



ACADEMIC SENATE AGENDA

Wednesday, February 4, 2009, 4:00 P.M.
Room 132 DeBartolo Hall

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order.
2. Approval of [Minutes for December 2008 meeting](#).
3. Remarks from Board of Trustees Chairperson Scott Schulick.
4. Remarks from President Sweet.
5. Report from Sharon Stringer for the HLC Assessment Academy -- [Attachment 1](#).
6. Senate Executive Committee Report; report from the Chair; Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) report.
7. Report of the Charter and Bylaws Committee -- [Attachment 2](#).
8. Report of the Elections and Balloting Committee.

9. Reports from Other Senate Committees.

- A. Academic Standards Committee.**
- B. Academic Programs Committee.**
- C. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.**
- D. Academic Planning Committee.**
- E. General Education Committee.**
- F. Integrated Technologies Committee.**
- G. University Outreach Committee**
- H. Library Committee.**
- I. Academic Research Committee**
- J. Student Academic Affairs Committee.**
- K. Student Academic Grievance Committee**
- L. Honors Committee**
- M. Academic Events Committee.**

10. Unfinished Business.

11. New Business.

12. Adjournment.

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For further information, e-mail [Bob Hogue](#).

In February 2008, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site team recommended a focused visit on assessment in three years. We are being asked to address major aspects of university culture and programming, particularly related to general-education assessment. Participating in the Assessment Academy of HLC will replace the follow-up focus visit mandated for 2010–2011, provided that we make sufficient progress.

Our participation aligns with YSU's comprehensive strategic planning process. This initiative also enables us to work with colleagues at related universities and to collaborate with mentors who have been through such processes. Below are the eight members of YSU's Assessment Academy Team:

- Cynthia Anderson, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Cheryl Bosley, Coordinator of Academic Advising, Associate Professor of Nursing
- Bege Bowers, Associate Provost
- Chet Cooper, Professor of Biological Sciences & Chair, Academic Senate
- Michael Crist, Chair and Professor, Dana School of Music
- Shearle Furnish, Dean of College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
- Julia Gergits, Coordinator of General Education & Professor of English
- Sharon Stringer, Director of Assessment (Team Leader)

In November 2008, the team attended a three-day Roundtable Session hosted by HLC mentors/consultants in Lisle, Illinois. The workshop enabled YSU's team to develop ideas for starting two student learning projects:

1. Institute assessment of general education at all levels; institute changes to address longstanding issues, such as non-compliance with the general-education program; and undertake revisions of the program based on evidence.
2. Engage all campus constituencies in analyzing teaching and learning at YSU; actively encourage faculty, staff, and students to provide recommendations for improving education at YSU.

The Academy team will seek ongoing input from the campus to refine these projects so that we can define specific goals, recruit leaders who will help accomplish tasks, and describe the timeline for each project. YSU is required to post specific plans for each project on the electronic network of the HLC Academy by February 2009. Mentors and consultants from the HLC will provide ongoing feedback.

To start these projects, the following activities will begin during the spring semester of 2009:

- Pilot an e-portfolio system that includes students' papers, résumés, team projects, WEB 2.0 pages, and reports of co-curricular learning experiences (in areas such as leadership, diversity, communication, ethics).
- Invite faculty, staff, and students to participate in focus groups to discuss each of the General Education domains and to provide recommendations.
- Establish a Council on Teaching and Learning (CTL) in January 2009, chaired by Sherry Linkon. The CTL will foster collaboration among all of those involved in student learning at YSU -- faculty, advisors, admissions staff, and the staff of the various organizations that support student learning. Among the issues this group will consider is how best to evaluate and improve student learning on campus.

COVER SHEET TO BE ATTACHED TO ALL REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Date: **28 January 2009** Report Number (For Senate Use Only) _____

Name of Committee Submitting Report: **Charter and Bylaws**

Committee Status: **elected charter**

Names of Committee Members: Eleanor Congdon, Suzanne Giuffre, Tammy King, Keith Lepak (chair), Louise Pavia, Jamal Tartir

Please write a brief summary of the report the Committee is submitting to the Senate:

Charter and Bylaws members are undertaking a review of Senate committee (i.e., the principal twelve appointed chartered committees listed in the Bylaws) meeting and task responsibilities, with an eye to making possible recommendations on committee restructuring or other revisions. This review will include interviews with current committee chairs, and examination of past committee reports. Charter and Bylaws members are also reviewing the existing language of the Senate Charter and Bylaws, with an eye to making possible recommendations to improve the logic, currency, and/or coherence of the documents. These reviews will be completed by the end of March 2009.

Do you anticipate making a formal motion relative to the report? No, this is an informational report.

If so, state the motion: NA

If substantive changes in your committee recommendation are made from the floor, would the committee prefer that the matter be sent back to committee for further consideration? NA

Other relevant data: NA

Keith J. Lepak, Political Science
Chair