

STATUS REPORT ON MOTIONS PASSED DURING
THE 2015-16 SESSION OF THE FACULTY SENATE (XX)
February 20, 2017

1. Formed an ad-hoc committee to investigate alternatives to UNH semester system. (XX-M1)

Implemented, reported to the Senate during the spring semester.

2. Changed the online wording for Honors Convocation attendance. (Motion XX-M2)

The online wording was at variance with practice. The language was changed to "currently enrolled and matriculated students, or those who have graduate in the previous September and December terms." The September and December graduates were not included previously. Implemented.

3. Changes to the wording of questions 4, 6, and 10 to the UNH online evaluations of teaching because the questions, as asked, were not applicable to online courses. (XX-M3)

Previous questions were designed for traditional courses and concerned class preparation, class discussion, and availability outside of class. The changes altered the questions to address content, sharing of ideas, and availability by phone or electronic communication. Implemented.

4. Approved eTerm Calendar for AY '17. (XX-M4)

Implemented.

5. The Senate approved UCAPC as the approval body for courses that do not have a college level or department home (e.g., interdisciplinary courses). (XX-M5)

Implemented.

6. Due to the elimination of the University Central Budget Committee, the Senate voted to reinstate the committee. (XX-M6)

The University has established a new budget committee to replace the CBC. Initial meetings have taken place.

7. Delay to the decision on approving a policy on start-ups. (XX-M7)

Implemented. The University's policy revision proposal added changes for faculty management of start-ups, changes regarding equity in the start-up, and

conflicts of interest. The committee concluded that more time was needed due to a lack of specific goals as well as collective bargaining implications. Recommended gathering more information. Current status of information acquisition unknown.

8. Authorized the cancellation of classes on Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day and eliminated Fall Break Day. (XX-M8)

Implemented for one year. Academic Affairs is to monitor the impact.

9. Revised the Student Rights, Responsibilities Handbook, Sect 06.1.1, to clarify that PAT may be advisors. (XX-M9)

Implemented.

10. Established an ad hoc Committee on Teaching Evaluation Standards. (XX-M10)

Implemented.

11. Passed a motion to stop level funding of the Library Acquisitions Budget. The motion is in response to flat funding amidst rapidly increasing journal costs (nearly 4X the CPI). (XX-M11)

Implementation status unknown.

12. Approved full implementation of online student evaluations by Fall 2016. (XX-M12)

Implemented. The Senate will continue to analyze the distribution and means, compare them to past paper evaluations, and provide deans and department chairs with appropriate adjustments.

13. Passed a motion to extend the course add period by one week. (XX-M13)

Implemented without difficulty.

14. The Senate approved the establishment of permanent committees of the Senate. (XX-M14)

Implemented. The committees include Professional Standards, the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee (UCAPC), the Discovery Committee. The motion also allows the Senate to establish any other permanent committees by charter.

15. Senate passes motion to amend UCAPC charter to include all senate-eligible faculty to vote for committee members. The goal was to include CCLEAR faculty. (XX-M15)

Implemented

16. Approved a motion to allow creation of subcommittees of senate standing committees. (XX-16)

Implemented. The purpose of the motion is to allow the Agenda Committee to appoint a larger number of members to one or more standing committees in the expectation that these larger committees form sub-committees. Action will only be taken when there is an expectation of a large anticipated workload.

17. Approved a motion that requires that Agenda Committee members must be tenured. (XX-M17)

Implemented.

18. Passed a motion amend the constitution. The Agenda Committee may charge committees, act in summer. (XX-18)

Implemented.

19. Approved a motion to protect university lands. (XX-19)

In process, ongoing. This motion asks that UNH protect its farms and woodlands in Durham, Lee, and Madbury in perpetuity.

20. Approved a motion to add campus lactation rooms. (XX-20)

In process. There are two lactation rooms presently, both central to campus. They are located in the library and the MUB.

21. The Senate passed a motion to retain Discovery writing and quantitative reasoning skills. (XX-21)

No action necessary.

22. The Senate approved a motion to discontinue Discover Dialogue. (XX-22)

Implemented. The rationale was that the program was unknown to most and underutilized.

23. Approved a motion to leave Discovery categories unchanged. (XX-23)

Implemented. No action required.

24. Passed a motion on double counting of Discovery courses. (XX-24)

Implemented. This was a statement from the Senate that insures that a course listed as fulfilling a Discovery requirement does so regardless of whether it is used as a major requirement. Departments are able to set their own restrictions.

25. Approved a motion regarding oversight authority of the Discovery Committee. (XX-25)

This motion empowers the Discovery committee with limited powers to track and review Discovery courses and communicate with departments about standards. It also charges them to review the category descriptions. Implementation is through the Discovery Committee. The Committee should review the categories and track and review Discovery courses.

26. The Senate approved a motion to end the “decommissioning” of Discovery courses. (XX-26)

Implemented. The motion is designed to end the practice, largely in COLA, of forcing departments to yield a Discovery course to create a new one.

27. Passed a motion to encourage the even distribution of Discovery course seats.

The motion charges the faculty and administration with working together to ensure that no one course dominates the marketplace and that seats are equitably distributed. The motion also recommends a hard cap of 400 students across all sections of a single course. Status unknown.

28. Passed a motion for positive advocacy of Discovery. (XX-M28)

One of the biggest complaints about Discovery is that students are not aware of the rationale behind the courses; the Academic Affairs Committee suggested that a more concerted effort to promote Discovery as part of an outstanding education would benefit the university. The motion also stated that syllabi from courses taught within the Discover Program clear state what category and/or attribute the course fulfills. Enacted.

29. Approved a motion regarding transfer credit policy for two-year schools. (XX-29)

This motion allows students to count all of their (university level) courses within an Associate Degree program, some of which require more than 64 credits (the old

standard). The new policy is now the standard and it allows up to 72 hours to transfer.

30. Approved a motion to encourage the University Administration to actively support childcare. (XX-30)

In process. The motion requested that the university report back to the Senate by October 17, 2016.

31. The Senate passed a motion to suspend the revised RCM formula and reinstate the Central Budget Committee. (XX-31)

Partially implemented. The University continues to implement the new RCM formula, but has established a new budget committee to advise the Administration.

32. Passed a motion on dialogue between administration and faculty on budget actions. (XX-32)

This motion moved that the UNH Office of the Provost and the VP for Finance and Administration meet with the Faculty Senate Finance Committee no less than twice per semester to provide budgetary updates and other relevant information that may affect academic programs. Implemented.

33. Approved a motion to include student representatives on Standing Committees. (XX-33)

This motion invites the Undergraduate Student Senate and the Graduate Student Senate to annually appoint one student from each body as a non-voting representative to Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Campus Planning Committees of the Faculty Senate.

34. Approved a motion to raise the GPA for the Honors Program. (XX-34)

The motion raises the minimum GPA for University Honors Program students with University Honors from 3.4 to 3.5 for students entering in the Fall, 2017. Implemented.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel E. Innis, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate