

Meeting Summary
University Senate Meeting
November 9, 2017, 3:30 PM
Saxbe Auditorium, located in Drinko Hall.

1. Secretary's Report #361

Ben Givens, University Senate Secretary

The motion carries.

2. Electronic Attendance

Preeti Palvankar, Systems Developer, Office of Distance Education and eLearning

Electronic attendance will be taken before each senate meeting using a Carmen quiz. A code will be displayed when senators enter so that they can record their attendance via a Carmen page or the Canvas (Student) app. Electronic attendance will make establishing a quorum more accurate and easy.

3. General Education Review

Randy Smith, Vice Provost for Academic Programs

Faculty Fellows: Cathy Montalto, Larry Krissek, Andrew Martin

The current GE is thirty years old, and those who created it are no longer here. This new GE was created with new faculty input and aligns with the Mission/Vision Statement. The GE Review Coordinating Committee conducted over seventy listening sessions, and visited with over 800 faculty, staff, and students for input during spring 2017. Between SU17- AU17, the committee conducted weekly meetings, continued listening sessions, and reported to pertinent bodies and administrators.

An undergraduate education is comprised of general, major, and elective courses. The GE has grown while electives have fallen. The University wanted a cohesive, integrated program with clear learning objects that is integrated throughout a student's degree. Another new guiding principle is disciplinary breadth, and the implementation of thematic components as a way of integrating higher level learning.

The proposed structure will have three components: foundations, themes, and bookends. All students will take courses from the Citizenship theme, and then choose one of the following additional themes: Sustainability, Transformative Ideas, Health and Wellness, and Places and Spaces. Many current GE courses may be modified to fit a theme, and themes also offer the opportunity to develop new courses. The committee is hoping to submit a final report in December.

4. Proposal to Approve Changes to the University Faculty Rules

Kari Hoyt, Chair, Rules Committee

The changes to rules 3335-3-34 Schools, departments, divisions, and sections; 3335-5-45.2 Secretary of the University Senate; 3335-17-01 Administration members; and 3335-17-04 Apportionment of faculty members are editorial and align the rules with practice.

A discussion follows regarding if adding the John Glenn School of Public Affairs to rule 3335-17-01 increased the number of Administrative Senators by one.

The motion carries.

5. Proposal to Award Honorary Degrees

Jose Diaz, Chair, Honorary Degrees Committee

The Committee on Honorary Degrees proposed awarding Honorary Degrees to the following two individuals:

- a. Doctorate of Science honoris causa, to Atul Gawande
- b. Doctorate of Humane Letters honoris causa, to Carla D. Hayden

The motions carry.

6. Proposal to Change the Senate Meeting from January 18, 2018 to January 25, 2018

Ben Givens, Secretary, University Senate

The motion carries.

7. University Sesquicentennial

Nikia Reveal, Project Manager

In the year 2020, Ohio State University will celebrate its Sesquicentennial. In academic year 2019-2020, The Ohio State University will mark 150 years with a global celebration for all Buckeyes through rich programming and dynamic events, we will honor and explore our history, celebrate who we are today and envision and embrace our future as a national flagship public research university. We will honor and explore our history, celebrate who we are today, and envision and embrace our future. This will include several signature programs, as well as marquee programs, and college and unit programs. The signature programs will include a Sesquicentennial Academic Summit Series, Sesquicentennial History of Ohio State Open Course, Sesquicentennial Student Scholar Leadership Program, Sesquicentennial Signature Publication, Sesquicentennial Photographic History Book, Sesquicentennial Mini-Documentary Series, and Sesquicentennial Internship Program. Sesquicentennial weekend will be Thursday, March 19 – Sunday, March 22, 2020, and will be a grassroots celebration. The University community can start planning how to celebrate and ask the Sesquicentennial team how they can help.

8. Tax Exempt Textbooks Resolution

Mario Belfiglio, Chair, Undergraduate Student Caucus

The cost of textbooks in the United States has risen 945% since 1978, and these costs have certainly had an impact on students. A 2007 survey found that 85% of student delayed or avoiding purchasing textbooks even though half did so expecting that their grades would be negatively impacted. The Ohio State office of Student Financial Aid estimates textbooks and supplies are 5% of costs for undergraduate students. Consequently, textbook affordability is one major area where we as a university can work toward achieving the Access, Affordability and Excellence pillar in the strategic plan. Last year, USG

passed a similar textbook resolution advocating for professors to submit textbook orders before the Barnes & Noble ordering deadline. Additionally, the university as a whole has been making significant strides on textbook affordability. One such example is the Affordable Learning Exchange, whose goal is to help courses use more open source educational resources. Today's resolution aims to expand our past work on textbook affordability by advocating for a sale's tax exemption on postsecondary textbooks. There is currently a bill in the Ohio House, House Bill 337, which creates a sales tax exemption for college textbooks sold to students in postsecondary institutions. The Office of Student Financial Aid estimates that the average undergraduate students spends \$1,168 on textbooks and supplies each year. USG estimate that undergraduate students could be paying as much \$86.95 per student per year. Additionally, the average graduate students spends \$1,234 per student per year. Ohio State students spend around five and a half million dollars every year on textbook sales tax. The Ohio Faculty Council is working on having other university senates pass similar resolutions. USG hopes we can be a leader in this area by passing our resolution first. There is broad university support, including co- sponsorship from USG, CGS, IPC, and faculty senators.

The motion carries.

- 9. Old Business**
- 10. New Business**
- 11. Announcements**
- 12. Adjourn**