

University of Nebraska at Kearney

## OpenSPACES@UNK: Scholarship, Preservation, and Creative Endeavors

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Faculty Senate Packets

Faculty Senate

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3-2-2023

### March 2023 Faculty Senate Packet

University of Nebraska at Kearney Faculty Senate

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7:00PM – March 2, 2023

Antelope Room, Nebraskan Student Union

Faculty Senate Website:

[http://www.unk.edu/committees/faculty\\_senate/index.php](http://www.unk.edu/committees/faculty_senate/index.php)

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes: **02February2023**
- V. Special Presentations
  - A. Chancellor Kristensen
  - B. George Holman
  - C. Renae Zimmer
  - D. Ad Hoc Committee for Climate Survey Response
- VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  - A. Oversight Committee:
  - B. Executive Committee: **13February2023**
  - C. President's Report:
  - D. Academic Affairs: **16February2023**
  - E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:
  - F. Academic Information and Technology Committee:
  - G. Artists and Lecturers Committee:
  - H. Athletic Committee:
  - I. UNK Online Committee: **14February2023**
  - J. Faculty Welfare Committee: **06February2023**
  - K. Grievance Committee:
  - L. Library Committee: **27January2023**
  - M. Professional Conduct:
  - N. Student Affairs:
- VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
  - A. Assessment and Experiential Learning Committee:
  - B. International Studies Advisory Council/World Affairs Conference Committee:
  - C. Parking:
  - D. Safety Committee:
- VIII. Reports from Academic Councils
  - A. Graduate Council:
  - B. General Studies Council:
  - C. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Council

- IX. Unfinished/Old Business
- X. New Business
  - A. Resolution in support of Appropriations for NU
  - B. Recommendation regarding Overload Policy
- XI. General Faculty Comments
- XII. Adjournment:



7:00PM – February 2, 2023

NSU Antelope Room

Faculty Senate Website:

[http://www.unk.edu/committees/faculty\\_senate/index.php](http://www.unk.edu/committees/faculty_senate/index.php)

- XIII. Call to order @ 7:00
- XIV. Roll Call –  
Absent: Bryce Abbey, Denys Van Renen, Chris Exstrom
- XV. Approval of Agenda  
Motion to approve: First – Hoehner; Second - Borden
- XVI. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes: **01December2022**  
Motion to approve: First – Hobbs; Second – Van Ingen; none opposed.
- XVII. Special Presentations
- XVIII. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  - A. Oversight Committee:
  - B. Executive Committee: **17January2023**
    - i. Question on old business: what was the discussion about the transparency of the strategic planning process? Moving forward, Administration has agreed to be more transparent. They will send us minutes from Strategic Planning Committee meetings to include in future packets.
  - C. President’s Report:
  - D. Academic Affairs: **26January2023**
    - i. Attendance policy back to drafting committee now; will get another draft to academic affairs. Finals week policy has been approved.
  - E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:
  - F. Academic Information and Technology Committee:
  - G. Artists and Lecturers Committee:
  - H. Athletic Committee:
  - I. UNK Online Committee: **10January2023**
  - J. Faculty Welfare Committee:
  - K. Grievance Committee:
  - L. Library Committee: **18November2022, 2December2022**
  - M. Professional Conduct:
  - N. Student Affairs:
- XIX. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
  - A. Assessment and Experiential Learning Committee:
  - B. International Studies Advisory Council/World Affairs Conference Committee:
  - C. Parking:

- D. Safety Committee:
- XX. Reports from Academic Councils and Strategic Planning Committees
- A. Graduate Council:
- B. General Studies Council: **01December2022**  
 FS Executive committee tasked by Dr. Majocha to create committee to provide recommendations on how the GS council should work, what their strategic plan will be. We'll be creating an ad hoc committee to address those things; GS council will be doing the same thing. Part of the process will be to look at the GS Council structure at other institutions.  
 Question: It would be helpful to have more clarity on what we are being asked to do.  
 The GS Council has essentially factioned itself around colleges; voting in blocks. Can't pass anything without a vote from each college so essentially has veto power. Not productive & doesn't benefit students. Essentially creating a turf war among the colleges.  
 Shaffer – some of the problem is colleges have different visions.  
 McKelvey – part of the committee's purpose will be to create a shared vision, what GS should be as faculty of the university hopefully incorporating ideas from different colleges.  
 Let Derek know if you'd like to be on that committee.
- C. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leadership Council
- D. Strategic Planning Committees
- XXI. Unfinished/Old Business
- A. Resolution on Strategic Plan  
 Van Ingen – in the 4<sup>th</sup> “whereas”, you mention plan but leave out strategic. Add strategic in front of all plans to be consistent. Will need to add to 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> “whereas”.  
 Vote to approve with two “strategic” insertions.  
 Motion to approve: First- Van Ingen, Second- Chaffin; none opposed.
- XXII. New Business
- XXIII. General Faculty Comments
- Boeckner:
- We've asked in the past for a single link to a syllabi statement and been turned down. I've asked if we can get a plain text version so we don't have copy & paste formatting issues.
  - Student Activities Budget Council looking for volunteer at April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting at 2:00. Martonia is on the committee. Let Derek know if you'd like to be on this committee.
  - Will be sending out links from the beginning of the year on student health and wellness resources.
- A. AI and Academic Integrity – ChatGPT  
 Produces papers well, concern about academic integrity.  
 GPT Zero introduced as counter measure. Important to put in plain text before submitting.

Van Ingen - ChatGPT does not typically give citations. Can be added if asked for but typically not correct.

Chaffin – I gave an assignment using ChatGPT and was surprised by how many students had not heard of it.

Louishomme – Is university wide looking at and developing a response?

Gaskill – UNIZEN committee (part of the Big 10) has started looking into it.

Boeckner -asked program to do proofs. Does something that looks like a proof but it's wrong.

Borden – campus needs to take a serious look at academic honesty.

Chaffin - Opportunity for academia to look at ways to assess. Maybe what we used to think of as cheating is now being resourceful. Done things the same way for decade and decade. What are the expectations in the field vs. expectations in academic? Are students cheating? Or are our assessment methods archaic?

Agrawal: cost/benefit analysis. How much do we want to invest?

Saidi – this is a global issue. High-ranking universities on it. They find a solution and we can follow suit. I've replaced written papers with videos demonstrating skills. This could be a charge to new CTE to develop diverse methods of assessment?

Ludwig - some universities banning it, some utilizing it. Right now different approaches.

Louishomme – tasks executive committee to ask administration for solid information on how they have handled reports of academic dishonesty over the past 5 years.

Mollenkopf- a dozen years ago Teacher Ed. looked at this. Found there were consequences within a program but the student could then go to a different program.

Strain- can have X/F grade if students fail because of honesty; description provided by legend on transcript.

Van Ingen – Add something about chatGPT to syllabus statement.

#### General points:

- What constitutes academic dishonesty? Are there differences in different disciplines?
- How does campus administration response to and enforce academic dishonesty policy?
- How can we develop more innovative assessment methods and implement more experiential learning?
- Important students have clear understanding of academic dishonesty.
- Current academic dishonesty policy is vague. Need clear explanation of consequences.

#### Boeckner- 4 ways to attack issue:

1. CTE – training, methods. As part of committee doing CTE, McKelvey will take that back to committee. Ways to address and assess academic dishonesty and encourage honesty. Innovative teaching & assessment.
2. Student Affairs -look at academic honesty policy & consequences.

3. Cabinet- historical data on what has been done. Views of problem and consequences.
4. Student government – what would they do? Do they think academic dishonesty is a problem on campus?

XXIV. Adjournment 8:04 p.m.



## FS Executive Committee Meeting February 13, 2023 – 1:30 pm

### **Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

Derek Boeckner, President

Chris Exstrom, President Elect

Christina Sogar, Secretary (notetaker)

Martonia Gaskill, Past President

Alejandro Cahis, Representative

Dawn Mollenkopf, Parliamentarian

### **Old Business**

- Academic Integrity and AI
  - ChatGPT panel Friday, 2/24, at 2 p.m.
  - Derek developed 4 prong attack to concerns voiced at 2/2/23 FS meeting. Regarding academic dishonesty, several faculty members held the view that department can address dishonest actions but no ramifications beyond department at university or even college level.
  - Will need to address academic dishonesty and response with Cabinet.
  - Interest in having campus-wide academic dishonesty survey to assess level of cheating on campus. Ensure policies on consequences are clear.
  - Policies on grade appeal, cheating, etc. Make sure they are available, clear, and consistent.
  - Give Student Affairs the charge to review academic dishonesty policies and bring findings and suggestions to FS. Execs can then share with Cabinet.
  - Issues – not feeling supported in disciplining dishonesty; relationship to overall faculty morale.
  - Is ChatGPT plagiarism? Not anyone else's work. Who are you stealing from?
  
- Executive Memorandum 16
  - EM16 – Responsible Use of University Computers and Information Systems.
  - Kristy Kounovsky-Shafer UNK Data Management Committee member.
  - EM 16 addresses intellectual property and how to handle personal devices.
  - Maybe bring Andrea Childress to future meeting so senators can ask questions?
  - Most likely majority of UNK will fall under low-risk category.
  - Mention at this week's cabinet.
  
- Committee updates regarding charges



- Oversight meeting soon; will review constitution changes.
- Calendar Committee – send out survey on J-term to students.
- Update on Legislature Bills
  - Most legislation aimed at education is aimed at K-12 for this year.
- General Studies – waiting on committee member recommendations; still deciding how to form committee. Report on vision of what General Studies should be and then decide where to go from there.

#### **New Business**

- Resolution for the Legislature regarding Appropriations
  - Draft developed – will send out to executive committee.
- Morale
  - Key issue in Climate Survey discussion.
- I Love NU Day
  - April 5<sup>th</sup>. Kearney loves NU day – April 3<sup>rd</sup>. More information to come.
- Topics for Discussion with Cabinet
  - AI<sup>2</sup> – Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence
  - DFW and Retention
    - More DFW's; but GPA up?
  - Initial updates on renovation projects and updates on new constructions
  - Other topics
    - Pratt-Heins: questions about structure of committee. The committee is composed of the 3 winners from the past 2 years plus 3 members nominated by Faculty Senate. Should department chairs be part of the committee? Are department chairs asked to recuse themselves? Chairs need to write letters of support. If spouse or letter writer, consensus is to recuse themselves. However, not written in policy.



UNK Administration & FS Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes

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February 16, 2023 – 10:00 – 11:20 a.m. Warner Hall Conference Room

**Members, UNK Administration**

Chancellor, Doug Kristensen  
SVCAA Kristen Majocha (absent)  
VCBF Jon Watts  
VCEMM Kelly Bartling (absent)  
AVCSA George Holman  
SACEA John Falconer

**Members, FS Exec Committee**

Derek Boeckner, President  
Chris Exstrom, President Elect (recorder)  
Christina Sogar, Secretary (absent)  
Alejandro Cahis, Representative  
Dawn Mollenkopf, Parliamentarian  
Martonia Gaskill, Past President (absent)

**Discussion Items**

- Academic Integrity and Artificial Intelligence
  - ChatGPT and academic integrity discussion from Feb. 2 FS meeting was discussed
  - SVCAA collects reports on outcomes of all academic integrity violation cases but students are not tracked for multiple violations
  - At least one department has set up their own tracking system
  - All agreed that this is a very important issue
  - Plan to have CTE help develop best practices for engaging ChatGPT and circumvent cheating
- DFW and Retention
  - At the recent BOR meeting, the Provost expressed concern over DFW rates system-wide
  - There is concern here – DFW rate data are being compiled and examined by Student Success team
  - Discussed possible retention impact of UNK students taking key courses in their program outside UNK – there has been evidence that these outside courses do not always adequately prepare students for higher-level classes or professional programs. (e.g., UNK pre-nursing students taking Anatomy & Physiology at CCC)

- Initial Updates on renovation projects and updates on new constructions
  - Martin Hall – occupied since Jan. 13, dedication was last week
    - Finishing exterior touches this month, landscaping and concrete work will be completed when weather is nicer
  - New Housing Building – will open later in 2023, in next couple of months we should see the remainder of the structure set up
  - Calvin T. Ryan Library
    - Faculty and staff were relocated on Jan. 1, many thanks to people for their work in prepping and moving
    - Demolition is progressing quickly, Phase 1 constructions will finish in late summer or early fall
    - Phase 2 is fully designed, trades are being bid out, will begin as soon as Phase 1 is transitioned out
    - Finalizing furniture and technology plans for Summer 2024 building opening
  - Warner Hall – all faculty and staff are relocated to temporary spaces, demolition work is proceeding
  - Wrestling facility – construction completed in December, wrestling team is currently using the space
    - Working on finishing up graphics and furniture installation
  - Indoor Track resurfacing – working to finalize order for summer installation
  - Rural Health Building – program verification continues, starting through schematic design phase
    - Construction expected to start later this year
  - LB 384 and Task Force 309 Deferred maintenance projects – final schedules have not been fully determined but many will start this summer, admin will work with impacted building personnel before projects start
    - Copeland Hall – windows, roof, tuckpointing
    - Bruner Hall – windows and roof
    - College of Education – roof
    - Calvin T. Ryan – roof
    - Fine Arts Building – roof repair, breezeway replacement
    - Health & Sports Center – EIFS repair
  - Broke ground on the Regional Engagement Center
  - There have been delays in some current projects – budgets/timelines are being reviewed, consultant will be brought in
  
- EM 16
  - UNL FS President has notified ours that UNL is in talks with their legal team and has expressed numerous concerns – among them, intellectual property, privacy issues, use of personal devices
  - These have not been discussed in system admin councils
  - Information sessions held this week on campus

## Reports

### Chancellor Kristensen

- Currently, draft state budgets have 2-3% increase in NU funding
- Tuition rate will be up to the BOR
  - No tuition increase is a significant financial hit for us
  - May see a lot of 4-4 split votes from BOR this year
- We won't know any budget cut numbers until April
- President Carter concerned about Michigan State shooting
  - Our administration conducted a simulated shooter response exercise in January
- Rural Health Building operation fundraising in good shape
- Will visit Bruner Hall soon to view damage
  - No plans for a new science building within the next 5 years

### AVCSA Holman

- Admissions numbers look promising but cautious about yield in the fall
  - Applications up 6.6%, admissions up 12%, housing contracts down 10% compared to this time last year
- Admissions office is fully staffed, they are assessing tours and other recruiting activities
- Student Services Coalition Retention Plan
  - Bringing TargetX online – starting to compile regional recruiting/retention data
    - Students who live >200 miles from Kearney are performing as well academically as more local students
  - Goal is to get retention up to 80%
  - Summer Bridge Program being discussed – would include some math and English prep
    - Would like LNSK 103 to be part of General Studies program
- Student crisis numbers slightly up from last year
- Large grant proposal being prepared for Buffet Foundation
  - Center for Teaching Excellence is part of this
  - Career center is important
  - Advising reform (CTE to define advising best practices), looking to even advising loads
  - Staffing support
  - Faculty & admin representation on team includes Janet Erickson, Paul Twigg, David Arrendondo, Nita Unruh, Bree Dority

### SACEA Falconer

- While retention is at a 14-year low, this is happening nationwide
- Campus GPA is up – this usually correlates to subsequent retention change

### **President's Report for March 2, 2023**

Faculty Welfare Made recommendations regarding updates to the overload policy (1993). Particularly regarding item 2 which stated overloads were not allowed for on-campus courses.

#### **Recommendations**

##### **For Overload Policy:**

- Eliminate Item 2 as it is no longer relevant
- Add new item to address overloads for course releases for faculty in administrative roles:
  - *An individual who has a course release for administrative duties needs approval from the college dean and SVCAA, in coordination with the department chair, in order to take on an overload.*

##### **More Generally:**

- The current overload policy is interconnected with Faculty Workload Guidelines, College Addenda, and Reassigned Time policies.
- The committee recommends that the faculty workload policy be reassessed and updated.
- The committee recommends that individual colleges need to update addenda to Workload Guidelines. Example issues that were noticed include but are not limited to:
  - Updating names of departments
  - Rewriting Natural and Social Sciences + Fine Arts and Humanities into one Arts & Sciences policy

The Oversight committee continues to look at updates to the FS constitution. They're most recent meeting was Monday, Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.

The ad hoc general studies recommendation committee is almost finalized, a charge should go out later this week.

In the meeting with Will Aviles, Kristen Majocha, John Falconer, and Jon Watts regarding the RIF process, complaints were given and the process was discussed. It seems to have followed the FAC advisory document (as advised) and the CBA RIF process as required. About the FAC advisory document, I asked about administrative divisions being assessed and having access to those "APR-like" reports. All Academic Divisions do go through a review process periodically and many of the business divisions do. I was provided with the report that the Office of Equity and Compliance produced in March of 2022. I asked if similar reports were kept in the archives in the library and they weren't sure. I will keep on this as I think archiving the reports for the campus to see is important.

**Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee  
Minutes from Meeting  
Thursday, February 16, 2023  
Meeting held via Zoom**

**Present:** Debbie Bridges (CBT), Ralph Hanson (CAS), Julie Shaffer (CAS), Kate Heelan (COE), Bailey Koch (COE), Rachel Hammer (LIB), Chance Bell (FS), Joel Cardenas (AA), Lisa Neal (REG), Mark Ellis (AA)

**Absent:** Steve Hall (CBT), Olivia Koenig (Student Senate); Zoie Jacobsen (Student Senate)

**Guests:** Jordan McCoy; Marisa Dixon

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Bridges called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.

Bridges welcomed Committee members and requested a motion to approve the agenda. Shaffer (Hanson) moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Discussion moved to agenda items #182 - #187. Bridges noted that the subcommittee did not meet last week due to the limited scope of the agenda (plus the Committee just met the end of January). Bridges noted that the agenda items were all routine. Hanson (Koch) moved to approve agenda items #182 - #187. Motion carried.

Bridges provided an update on the Finals Week Policy and Attendance Policy (from January meeting). The Finals Week Policy has been submitted to SVCASA Majocha and expect to have her decision by end of the month. The Attendance Policy has been sent back to the ad-hoc FS committee for revision; still waiting to receive the revised language.

Discussion turned to the proposed change to Graduate Division Course policy in catalog. Bridges reminded the Committee that the proposal was sent out to campus and the College Ed Policy / Academic Affairs Committees for review and input. Bridges noted that the feedback received thus far indicated support for the proposal. Hanson (Bell) moved to approve the Graduate Division Course Policy. Motion carried.

Bridges presented the proposal to require midterm grade reports for every student in every class and asked Neal to outline the proposal. Neal discussed a possible midterm grade submission required of all faculty on campus. The Registrar's Office could only roll this out for full semester classes. The ultimate goal is that it would improve student success as students would see this grade in MyBlue and reach out for help. Bridges asked how this differs from Early Warning Referrals regarding whether or not students would heed the warning. Neal clarified this grade entry would be required. This would not impact the overall GPA for the students. Grade checks could then be run through the Registrar rather than faculty. The committee agrees it would be important to do this requirement in a timely manner each semester so students could drop a course and add courses that begin in the final weeks of the semester. The committee requested the language be changed to the end of the sixth week instead of the eighth so students have time to either improve their grades or drop a course. "Early term" or "Six week grade report" were suggested for language. Shaffer (Hanson) moved to take suggestions based upon today's discussion and send the updated proposal to campus for feedback. Motion carried.

Discussion turned to course syllabi and what the Committee wants to do regarding syllabi submitted through the CIM system. Bridges requested the Committee review the syllabus checklist and provide feedback; goal is to discuss at next meeting.

Bridges reminded the Committee that quick turnaround on approving the minutes is needed to meet Faculty Senate's submission deadline for the March packet– so please watch email and act on the minutes as soon as possible.

Hanson (Shaffer) moved adjournment. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Hanson, Secretary

Approved via email, February 20, 2023

#### 2022-2023 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Academic Affairs Subcommittee 2/8/2023

Academic Affairs Full Committee 2/16/2023

NUMBER, REQUEST, LEVEL, SPECIFIC REQUEST, DEGREE/COURSE, PROGRAM/COURSE, TITLE, DEPT, COL, REASON

#182, Create, Course, PHIL 125, Introduction to Ethics and Health Care, PHIL, CASC, With the increasing number of students coming to UNK in the Health Sciences and related fields concerned with physical well-being, there is both an increased need and an increased interest in the ethical formation of future health care practitioners. This introductory level ethics course will be tailored to the ethical issues they will face.

#183, Create, Course, PHIL 150, The Joy of Sales Resistance, PHIL, CASC, This course was previously one of the Portal courses (PHIL 188) that we taught under the previous General Studies Program. It was a very successful course, and we want to be able to continue to offer it under the new General Studies Program in the LOPER 6 (Humanities) category. The topic--distinguishing between human needs and wants--is relevant and practical for students, both personally and societally, as they face a future in which sustainability, individual responsibility and integrity, and the ability to make good judgments for living will all be necessary for the good life.

#184, Alter, Course, Number, General Studies Status, Catalog Description, PHIL 205, Social and Political Philosophy, PHIL, CASC, We currently have a course of the same name but numbered PHIL 305. However, because the course is somewhat cross-disciplinary (Philosophy and Politics) and would be of interest to a broader range of students than just Philosophy minors, we have revised it and renumbered it in order to include it as an option in the LOPER 6 (Humanities) category of General Studies; Change course number, Old Value: 305, New Value: 205; Change General Studies Status, Old Value: No, New Value: Yes; Change catalog description, Old Value: Study of the fundamental principles of political and social organization, and the concepts of community, justice, law and economy, New Value: This course will be a close study of the fundamental principles of political and social organization, focusing especially on the investigation of the concepts of community, justice, law, and economy.

#185, Alter, Course, Number, General Studies Status, Catalog Description, PHIL 209, Philosophy of Mind, PHIL, CASC, We currently have a course of the same name but numbered PHIL 309. However, because the course is somewhat cross-disciplinary (Philosophy and Psychology) and would be of interest to a broader range of students than just Philosophy minors, we have revised it and renumbered it in order to include it as an option in the LOPER 6 (Humanities) category of General Studies; Change course number, Old Value: 309, New Value: 209; Change General Studies Status, Old Value: No, New Value: Yes; Change catalog description, Old Value: Critical analysis of philosophical ideas of concepts such as perception, sensation, emotion, action and will, New Value: This course will be a critical analysis of the most prominent philosophical ideas of concepts such as thought, belief, perception, sensation, emotion, action and will.

#186, Alter, Course, Number, General Studies Status, Catalog Description, PHIL 214, Philosophy of Religion: Reason and Faith, PHIL, CASC, We currently have a course of the same name but numbered PHIL 314. However, because the course is somewhat cross-disciplinary (Philosophy and Religion) and would be of interest to a broader range of students than just Philosophy minors, we have revised it and renumbered it in order to include it as an option in the LOPER 6 (Humanities) category of General

Studies; Change course number, Old Value: 314, New Value: 214; Change General Studies Status, Old Value: No, New Value: Yes; Change catalog description, Old Value: Problems concerning religious language, the nature and existence of God, and the purpose and meaning of religious life, including criticism thereof, New Value: This course will raise and address problems concerning religious language, the nature and existence of God (or gods), and the purpose and meaning of living a religious life, including criticism thereof.

#187, Alter, Course, Number, General Studies Status, PHIL 261, Philosophy of Science, PHIL, CASC, We currently have a course of the same name but numbered PHIL 360. However, because the course is somewhat cross-disciplinary (Philosophy and Science) and would be of interest to a broader range of students than just Philosophy minors, we have revised it and renumbered it in order to include it as an option in the LOPER 6 (Humanities) category of General Studies; Change course number, Old Value: 360, New Value: 261; Change General Studies Status, Old Value: No, New Value: Yes.

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Transcript of approved Graduate Division Courses policy (catalog):

#### Graduate Division Courses

Graduate courses are numbered from 800 to 999. A senior student pursuing graduate coursework while completing an undergraduate degree is considered an undergraduate student. Seniors at an accredited institution who have obtained in advance the approval of the student's advisor, the instructor or department chair, and the Dean for Graduate Studies may receive up to 12 hours of credit for graduate courses taken at any campus of the University of Nebraska System in addition to the courses necessary to complete their undergraduate work, provided that such credits are earned within the 12 months prior to receipt of the baccalaureate. Graduate courses cannot be taken to complete the Bachelor's Degree requirements unless they have declared an accelerated graduate program.

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Transcript of Feedback on Undergraduate Catalog - Graduate Division Courses Policy proposal:

**CAS Ed Policy Committee:** CAS Ed Policy is concerned that the policy restricts seniors who are advanced and may want to take a graduate class as an undergraduate student and have it count towards their bachelor's degree requirements. It seems to us that allowing a student who has 117 credits say and wants to take a graduate class to fulfill the last three credits is a smart move rather than restricting this opportunity. If possible, we should encourage our excellent senior students to explore a graduate class if they want and have it count towards graduation with their BA/BS if they desire to do so. Doing so could encourage a student to pursue graduate school, whether at UNK, another campus in the NU system, or elsewhere. We acknowledge that there may be reasons for the restriction such as undergrads not being able to pay graduate tuition for a class that counts towards BA/BS requirements that preclude our suggestion, but we wanted to voice an option that we see as creating additional opportunities for our students.

**CBT Academic Affairs Committee:** Committee discussed the proposal at the February 7, 2023 meeting. Committee reported that minimal feedback had been received thus far; consensus of Committee is that little to indicate broad support or broad opposition to the proposed change.

#### **COE: Feedback received from individual departments**

**CSPFS:** Our department meeting was Wednesday. Faculty were supportive of the accelerated program and thought (especially in the Counseling program) it could enhance recruitment into their programs. The 400/800 issue is something that could probably use more clarification. I assumed this applied to those courses, but if it doesn't, the recruitment issue isn't fully supported.

**CDIS:** One faculty member asked: "Just to double check, this would not affect PI courses that have a 400 and an 800, number right? Because if it does, that would impact all our elective courses and



we'd have even more trouble filling up our summer classes ... then in that case, I would not be ok with it! :) " Otherwise, they indicated receiving emails from two faculty support this document.

**TE:** Has heard from two people. One communicated support. The other had concerns and indicated they have already expressed those concerns to Dean Ellis.

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## UNK Online Faculty Senate Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2023 @ 4:00PM

Zoom Meeting

Zoom Link: <https://unk.zoom.us/j/5184817804>

### Members present

- Ladan Ghazi Saidi, COE representative;
- Bobbi Jean Ludwig, Library representative
- Patrick Hargon, Student Aff. Rep Admin representative;
- Sandra Loughrin, CAS representative;
- Vijay Agrawal, FS representative

### Members absent

- Martonia Gaskill, Member of the Executive Committee, UNK Online Admin representative;
- Shannon Mulhearn, Graduate Representative;
- Robert Macy, College of Business;

#### 1. Welcome

There was no items to be discussed.

Members waited until 4:14 and decided to end the meeting.

Please send your items for our April Agenda.

#### 2. Next Meeting

Next Meeting will be during the Spring Break. We do not have a charge. Members who were present decided that our next meeting will be on April 10.

#### Other Business?

#### Next meeting –

Second Tuesday of the month at 4pm , April 10

## Faculty Senate Faculty Welfare Committee

Minutes from Monday, February 6, 2023

Remote meeting via Zoom 3:00 PM

**Present:** Dawn Mollenkopf, Rochelle Reeves, Megan Strain, Sherri Weitzl-Harms, Nita Unruh

**Absent:** Will Avilés

### Charge

- First, review the policy and determine which parts need to be updated and if any additional considerations need to be made as part of the policy,
- Draft updated policy language reflecting the findings of the policy review,
- And finally, approve the language as a committee and recommend it to the senate at large.

### Recommendations

#### **For Overload Policy:**

- Eliminate Item 2 as it is no longer relevant
- Add new item to address overloads for course releases for faculty in administrative roles:
  - *An individual who has a course release for administrative duties needs approval from the college dean and SVCAA, in coordination with the department chair, in order to take on an overload.*

#### **More Generally:**

- The current overload policy is interconnected with Faculty Workload Guidelines, College Addenda, and Reassigned Time policies.
- The committee recommends that the faculty workload policy be reassessed and updated.
- The committee recommends that individual colleges need to update addenda to Workload Guidelines. Example issues that were noticed include but are not limited to:
  - Updating names of departments
  - Rewriting Natural and Social Sciences + Fine Arts and Humanities into one Arts & Sciences policy
- Important to keep in consideration moving forward: any changes to workload policies will require the approval of UNKEA.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Megan Strain.

## FACULTY SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES

27 JANUARY 2023

PRESENT: Heather Meyer, Chair; Michelle Beissel Heath, Evan Boyd, Andrea Childress, Judy Henning, Noah Shackelford, Will Stoutamire

The meeting convened at 2:00pm.

#### Library Updates:

Phase I – Dean Boyd provided updates on the library renovation project. Library Staff spent the last four weeks preparing for Phase I. When the library opens tomorrow, January 28, all of the Lower Level will be open for student use. For awhile it wasn't known if there would be study spaces available once the book and government documents collections were relocated. However, both collections are now in their temporary locations and there is still ample room for students to study. Boyd shared architectural drawings of all three floors with Committee members and pointed out details of each floor.

Demolition is currently going on in the Mitchell Center. Originally, the new west entrance access ramp was planned to span the loading pit behind the library. However, the ground in that location isn't strong enough to support a ramp, so it was shifted a few feet further south and will enter the building at a point between the loading ramp and the current west entrance. The planned corridor for the new west entrance runs through the Mitchell Center. The ramp and corridor must be completed during Phase I because that will become the library's entrance when the east side of the building is closed for renovation during Phase II.

All of the First Floor will receive new flooring. There will be a large presentation room adjacent to the east entrance. Some areas outside the presentation room will be wired for TV access so that presentations can be broadcast outside the presentation room. Small meeting rooms and study rooms will also be wired for TV screens. Most of the Library Staff will be located in offices along the Main Floor's north wall. Two Staff will remain in the Lower Level, and two Staff will remain on the Second Floor.

There will be very little space change in the Communications side of the library building. The corridor through the department will shift south of its present location. Communications will also receive new restroom facilities.

Much of the Second Floor will remain the same as well. Learning Commons will have the same offices, but a new service desk will be installed directly above the Circulation Desk located on the First Floor. A gender-neutral restroom will be located next to the existing restrooms, and a mechanical room will be added to one corner of the LC space.

The University Archives storage space will double in size, and a workroom will be installed, as well as a reading room. The Archivists' offices will be relocated adjacent to each other. Book stacks will fill the center of the Second Floor's south side.

The Lower Level will have several small study rooms, and the Curriculum Collection will remain mostly the same. The new Lower Level Classroom will have space for 30 students around pod-based stations. The existing Curriculum Classroom will be repurposed as a computer lab. Another computer lab will be located further south, and will be set up with laptops, mobile tables, etc. to facilitate room flexibility based on the needs of the classes being held. The Government Documents Collection will be relocated to the open space in the middle of the Lower Level.

Phase I of the project will encompass the entire Second Floor and the west half of the Main Floor. On the Mitchell Center side, the first hallway is available, along with the radio station. The rest of Communications is being renovated now, and quite a bit of demolition has already taken place. Phase I is expected to be completed in August 2023.

Following the completion of Phase I, at the start of fall semester 2023 Library Staff will move over to the west side of the building. Staff whose permanent offices are completed will move into those offices. Other Staff locations are not determined yet for Phase II. Phase II is expected to take a year to complete.

It was observed that many students are not aware of what's going on in the library. Boyd responded that a notification should have been sent out this week in the students' email distribution list. Boyd will meet with the library's communications committee to distribute more information to the campus community. He is also meeting with Student Senate next week and will share this information with them. Right now, the east side of the library's Main Floor and the entire Lower Level are open for students to use. When Phase I is completed and Staff switch around, these areas will be closed off, and the Second Floor and west side of the Main Floor will be open to students.

Library Credit Hour Fee – Boyd reported he has submitted a proposal to increase the Library Credit Hour Fee by \$2.00, to a total of \$8.25/credit hour. This increase is being requested by all libraries in the NU System to keep up with inflation. Over \$7.5

million is spent annually on shared e-resources every year across the NU System, and the campus libraries have about one more year before some of their budgets go in the red. The UNK Library will also be re-evaluating its electronic resources in the face of rising costs.

Weeding project – Library Staff weeded 29.6% of the book collection in a month and a half; 70,000 books. Many of them were multiple editions of the same title. There were also a lot of extremely out of date books that were weeded out. Todd Jensen took photos during the weeding process and will soon be posting them to the library's web page. We should also be able to post the architectural plans soon.

Boyd stated that, instead of the drop ceiling that we have in the library now, the renovated spaces will expose the waffle vaulting to increase ceiling height. Furniture in public spaces will likely be replaced. What used to be the coffee shop is now being used for temporary staff offices. The plans show some open space that could be used as a coffee shop area, and options will be investigated.

Library Staff are doing budget checks and will continue with renovation activities in the next months. Boyd will soon be reaching out to Library Committee members about participating on a library strategic planning team.

Spring Semester meeting time – Meyer stated that this time slot seems to work for everyone, so we will keep this same time for the remainder of the semester.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen M. Lewis

Scribe

These minutes were approved via email on 02/03/2023. cml

## General Studies Council

February 2, 2023

3:30 PM, Chancellors Dining Room

(Temporarily designated as the Warner Conference Room during remodeling in Warner Hall)

Present: Joel Berrier, Joan Blauwkamp, Noelle Bohaty, Jeremy Dillon, Sherri Harms, Miechelle McKelvey, Tim Obermier, Rochelle Reeves, Rebecca Umland, Nita Unruh, Melissa Wuellner, Greg Brown, Mark Ellis, Lisa Neal, Jessie Bialas, Joel Cardenas, Beth Hinga, Tristan Larson

Guests: Dave Rozema, Tami Moore (on behalf of Toni Hill, non-voting), Kiphany Hof, Derek Boeckner, Suzanne Spencer, Sharon Campbell, Annette Moser-Lintz, John Gibbs, Emily Beaman

Absent: Toni Hill, Sri Seshadri, Amy Rundstrom

I.1. Approve agenda – Motion to approve the agenda was made by Unruh (McKelvey). Vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

I.2. Minutes – Minutes from the December 1, 2022 meeting were approved by email.

II.1. Special item – charge from Dr. Majocha to GS Council regarding Council composition and voting

Dr. Majocha gave background on the charge: The Council is one of the most important bodies on campus and critical for students. The Council is an advisory body to the SVCAA, so she is responsible for its health and functioning. From every level on campus, she has heard reports that the Council has problems functioning. The charge is intended to seek feedback on what the problems are and what solutions the Council recommends. She also plans to seek feedback from Faculty Senate.

The charge was provided in advance to the Council, and that document is attached in an Appendix.

In response to discussion and questions, Dr. Majocha modified the charge to extend the timeline for Council recommendations to the end of May 2023 (rather than the end of March). Dr. Majocha also expanded the ad hoc committee membership to five (from four) to include the Council member from the Library. She clarified that the ad

hoc committee may identify different problems or causes than the Council composition and voting rules, and she is open to other recommendations that are limited to changes to the governance document (i.e., not changes to the LOPERs GS Program structure or courses). She also noted that the governance document does not state a vision or mission for General Studies, which may be a source of the Council's problems in reaching consensus. Broader campus feedback will be sought before changes are implemented but not before the Council makes its recommendations to her in response to the charge.

Dr. Majocha closed by expressing appreciation for the work the Council does. General Studies is a contentious committee on every campus, but it needs to be functional.

Action: At the conclusion of the meeting, Director Brown called for volunteers to serve on the ad hoc committee from the three colleges. The membership of the ad hoc committee is as follows: Tristan Larson (student); Rochelle Reeves (Library); Miechelle McKelvey (COE); Tim Obermier (CBT); Melissa Wuellner (CAS).

## II.2. Special item – Health needs of UNK students for consideration as part of LOPR 126

Kiphany Hof from the Counseling Center presented information on the health needs of students. The need is so great that more focus should be put on wellness in courses. Referral to the Counseling Center is insufficient (there are wait lists). Emotional wellness (skills for coping with stress and anxiety) and social wellness (combating loneliness and social anxiety) are the greatest needs. Activities and workshops are offered but student attendance is a problem. She provided a link to a faculty guide from the JED Foundation that people can download: <https://jedfoundation.org/faculty-guide/>. She also indicated that she would provide a list of resources to Greg Brown to be subsequently shared with council members.

In response to questions, Hof indicated that she could see a full semester class devoted to wellness for first-year students. (LOPER 11 Wellness is currently optional in the GS Program). The Student Health Center currently sees more benefits to putting its resources into training and peer education than bringing speakers to campus. A mental health blurb for inclusion in course syllabi was also discussed.

## III.1. Old Business – Course proposals from Philosophy: PHIL 125, 150, 205, 209, 214, and 261

Background: At the December 1, 2022 meeting the Council voted to table these course proposals as the CAS Educational Policy Committee had requested some revisions to the syllabi. The Council unanimously approved sending out the proposals



for campus review at the November 3, 2022 meeting. No comments were posted on the General Studies for Faculty Canvas forum during the campus comment period.

Motion to give final approval to the six Philosophy classes for LOPER 6 (Humanities) was made by Blauwkamp (Berrier).

Obermier stated that Seshadri had expressed some concerns about PHIL 150. He preferred to delay approval of that course until Seshadri was present. Harms said she understood the concerns to be about the course contents perhaps disparaging departments or majors within CBT (such as Marketing). The course is entitled The Joy of Sales Resistance. Rozema (the course instructor) assured the Council that there is no such disparagement. The course is a philosophical examination of the distinction between human wants and needs.

Motion to consider PHIL 150 separately was made by Obermier (Harms).

Discussants noted that Seshadri voted to approve sending the course to campus at the earlier meeting, no concerns from CBT faculty were posted during the campus comment period, Seshadri had not communicated such concerns to the Director nor indicated that he would not be able to attend the meeting, and PHIL 150 had previously been offered as a General Studies course in the Portal category of the old program. Since Portals are being phased out, the request is to move it to the Humanities category instead. Harms and Obermier reiterated that, out of deference to their colleague, they would not vote to approve the course until Seshadri could be heard.

Vote on the motion to consider PHIL 150 separately was Yea (2), Nay (9). Motion failed.

Vote on the motion to give final approval to all six Philosophy courses was Yea (8), Nay (0), Abstain (3). Since the Yea vote majority did not include any votes from CBT, the motion also failed.

Motion to approve the other five Philosophy courses (125, 205, 209, 214, and 261) was made by Dillon (Berrier). Vote on the motion was Yea (10), Nay (0), Abstain (1). The motion carried.

Motion to table PHIL 150 until the March meeting was made by Harms (Obermier), but this motion was subsequently withdrawn.

Motion to give final approval to PHIL 150 for LOPER 6 was made by Berrier (Reeves). Vote on the motion was Yea (9), Nay (2), Abstain (0). Since the Yea vote majority did not include any votes from CBT, the motion failed.

Action: Dean Ellis stated that he would take the final disposition of PHIL 150 directly to Dr. Majocha for a decision, and the Council should move on to other business.

With the scheduled meeting time elapsed, the rest of the Council agenda was postponed until the March meeting. Discussion of the assessment plan and work on a process for students to nominate faculty for excellence in teaching General Studies awards were the postponed agenda items.

Adjournment: Obermier/Berrier moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned @ 4:58 pm. Next meeting: March 2, 2023 @ 3:30 pm- Chancellors Dining Room (Temporarily designated as the Warner Conference Room during remodeling in Warner Hall) or via Zoom

\*\*On Friday, February 3, 2023, Brown emailed the Council to let them know Dr. Majocha made the decision to approve PHIL 125, 150, 205, 209, 214, and 261 for inclusion in the LOPERs General Studies program as LOPER 6 (Humanities) classes.\*\*