

*Youngstown State University—an urban research university—emphasizes a creative, integrated approach to education, scholarship, and service. The University places students at its center; leads in the discovery, dissemination, and application of knowledge; advances civic, scientific, and technological development; and fosters collaboration to enrich the region and the world.*

## **ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 4:00 P.M.

Room 132 · DeBartolo Hall

- 1. [4:00 PM] Call to Order/Certification of Quorum @ 4:03**
- 2. [4:04 PM] Agenda approved**
- 3. [4:05 PM] Minutes from September 5, 2018 meeting approved**– The minutes can be downloaded at the following URL:  
[http://academicssenate.yosu.edu/?page\\_id=61](http://academicssenate.yosu.edu/?page_id=61)
- 4. [4:04 PM] Senate Executive Committee Report** – Chet Cooper, Senate Chair
  - a. Committees who have not met should meet as soon as possible
- 5. [4:04 PM] Ohio Faculty Council Report** – Chet Cooper, Senate Chair- No Report
- 6. [4:06 PM] Charter and Bylaws Committee- Amy Flick, Chair**
  - a. Committee definitions as they appear in the bylaws will be submitted to committees for review.
- 7. [4:08 PM] Report of the Elections/Balloting Committee** (Ken Learman, Chair)
  - a. Chet Cooper has been elected chair; Carol Lamb has been elected vice chair
- 8. [4:30 PM] Reports from Other Senate Committees**
  - a. Academic Events Committee– No Report
  - b. Academic Programs Committee – No Report
  - c. Academic Research Committee – No Report
  - d. Academic Standards Committee– No Report
  - e. General Education Committee (Joe Palardy, Chair) – No Report
  - f. Honors Committee – No Report
  - g. Library Committee – No Report
  - h. Professional Conduct Committee– No Report
  - i. Student Academic Affairs Committee – No Report
  - j. Student Academic Grievance Committee– No Report
  - k. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee– No Report
  - l. Program Review (Amy Flick, Chair)- No Report
  - m. Technologies Committee - No Report

**9. [4:31 PM] Unfinished Business**

**10. New Business**

a. Re-envisioning General Education Working Group – **Betty Jo Licata**

- Committee has been asked to explore new/revised General Education goals based on national research and models that are consistent with the Ohio Transfer Module, and develop a new General Education model that reflects national trends and best practices and is consistent with Youngstown State University's mission and strategic priorities
- Committee is comprised of 12 faculty members representing all of the colleges along and Dean Licata
- Website will be created to gather input
- There will be monthly updates from the committee to the Senate

b. Textbooks and the Bookstore- **Eddie Howard**

- 68% of students did not have course materials on the first day of school
  - 66% wanted to check whether the book is needed
  - 26% say professors don't use text
  - 20% cannot afford the cost
  - 17% wanted to gauge the class to see if they will keep or drop class
  - 15% of faculty did not have list
- Mr. Howard wanted to engage discussion regarding reducing cost
- Current processes to help with affordability: First day ready program; price matching; used books
  - To aid in advancing the efficacy of these programs, it was encouraged that departments and chairs are communicating clearly about product utilization and that the decisions made are clearly and correctly communicated to the bookstore.
  - It was asked whether priced match only was for electronic copies. It applies to any mode, but electronic copies must be matched with electronic copies, rentals with rentals, etc. Also, price matching with Amazon must be Amazon, not a third-party retailer. It was encouraged that faculty interested in price matching look at texts on Barnes and Nobel website.
  - Interest was expressed in open resource materials. Barnes and Nobel has such materials and they will wrap an electronic version of the text into course materials and software (gradebook, analytics, etc.) for \$25 a piece. They are happy to help set this up or discuss this further.
  - It was asked what faculty can say about texts. We ask that faculty support the bookstore and have students use the bookstore. If students find alternative sales options, that is ok.

But faculty should not encourage alternative sales. Contractually, offering or encouraging alternative text sales option is not allowed.

- Further Clarification of this point was made after the meeting when the union inquired into the issue. Eddie Howard wrote: *"I was forwarded your email concerning the statement made at the last Academic senate meeting, and I felt that I needed to clarify a few point since the Bookstore reports to the Division of Student Experience and I asked Dr. Cooper to be on the agenda. Let me start by saying, the reason I asked for the meeting was to solicit help from the faculty and the clear up some misconceptions. Therefore, I asked the Bookstore manager, Heather White, to join me in a brief presentation about the First Day Ready Program and how we price match textbooks for students. It is clear in our contract with Barnes and Noble that **faculty are not prohibited** from recommending or saying anything that they want to students. The goal from the University's perspective is twofold: to provide the best educational resources opportunities to our students – this includes the resources themselves, the cost , to have a successful bookstore and to keep the promises made in the contract (so we will not contract with any other book sellers).. We have an arrangement with B&N whereby if a student finds a more cost efficient resource (cheaper book) elsewhere, B&N will price match it. So, there is nothing wrong with looking elsewhere for a better price because ultimately the student will benefit.*

*The discussion about faculty members making a recommendation to students only surfaced, when the question was raised by the Senate Chair, Dr. Chet Cooper. He asked me if I wanted the faculty to endorse the bookstore? Obviously, the answer to that question is yes, but my response to him was this, **"Faculty can do what they want, but my Grandmother always told me, if you can't say anything nice, just don't say anything at all"**. I'm not sure if someone took my statement out of context, but it was only made in jest. I did not consider nor intended for it to be a mandate to do anything. I only made the comment to lighten the atmosphere. It was my belief that everyone walked away from the meeting with the same impression.*

- c. AJ Summel announced that this year several thought leaders will be brought to campus. On October 17 Scott Howland, the former President of Tulane during Hurricane Katrina will be participating in a town hall. The event will be held at 2:30-4 in the College of Business

**11. [5:39PM] Adjournment**