



MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Faculty Senate
FROM: Dr. Brendan B. Kelly, President
RE: President's Response to Senate Actions
DATE: January 25, 2021

Following is my response to the actions of the Faculty Senate as represented in the minutes of the meeting of October 16, 2020, which were approved at the Faculty Senate meeting on November 13, 2020. All program approvals are made contingent upon the department's commitment to staff the changes out of existing internal funds. Note that Section 3.6.2 of the Board of Regents *Policy Manual* states, *inter alia*: "The termination of educational programs, degrees, or majors shall be submitted to the Chancellor for review and recommendation for action by the Board of Regents." So, all program, degree, and major terminations (as well as additions) need to be approved by the Board. Our requests should include the rationale and the plan for addressing the needs of existing students.

Committee Reports:

Committee I: Undergraduate Programs Committee (Rosemary Kellison, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry
 - 1) Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology
 - a) ANTH 4190 Modern Shamanism
Request: Add

Item approved with 49 in favor and 2 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

- 2) Department of Mathematics, Sciences, and Technology
 - a) ASTR 3133 Observational Astronomy
Request: Add
 - b) ASTR 3683 Astronomy Research
Request: Add

- c) ASTR 4103 Stellar Astrophysics
Request: Add
- d) ASTR 4433 Galaxies and Cosmology
Request: Add
- e) ASTR 4984 Introduction to Astrophysical Literature
Request: Add

Items a-e were taken as a block and were unanimously approved.

I accept these motions.

B) College of Education

- 1) Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education
 - a) NUTR 4300 Cultural Aspects of Food and Nutrition
Request: Add

Item approved with 41 in favor and 3 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

C) University College

- 1) Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service
 - a) SJUS 3000 Introduction to Social Justice
Request: Add
 - b) SJUS 3050 Politics of Social Justice
Request: Add
 - c) SJUS 4000 Social Justice Culture
Request: Add
 - d) SJUS 4050 Law and Social Justice
Request: Add
 - e) SJUS 4800 Social Justice Policy Analysis
Request: Add

Items a-e were taken as a block and were approved with 42 in favor and 3 abstentions.

I accept these motions.

- f) Organizational Leadership, B.S.

Request: Modify

Item approved with 38 in favor and 4 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

Information Items:

- A) University College

- 1) Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service

- a) Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Request: Deactivate

This program is being deactivated due to low enrollment. Program curricula are duplicated within the BS degree program with the exception of the foreign language requirement. However, within the BS program, students have an option of taking up to six hours of foreign language, which allows for students to complete the same curriculum within the BS that they are able to within the BA.

I have no comment.

Committee II: Graduate Programs Committee (Connie Barbour, Chair)

Action Items:

- A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry

- 1) Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology

- a) ANTH 5190 - Modern Shamanism

Request: Add

Item approved with 40 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

- B) College of Education

- 1) Department of Communication Sciences and Professional Counseling
 - a) CEPD 9153 - Advanced Therapeutic Techniques in Counseling
Request: Add
Item approved with 41 in favor and 2 abstentions.
 - b) CEPD 9195 Special Topics in Doctoral Professional Counseling Studies
Request: Add
Item approved with 41 in favor and 2 abstentions.
 - c) Professional Counseling and Supervision, Ed.D.
Request: Modify
Item approved with 41 in favor and 2 abstentions.

I accept these motions.

Information Items:

- A) University College
 - 1) Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service
 - a) Criminology, M.A.
Request: Modify
Due to the success of Criminology's fully online BA degree, they have opted to modify the MA to fully online, which meets state workforce needs and expands UWG's efforts to serve traditional and non-traditional students.
 - b) Master of Public Administration (Face to Face Modality)
Request: Deactivate
The transition from in-person to online modality will meet the growing needs from potential students who are usually in-service employees in public or nonprofit organizations as well as create a vital environment for the program. Since Fall 2019, all courses in the program have been offered 100% online, which has helped the program grow faster. Since 90% of the students in the program work during the day, the program now deactivates the in-person modality permanently.

I have no comment.

Committee III: Academic Policies Committee (Emily McKendry-Smith, Chair)

Information Items:

A) DSST Exams

Military learners may now obtain credit for prior learning if they have taken the course equivalents for CHEM 3140 and/or CS 1020.

I have no comment.

B) UWG Student PLA Handbook

The Center for Adult Learners and Veterans developed this handbook in conjunction with the Registrar's Office as a means of centralizing all information on prior learning assessment in one place. It will be hosted on the CALV website.

I have no comment.

Committee IV: Faculty Development Committee (Mark Faucette, Chair)

Information Item:

A) Faculty Research Leave Policy

A faculty member contacted the FDC Chair regarding their concern over changes to the Faculty Research Leave Policy that limited leave to one faculty member per program per year. Chair Faucette confirmed with the Provost that there have been no changes to the Faculty Research Leave Policy.

I have no comment.

Committee X: Rules Committee (Angela Branyon, Chair)

Action Items:

A) UWG Policies and Procedures Manual

1) Article IV, Section 2.F

Request: Modify

Item approved with 41 in favor, 4 opposed, and 3 abstentions. Item will be brought to the General Faculty for a vote according to Article IV, Section 3 of the Policies and Procedures Manual. This vote will take place in mid-November 2020.

Recognizing the importance of shared governance and the importance of Faculty Senate as a representative voice of the faculty in shared governance, it is imperative that the Faculty Senate and any Faculty Senate subcommittee, including the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, consist of members of the faculty who are directly selected by the academic units at the University of West Georgia. Modifying the membership of the Faculty Senate or the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to include others who are selected by means outside of the academic units of UWG may dilute the direct, representative voice and work of the UWG faculty. Consequently, I do not accept this motion.

B) UWG Faculty Handbook,

1) Section 104.03 – 104.0301 Faculty Evaluation of Departmental Leadership

Request: Modify

After significant discussion, a friendly amendment was proposed to amend the term “department leadership” to “department chair or equivalent.” The vote to amend the language was approved with 41 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstentions. This revision is reflected in Figure 4 at the end of this document.

Following the approval of this friendly amendment, the proposal to modify Section 103.0301 in the Faculty Handbook was approved with 40 in favor, 2 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

C) UWG Academic Affairs Policies Index

1) UWG Procedure 2.4.4 Evaluation of Department Leaders

Request: Add

As this procedure is directly related to the proposed modifications to Section 103.0301 in the Faculty Handbook, the item was approved with the following friendly amendment: “department leadership” will hereby read “department chair or equivalent.” This revision is reflected in Figure 5 at the end of this document. The vote to approve the addition of UWG Procedure 2.4.4 to the Academic Affairs Policies Index was 40 in favor and 5 abstentions.

I accept this motion.

Committee XII: Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Committee (Rebecca Gault, Chair)

Action Item:

A) Fall Course Evaluations

Item approved with 47 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

I accept this motion.

Information Item:

A) SEI Evaluation Form

The Senate's Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Committee invites all faculty to review the existing Student Evaluation of Instruction instrument (last revised 2011) and submit feedback, comments, and suggestions with potential revisions to the instrument.

I have no comment.