



Faculty Senate Newsletter

Synopsis of the April 23, 2015 Faculty Senate Meeting

Of Particular Importance to All University Faculty

Army ROTC Credits

Professor Cheryl Killion, vice chair of FSCUE, presented a *Faculty Senate Resolution to Amend the Faculty Senate Resolution of February 22, 2012 Regarding Credit for Army ROTC Credits (the "Resolution")*. In 2012, the Faculty Senate approved Army ROTC courses totaling 6 credit hours to be taught at CWRU. These were first- and second-year ROTC courses and the credits were to be recorded on the CWRU transcript for CWRU degree credit. The courses are offered under the Military Science rubric. At that time, CWRU was already accepting transfer credit for junior-level courses taught at JCU as MGMT T-200 (three credit hours each semester for a total of six). With the addition of the first- and second-year courses, the total number of CWRU credit-hours awarded for completion of Army ROTC classes increased from six to twelve and the Senate approved a resolution reflecting this increase.

FSCUE was proposing to accept six additional transfer credits for senior level Army ROTC courses offered at JCU and to post the junior and senior level transfer courses as MLSC 300-TR as opposed to MGMT T-200 (this had been anticipated under the documentation approved by the Senate in 2012 and therefore did not require any additional approvals). Credits received for ROTC courses are not used to satisfy any general education requirements and those that are being accepted as transfer credits don't impact the student's GPA. They will, however, be reflected on the transcript. The senior level courses are courses in leadership. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the Resolution with two abstentions.

Policy on Review and Evaluation of Doctoral Student Progress

Professor Elizabeth Tracy, chair of the Graduate Studies Committee, introduced the policy on Review and Evaluation of Doctoral Student Progress. The proposal had been referred to the Graduate Studies Committee by Professor Mano Singham, Director of UCITE. The policy has been under discussion for the last two years, and feedback was received from faculty and students. Prof. Mano Singham said that doctoral students aren't always aware of departmental expectations and they may not receive sufficient feedback until they are well into their programs. The new policy will require an annual review of doctoral student progress. The review has two purposes: i) to support mentoring of students by providing regular and timely feedback, and ii) to evaluate progress toward completion of the degree. Each doctoral program will be responsible for the development of its own annual review format and timing within minimum guidelines. The Office of Graduate Studies will monitor the review process by requesting information from schools by June 30th each year. The policy will be included in the Graduate Student Handbook. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the policy.

Human Research Protection Policy

Professor David Carney, chair of the Senate By-Laws Committee, presented a proposal for an expanded human research protection policy. The current policy is included in Chapter 3 of the Faculty Handbook. The expanded policy is required for the university's IRB to be accredited by the Association for Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP). Once the IRB is accredited, CWRU can join an Ohio consortium of accredited IRB's. The By-Laws Committee was charged by the Executive Committee in January with reviewing the language of the expanded policy. The By-Laws Committee determined that there were two main issues with the policy. First, while the language of the policy excluded student research or classroom simulations involving human subjects, excluded activities were not clearly defined. A change was made to the policy to address this issue. Secondly, the committee was concerned that the dean/department chair's required attestation in the policy could create an unfunded mandate because the dean/department chair is asked to attest that adequate resources are available before funding is secured. Sue Rivera, Vice President of Research, revised the language so that the dean/department chair is only required to affirm that the study proposed to be conducted in the department or school could be done responsibly by the study team using the resources described in the proposal. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the policy.

Faculty Handbook: Endowed Professorships

Prof. Carney presented revisions to the endowed professorship provision of the Faculty Handbook. The revisions had been made and approved by the Senate Committee on Faculty Personnel and approved by the By-Laws Committee as well. The proposal removed the requirement that a senior endowed professorship be awarded to a *tenured* faculty member. The Personnel Committee recognized that some senior endowed professorships at CWRU have been awarded to non-tenured faculty in the SOM as well as in other schools and had decided to draft language focused more on excellence than rank. Several members of the Senate Executive Committee expressed concern about the proposal but agreed to put it on the agenda for the Faculty Senate meeting. A senator said that there are several tenured associate professors with endowed professorships but the language of the current policy appears to preclude this possibility. When the policy was originally drafted there were fewer non-tenure track faculty, but today the landscape is very different. A senator suggested that the tenure requirement remain in the policy, and that language be included which permits tenured associate professors to receive the award. Language should be added allowing for exceptions to the tenure requirement upon recommendation of the Provost. A subsidiary motion was made and seconded to return this matter to the Senate Executive Committee for further review.

Passing of the Gavel

Prof. Savinell thanked all senators for their hard work and accomplishments during the year, and passed the gavel to Professor Roy Ritzmann who will serve as chair of the Senate during the 2015-2016 academic year. Professor Peter Harte, SOM, will serve as vice chair next year.

Other Items from the Meeting

More detailed information on the items below will be available in the minutes which will be posted on the Faculty Senate [website](#) once they have been approved.

International Affairs Strategic Plan

David Fleshler, Associate Provost for International Affairs, presented the final version of the Center for International Affairs Strategic Plan Phase II. The Senate voted to endorse the plan.

CAS– Origins Major

Professor Glenn Starkman presented the proposal for an Origins Major from the CAS. This is an interdisciplinary major in the Bachelor of Arts degree that is designed for students looking for a broader, more integrative scientific education, one less focused on a particular discipline. Interested students will include those intending to apply to professional programs such as medicine, law or journalism. The broad scientific base that this major provides will be valuable preparation for these careers as well as for careers in scientific research. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the major.

SOM– MPH/MS in Nutrition

Professor William Merrick, SOM, presented a proposal for an MPH/MS in Nutrition. The dual degree program is offered jointly by the departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Nutrition. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the dual degree program.

FSCUL: Report

Professor Kurt Koenigsberger, chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on University Libraries, reported on the committee's activities during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Faculty Compensation: Report

Professor Katy Mercer, chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty Compensation, reported on the activities of the committee during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Nominating Committee Report

Professor Martin Palomo, chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, presented the Senate standing committee memberships for the 2015-2016 academic year. The Faculty Senate voted to approve new members and members who agreed to serve a second term.

Chair's Report on 2014-2015 Senate Activities

Prof. Savinell gave a report summarizing the activities of the Faculty Senate during the year. Reports are provided to the CWRU Board of Trustees three times a year. The next report is in June and Prof. Roy Ritzmann will give the report as the new chair of the Senate.