Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting: March 15th, 2021 (12:30 PM – 1:45 PM)
Faculty Senate Meeting: March 22nd, 2020 (12:30 PM – 1:45 PM)

Agenda

Opening Remarks

1. Welcome – Humayun Zafar
   a. **Online Faculty Senate Meeting Expectations**
      i. Please complete the attendance survey (link in the chat window) if you are a senator or a guest.
      ii. Voting will be carried out electronically (link will be available in the chat window) and will be tracked. **Please only vote if you are a senator.** A non-senator voting will result in an immediate permanent ban from the faculty senate.
      iii. Use the "Raise your hand" feature in order to be recognized.
      iv. As we move forward with our senate meetings, the FSEC has heard from its members and agrees on the need to hold to correct parliamentary procedure. Motions will be preferred over discussion items so that we typically have action items on the floor. We would like to point out that there will be less time in our meetings used to announce our business items, so it will be more important than even to be familiar with all documents pertaining to our meeting.

      To further promote discussion, the president of the faculty senate will begin by calling for dissenting opinions. If there are no dissenting voices, we will be able to call for a vote directly and increase efficiency in our meetings.

New Business

1. Approval of minutes (February 8th, 2021 meeting)
2. Policy Revisions (https://policy.kennesaw.edu/)
   a. Travel Policy – Ryan McLemore and Sandy Cagliani
   b. Access to University Facilities Policy – Michael Fellows
   c. Advertising Policy – Alex McGee and Alice Wheelwright
   d. Alcohol and Other Drug Policy – Teresa Johnson and Zach Kerns
3. Graduation with Honors – Darina Lepadatu
4. Academic Freedom – James Gambrell and Sara Giordano
5. GRA motion – Heather Pincock
6. DLAC Revised membership – Margot Hedenstrom, Doug Moodie, and Melissa Driver
7. Virtual Faculty Senate Meetings – Darina Lepadatu
8. Elections
   a. Officers for FSEC – Secretary, Kennesaw and Marietta Campus reps, President Elect.

    b. Nominations for CAF: James Gambrell and Humayun Zafar

    c. Nomination(s) for PPC: Doug Moodie

Updates from the Provost and President

9. Dr. Kathy Schwaig
10. Dr. Pamela Whitten

Informational Items

11. Plus/minus grading proposal – Cristen Dutcher
    - The Plus/Minus Grading Committee reports that KSU faculty do not prefer the use of plus/minus grading according to the Faculty Grading Modality Survey of February 2021 (see below). Thus, our investigation into the use of plus/minus grading is complete and we recommend making no grading system changes at KSU. Additionally, Senator Dutcher withdraws her Motion on Plus/Minus Grading submitted to the Faculty Senate in September 2020. Thank you to all the Senators for their help in gathering data on plus/minus grading.

12. University Council Meeting – April 19th (1:00 PM – 2:00 PM)

Motion on Graduation with Honors

2020-2021 Undergraduate Catalog/ Graduation Polices and Procedures (current version)

"Degree Program Hours

Baccalaureate degrees consist of a minimum of 120 semester hours. Exceptions to the maximum degree length requirements have been made with the approval of the Board of Regents. A baccalaureate degree program requires at least 21 semester hours of upper-division courses in the major field to be completed at KSU, and at least 39 semester hours of upper division work overall are required for the degree.

Residency Requirements

Students must earn at least 25 percent of the credit hours required for a baccalaureate degree, which includes at least 21 hours of upper-division courses (Coles College of Business requires 33 hours), through instruction offered by Kennesaw State. Credit hours earned through instruction offered by KSU does not include coursework transferred from other institutions, prior learning assessments, credit by examination (e.g., CLEP, AP, IB), or credits earned through a consortium that did not originate from KSU (i.e., cross registration).

Graduation with Honors

An institutional grade point average of at least 3.5 is required for students to graduate cum laude, 3.7 to graduate magna cum laude and 3.9 to graduate summa cum laude from a baccalaureate program. Graduation with honors requires that students earn at least 60 semester credit hours in residence at Kennesaw State University for the bachelor's degree. Approved accelerated bachelor to masters courses will be included in the 60 earned semester hours required for honors.

To receive honors at graduation, "second degree" and Academic Renewal students must have at least **60 earned hours of credit at KSU** after the "second degree" or Academic Renewal status was granted. In addition, for honors, students who have repeated courses must have at least 60 earned hours of credit at KSU after the hours for the repeated courses have been excluded."

Proposed Change is to change the "Graduation with Honors" statement only.

"Graduation with Honors"

An institutional grade point average of at least 3.5 is required for students to graduate cum laude, 3.7 to graduate magna cum laude and 3.9 to graduate summa cum laude from a baccalaureate program. Graduation with honors requires that students earn at least 30 semester credit hours in residence at Kennesaw State University for the bachelor's degree. Double Owl courses will be included in the 30 earned semester hours required for honors.

To receive honors at graduation, "second degree" and Academic Renewal students must have at least 30 earned hours of credit at KSU after the "second degree" or Academic Renewal status

was granted. In addition, for honors, students who have repeated courses must have at least 30 earned hours of credit at KSU after the hours for the repeated courses have been excluded."

In an effort to protect the mission of the university and all stakeholders therein, this motion seeks to improve the language around academic freedom in KSU Faculty Handbook (2020-2021, 2.1).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following change to language be made in section 2.1 of the Kennesaw State Faculty Handbook regarding academic freedom (2020-2021, 2.1):

The principles of Academic Freedom and Instructional Responsibilities highlighted above require diligent processes in order to create the conditions in which faculty are free to pursue knowledge as they deem appropriate, and to protect the integrity of the faculty/student relationship. The practice of Academic Freedom ~~may~~ <u>must</u> include, but is not necessarily limited to, freedom from the following:

1. external and internal political pressure
2. undue interference in course content
3. retaliation or reprisal for expressing unpopular perspectives related to research, curriculum, pedagogy, and organizational procedures
4. undue interference in grading and assessment criteria

Whereas the Interim Dean of College of Graduate and Professional Education (CGPE) recently communicated to Academic Deans a plan to change current and past budget priorities to "phase out" Graduate Research Assistant funding for MA and MS programs and existing PhD programs (with a phase out period from 2021-2024) and to redirect these funds to support GRAs for new and proposed PhD programs,

Whereas these budget priorities were established without consultation with or input gathered from key affected stakeholders, the Graduate Program Directors (who comprise the Graduate Council) in particular,

Whereas the College of Graduate and Professional Education has no publicly available bylaws on its website,

We, the Faculty Senate, resolve that:

1) The College of Graduate and Professional Education shall establish bylaws in accordance with KSU University Handbook Section 3.6 that detail the structure and role of each committee within the College. While the unique nature and structure of the CGPE will understandably mean that procedures may not work in standard ways, the University Handbook is clear, and a set of bylaws appropriate to the context must be established.

2) The Interim and/or permanent Dean of CGPE shall engage in regular two way communication with the Graduate Council (comprised of all KSU Graduate Program Directors) about budget priorities and policy decisions. While the final decision-making authority rests with the Dean at all times, two-way communication will help to ensure informed decision-making and smoother implementation of the Dean's priorities while fostering a collaborative and respectful working relationship with the Graduate Program Directors and Faculty charged with implementing these decisions.

TO:	FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FROM:	DISTANCE LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLAC)
DATE:	March 4, 2021
SUBJECT:	PROPOSAL FOR UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK REVISION

Digital Learning Innovations (DLI) moved from the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) to Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) in January 2021. With this move, DLAC shifted to serve as an advisory committee to CIA (on behalf of the Provost's Office) in addition to the Faculty Senate.

Anissa Vega requested that DLAC engage with DLI's Executive Committee (DLEC) to refine the mission and to reconsider a membership structure that combined both expertise and faculty representation such that recommendations made by the committee would be both research-informed and focused on the needs of faculty and students.

Under the current membership structure, DLAC has not made a formal recommendation since the closure of the Distance Learning Center. DLAC intends that by revising the membership, it will be better equipped to be a more active shared governance body in the future.

Margot Hedenstrom (DLAC Chair), Melissa Driver, Doug Moodie, and Anissa Vega would like to present this proposal at the FSEC March 15, 2021 meeting.

PROPOSAL TO FACULTY SENATE
UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK LANGUAGE REVISION
FOR THE
DISTANCE LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DLAC)

(Voted and approved by DLAC at February 23, 2021 Spring Meeting)

Digital Learning Advisory Committee - assigned to the Faculty Senate and advisory to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.

Purpose: This committee will recommend and advise on policy related to digital learning. The results of this work will be sent to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.
Membership:
   1. Voting Member
        - One elected teaching faculty representative from each degree-granting college
        - One appointed faculty representative with demonstrated expertise in digital learning from each degree-granting college (i.e. a Distance Learning Coordinator)
   2. Non-Voting Advisory Member
        - One representative from each of the following groups:
            i)   Chairs and Directors Assembly
            ii)   Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
            iii)   Digital Learning Innovations
            iv)   Library
            v)   Registrar
            vi)   University Information Technology Services
Meetings: Once per month during the academic year
Term: Elected members serve a 3-year term

UNIVERSITY HANDBOOK LANGUAGE REVISION

(Voted and approved by DLAC at February 23, 2021 Spring Meeting)

~~Distance~~ Digital Learning Advisory Committee - assigned to the Faculty Senate and advisory to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee. ~~Executive Director for the Center for Excellencein Teaching and Learning.~~

Purpose: This committee will recommend and advise on policy related to digital learning. ~~evaluate proposals and existing processes to improve distance and technology enhanced learning~~. The results of this work will be sent to the Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs designee.~~Executive Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)~~.

Membership:
3. Voting Member
   - One elected teaching faculty representative from each degree-granting college
   - One appointed faculty representative with demonstrated expertise in digital learning from each degree-granting college (i.e. a Distance Learning Coordinator)
4. Non-Voting Advisory Member
   - One representative from each of the following groups:
     - vii) Chairs and Directors Assembly
     - viii) Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
     - ix) Digital Learning Innovations
     - x) Library
     - xi) Registrar
     - xii) University Information Technology Services
5. ~~Representative from CETL Distance Learning Innovations (non-voting).~~

Meetings: ~~At least once per semester~~ Once per month during the academic year
Term: ~~2~~ Elected members serve a 3-year term

Digital Learning Advisory Committee
Draft Membership Roster

	College	Name of Committee Members		Elected Three-Year Term Expires (Spring)	
1	Bagwell College of Education				
2	Bagwell College of Education			**	
3	College of Architecture and Construction Management				
4	College of Architecture and Construction Management			**	
5	College of Computing and Software Engineering				
6	College of Computing and Software Engineering			**	
7	Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences				
8	Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences			**	
9	Coles College of Business				
10	Coles College of Business			**	
11	College of the Arts				
12	College of the Arts			**	
13	College of Science and Mathematics				
14	College of Science and Mathematics			**	
15	Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology				
16	Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering and Engineering Technology			**	
17	Wellstar College of Health and Human Services				
18	Wellstar College of Health and Human Services			**	
19	Digital Learning Innovations			Non-Voting	Advisory*
20	Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA)			Non-Voting	Advisory*
21	Chairs and Directors Assembly (CDA)			Non-Voting	Advisory*
22	Library Services			Non-Voting	Advisory*
23	Registrar's Office			Non-Voting	Advisory*
24	University Information Technology Services			Non-Voting	Advisory*
**Appointed faculty representative					
NOTE: Appointed faculty reps should be confirmed; Elected faculty reps. on initial staggered terms.					

Virtual Faculty Senate meetings for the academic year 2021-2022

Given that Faculty Senate meetings' attendance has increased to more than 100 participants since we went virtual, the difficulty to travel and find parking alternating between the Kennesaw and the Marietta campuses and the ease to conduct virtual votes, we propose the motion to maintain virtual FS meetings during the school year 2021-2022.