

April 2005

Minutes April 4, 2005

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 4, 2005

1. Senator Spiggle officially called the regular meeting of the University Senate of April 4, 2005 to order at 4:05 p.m. in Room 7 of the Bishop Center.

2. Approval of Minutes

Senator Spiggle presented the minutes from the regular meeting of March 14, 2005 for review.

The minutes were approved without modification.

3. Report of the President

Provost Peter Nicholls delivered the Report of the President on behalf of President Austin. Provost Nicholls began with a brief description of his background to introduce himself and stated that his current priorities are to meet as many faculty, staff and students as possible; to set directions for the University's Academic Plan; to refine and enhance UConn's undergraduate programs and programs of scholarship and research; to reinforce the centrality of academic affairs; and to improve and refine procedural processes such as the hiring of senior faculty and the distribution of grant monies. Provost Nicholls entertained questions from the Senate.

4. Report of the Senate Executive Committee

(See Attachment #40)

Senator Zirakzadeh presented the Report of the Senate Executive Committee.

5. Senator Moiseff presented the Report of the Scholastic Standards Committee

(See Attachment #41)

The Scholastic Standards Committee presented a motion to revise the By-laws to permit Honors students to register for more than 17 credits (more than 19 credits for juniors and seniors) without requiring approval from their advisor and academic dean.

Rationale: Honors students often register for and enroll in more than 17 credits. This currently requires that the Honors students obtain signatures from their advisor and academic dean. This motion will simplify their registration by removing the need for them to obtain the signatures.

Motion: The Scholastic Standards Committee moves that Section II.B.4 of the Senate By-Laws be revised to read:

4. Credits Permitted in a Semester

A student will be considered a full-time student if he or she initially registers for and is enrolled for at least 12 credits at the end of the fourth week of the semester. Courses for which credit restrictions apply count for full credit for registration purposes, but may not be applicable toward the degree.

In all schools and colleges, except Engineering, Fine Arts, and Pharmacy, the maximum number of credits for which a student may register or be enrolled shall be 17, unless he or she is enrolled in credit-bearing courses in Basic Military Science, or has earned, in the last semester for which grades are available, a grade point average of at least 2.6, in which case the maximum credits shall be 18. In these schools, no entering freshman may register for or be enrolled in more than 17 credits unless he or she is enrolled in credit-bearing courses in Basic Military Science, and no student may register for or be enrolled in more than 18 credits.

In the Schools of Engineering, Fine Arts, and Pharmacy, a student may register for or be enrolled in *a maximum of 19 credits* unless he or she is a junior or senior and has earned a grade point average of at least 2.6 for the last semester for which grades are available, in which case the maximum number of credits shall be 21.

A student in the Honors Program, regardless of school or college, may register for or be enrolled in a maximum of 19 credits unless he or she is a junior or senior and has earned a grade point average of at least 3.0 for the last semester for which grades are available, in which case the maximum number of credits shall be 21.

Exceptions to the regulations on credits permitted in a semester may be made by the dean of the school in which the student is registered after the student has consulted with the advisor. Credits registered for or earned toward the degree by undergraduate students in independent study, variable, and special topics courses shall be limited to a maximum of six in any one semester. Permission to exceed this limit may be granted by the dean of the school or college in which the student is enrolled after the student has consulted with the advisor.

No student may earn more than seven credits in any six-week summer session.

Senator Anderson moved to table the motion. Senator Zirakzadeh seconded.

The motion to table the motion carried.

6. Senator Moiseff presented the draft of the “Interdepartmental Undergraduate Program Guidelines”.
(See Attachment #42)

At this time, the guidelines are being presented to the University Senate and the University Community. Scholastic Standards will bring these guidelines forward as a motion at the May 2, 2005 Senate meeting. Comments on the draft should be sent to Senator Moiseff.

7. Senator Kendall presented the following joint resolution from the Faculty Standard Committee and the Student Welfare Committee on student-to-faculty ratios.
(See Attachment #43)

Background: While the student enrollments at the University of Connecticut have increased significantly in recent years, the number of full-time faculty positions has not kept pace with enrollment. The recently reported student/faculty ratio exceeds 18 to 1 compared with 14 to 1 a decade earlier (US News and World Report, 2004 and 1995, respectively). The average student/faculty ratio at our current peer institutions is 15 to 1 (reported 2004).

Resolution:

WHEREAS, a sufficient number of faculty members is essential for:

- enhancing the vitality and the quality of the classroom experience;
- providing ample opportunities for out-of-classroom interaction, advising, and mentoring;
- improving four-year graduation rates for undergraduate students;
- retaining UConn's competitive edge among peer institutions;
- building a critical mass in areas of scholarship and research strategic to the University's academic plan;

BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate urges the Administration to make measurable and sustained efforts to increase the number of full-time faculty.

The resolution carried.

8. Senator Stwalley presented the Annual Report of the Growth & Development Committee.
(See Attachment #44)
 9. Senator Clausen presented the Annual Report of the University Budget Committee.
(See Attachment #45)
 10. Senator Fox presented the Annual Report of the Parking Advisory Committee.
(See Attachment #46)
- Senator Maresh, with the consent of the Senate, requested the Parking Advisory Committee address the problem of cars speeding in the parking garages.
11. Senator Jeffers presented the Report of the Curricula & Courses Committee.
(See Attachment #47)

For the information of the Senate, MATH 195Q from the March 2005 Curricula & Courses Report to the University Senate was approved for Fall 2005.

Senator Jeffers presented the following slate of courses:

- a. The committee recommends approval of the following new 100-level courses:
 - INTD 195: Special Topics:
Living in an Engineered World. Fall Semester. Three Credits. Three class periods. Open to non-engineering students. The purpose of this course is to provide non-engineering students insight into the technical world around them. College students today face a world that is rapidly changing and will change even more so during their lives. The course will concentrate on energy consumption and conversion into forms demanded by our standard of living. Specifically current and future technologies involved in the generation of electricity, transportation, and indoor air quality will be examined. In addition advances in communications and bio-engineering will be explored. The course will not deal with the

science behind the technologies except in the most elementary and broadest sense. There will be no attempt to make this a computer course. Students will not be required to use any mathematics above high school algebra.

The motion carried.

- b. For the information of the senate, the following 200s level courses have been approved for the following changes:

- INTD 298 SPECIAL TOPICS (Latinos in Higher Education and Mentoring) approved for Fall 2005

- c. The Curricula & Courses Committee moves that the University Senate approve the following courses for the new General Education Curriculum:

- A. Courses for consideration in Content Area 1 (Arts and Humanities):

CLCS 101 Classics of World Literature

- B. Courses for consideration in Content Area 2 (Social Sciences):

PP 101 Introduction to Public Policy

- C. Courses for consideration in Content Area 3 (Science and Technology):

LING 110 The Science of Linguistics

- D. Courses for consideration in Content Area 4 (Diversity & Multiculturalism):

1. MAY NOT be used to satisfy the “International” requirement:

AASI AH 215	Critical Health Issues of Asian Americans
ENGL 285	Women In Literature

2. MAY be used to satisfy the “International” requirement

AASI AH 216	Asian Medical Systems
CLCS 101	Classics of World Literature
ENGL 233	Early and Modern Irish Literature
ENGL 234	Contemporary Irish Literature

The motion carried.

- E. For the information of the Senate, courses for consideration in Writing Competency:

EEB 209W	Soil Degradation and Conservation
MATH 291W	Technical Writing for Actuaries
PSYC 242W	Laboratory in Social Psychology

- d. The Curricula & Courses Committee recommends the approval of the following motion to require GEOC approval before offering a General Education course for a duration of four weeks or less.

Background: Approval of courses for inclusion in the University General Education system requires consideration of both content and pedagogy. The latter is likely to be altered when courses are taught in intensive sessions of less than four weeks duration.

Motion: GEOC approval is required before offering a General Education course for a duration of four weeks or less.

The motion carried.

- e. The Curricula & Courses Committee recommends the approval of the following motion to modify the General Education Guidelines.

Background: The University is appointing directors for the new W and Q Centers. Their work will be closely involved with the GEOC and so they should be given appointments to that body. The Senate C&C Chair should also serve on GEOC to assure close coordination between the two committees. That appointment should be non-voting so that this individual only has a single vote on any particular issue. The Senate previously approved the inclusion of a graduate student representative on GEOC.

Motion: The General Education Guidelines be modified as follows (additional language is in bold type underlined)

General Education Requirements will be overseen by a General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC), a faculty group appointed by the Senate and representative of the Schools and Colleges. The Committee also will have an undergraduate **and a graduate** student representative. The GEOC shall be a subcommittee of the Senate Curricula and Courses Committee, **whose chair will serve as a non-voting member of GEOC. The Directors of the University W and Q Centers will also be given non-voting appointments to GEOC.** The GEOC will monitor the General Education curriculum. The creation of a Senate-appointed committee recognizes the policy control of the Senate in matters relating to undergraduate education. This Committee will work in association with the Office of Undergraduate Education and Instruction because this office has University-wide responsibility for the health of undergraduate education and the fiscal resources to address emerging issues. Financial support for the activity of the GEOC will come from the Office of the Provost.

The motion carried.

12. Senator Fox presented the Nominating Committee's slate of Standing Committee membership for 2005/2006 (for vote at the May meeting).

(See Attachment #48)

13. Old Business – None

14. New Business – None

Senator Mannheim's motion to adjourn was carried by a standing vote of the Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Chambers
Senate Secretary

The following members and alternates were absent from the April 4, 2005 meeting:

Anderson, Thomas	Flanery, Trudy	Myers, Kathryn
Aronson, Lorraine	Franklin, Brinley	Ndoye, Abdou
Austin, Philip	Gianutsos, Gerald	O'Donnell, James
Benson, Edward	Goldman, Jane	Olson, Derek
Blank, Helene	Greger, Janet	Porter-Benson, Susan
Breen, Margaret	Guillard, Karl	Rodin, Krista
Bushmich, Sandra	Herzberger, David	Roe, Shirley
Bull, Nancy	Hightower, Larry	Saddlemire, John
Cusack, Liz	Humphreys, Nancy	Saternow, Timothy
Dashefsky, Arnold	Jevitts, John	Schaefer, Carl
DeWolf, John	Kerntke, Michael	Smith, Erling
Evanovich, M. Dolan	Lillo-Martin, Diane	Thorson, Robert
Facchinetti, Neil	Macgill, Hugh	Tremmel, Michael
Faghri, Pouran	McCarthy, Robert	Von Hammerstein, Katharina
Faustman, Cameron	Muirhead, Deborah	Wagner, David
Flaherty-Goldsmith, Linda	Munroe, Donna	Yeagle, Philip