will allow the facilitators to follow up with handouts or other resources.

Can't decide which roundtable sessions to attend? Too many choices? Don't worry! These virtual sessions—along with some additional sessions designed to support faculty as teachers, scholars, and colleagues—will be offered over the following weeks, so please look for upcoming announcements about virtual roundtable sessions to support your professional work.

| # | Roundtable Session Title and Description | Virtual Meeting Link & Facilitators |
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| 1. | <p>Engaging & Supporting Your Students Online: Tips & Tools to Make Life Easier</p> <p>Especially during these challenging times, how might you best engage and support your students, while also saving yourself time and heartache in the long run? Strategies, tools, services, and shortcuts—within CourseDen but also externally—will be discussed in this fast-paced roundtable.</p> | <p>Janet Gubbins & C. Jason Milam meet.google.com/isa-sxwg-mke</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 2. | <p>Online Teaching with CourseDen</p> <p>CourseDen offers a variety of tools and features that can help you design and deliver engaging materials and activities in the online environment. Join this roundtable discussion to learn more about online teaching with CourseDen.</p> | <p>Mandi Campbell & Rolanda Farmer meet.google.com/aeu-cnar-xsu</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 3. | <p>Accessible Course Materials and Concourse</p> <p>Learn the importance of making your course accessible and how to make course materials, including documents and videos, ADA-compliant. Additionally, find out how Concourse, the new syllabus management platform adopted by UWG, ensures that the most important document in your course is also accessible.</p> | <p>Stephanie Hollenbeck & Whitney Brand meet.google.com/chy-dmia-tha</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |

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| 4. | <p>How Can the CTL Support Your Teaching?</p> <p>The Center for Teaching & Learning is always interested in learning how we can support your teaching and your students' learning. Join this discussion to provide input and learn about our range of resources and upcoming workshops.</p> | <p>Rod McRae meet.google.com/tjd-mefc-auw</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 5. | <p>Make Online Teaching More Fun with Video Quizzes, Effective Discussions, and Group Work that Works</p> <p>Are you trying to figure out how to engage your students online? Help them feel connected to you and their classmates? Make sure they're reading and understanding content? Come visit with Myrna Gantner and Laurie Kimbrel to learn how to create instructor-made videos with embedded quiz questions, use a protocol called "Save the Last Word for Me" to bring more substance to discussions, and design group work that encourages collaborative peer relationships while holding students accountable for their work.</p> | <p>Myrna Gantner & Laurie Kimbrel meet.google.com/rsp-rnhp-fgi</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 6. | <p>High Anxiety: Supporting Students during the Pandemic</p> <p>Join Lisa Adams, Director of the UWG Counseling Center to learn more about how campus services this fall will support students' emotional and physical health.</p> | <p>Lisa Adams meet.google.com/rcx-hzjw-kpa</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 7. | <p>Online and Face-to-Face Exam Proctoring</p> <p>UWG Online and Academic Testing Services will share exam proctoring options currently available as well as alternative resources to exam proctoring for classes in the fall.</p> | <p>Carrie Melius & Meggie Miller meet.google.com/chw-cfze-zqp</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 8. | <p>Center for Diversity & Inclusion</p> <p>This roundtable discussion will provide informative guidance to faculty regarding campus resources and strategic tips for the promotion of diversity, equity, and inclusion. From curriculum and pedagogy in the classroom, to campus engagement, professional development (including promotion and tenure), and community relations, this discussion will attempt to answer everyone's questions (or at least identify the campus personnel who can!).</p> | <p>Michael Hester meet.google.com/ntt-sxbq-tkf</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 9. | <p>Responsible Sexuality Committee</p> <p>Meet with representatives from the Responsible Sexuality Committee to learn about the committee's mission, vision, and 2020 program plans, including how faculty can get involved</p> | <p>Lo Denmon meet.google.com/vcs-yhme-ddr</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |

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| | and promote student health and wellness through engagement in upcoming RX programs. | |
| 10. | <p>Inclusive Teaching: Highlights from the Gardner Institute's Mini-Course</p> <p>Thirty UWG faculty participated in a national summer mini-course on implementing inclusive teaching practices in college courses. Join this session to learn how you can get involved in this campus-wide project and discover some specific ways to incorporate inclusive practices into your courses.</p> | <p>Ryan Bronkema & Amanda Shoemake</p> <p>meet.google.com/unc-phvd-gpo</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
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| 12. | <p>AAUP: Shared Governance at UWG</p> <p>Come discuss how our AAUP chapter can continue to best facilitate shared governance in this time of crisis.</p> | <p>Emily Hunt</p> <p>meet.google.com/tsj-mpwe-aov</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 13. | <p>Ingram Library Services and Resources in Fall 2020</p> <p>In this session, UWG librarians will detail the services and resources we have for students in the fall semester. We will talk about how we will be providing access to technology and resources. We will explain how you and your students can request and receive books from the library as well as options students have for getting assistance. We will also share new online tools we have developed for use in your classes, including LibraryDen and Library DIY.</p> | <p>Anne Barnhart & Craig Schroer</p> <p>meet.google.com/iza-rzos-rxb</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 14. | <p>Center for Academic Success: Meeting Student Success Needs in the Virtual World</p> <p>This session will help faculty learn how CAS can support students through coaching, tutoring, and supplemental instruction in both in-person and virtual formats. Learn how you can utilize CAS staff and resources to support students in your classes and how to submit an alert if a student is experiencing academic challenges.</p> | <p>Emily Richardson and Shelby Scott</p> <p>meet.google.com/eke-yxoi-hnn</p> <p>Sign-in Sheet</p> |
| 15. | <p>University Advising: Keeping Students Safe and Engaged in Learning</p> | <p>Carrie Ziglar, Beth Freeman, and Billy Etheredge</p> <p>meet.google.com/bht-wjyn-zrt</p> |

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