

STATUS REPORT ON MOTIONS PASSED DURING THE 2014-15 SESSION
OF THE FACULTY SENATE (XIX)

Included the UNH School of Law as an academic unit, making it eligible to elect a faculty senator and have representation on the Professional Standards Committee (Motion XIX-M1)

Implemented.

Included the Department of Classics, Humanities, and Italian Studies as an academic unit and therefore eligible to elect representatives to the Faculty Senate (Motion XIX-M2)

Implemented.

Initiated a review of the Discovery Program; established and populated a review committee and provided guidelines for conducting the review (XIX-M3)

Review complete. The Senate's Academic Affairs Committee is studying the review.

Authorized the agenda committee to fill vacancies on the ad hoc Committee on Teaching Evaluation Form Implementation Committee (XIX-M4)

Vacancies filled.

Approved moving the common exam period, i.e., Tuesday and Thursday, 12:40 – 2 p.m. to Friday, 2:10 to 5 p.m., for Academic Years 2016 and 2017, while Hamilton-Smith Hall is under renovation (XIX-M5)

Implemented.

Approved a proposed revision of the University Honors Program (XIX-M6)

Revision is being implemented.

Approved moving the Thursday 7 to 9 p.m. common exam period to Tuesday, 6 to 9 p.m. or 7 to 10 p.m. (XIX-M7)

Implemented.

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

Implemented this fall on a one-year trial basis.

Approved, after discussion spread over two sessions, and a conversation with Jan Nisbet, Senior Vice Provost for Research, a policy assigning custody of data from research initiated by UNH for the purpose of institutional decision making to an UNH Academic Administrator assigned to perform such custodial duties (XIX-M9)

Senior Vice Provost for Research Jan Nisbet reports that this is now policy. She is checking to ensure that all associated processes are complete.

Approved the proposal establishing a Dual Major in Sustainability; the proposal was endorsed by the Faculty Senate's University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee (XIX-M10)

This major begins in the spring 2016 semester.

Approved continuing the use of the majority of the teaching/course evaluation questions currently utilized by the University for all UNH courses, but revising Question 4: "Was well prepared for class," Question 6: "Encouraged discussion or questions," and Question 10: "Was available to students outside of class" to make them appropriate for online courses (XIX-M11)

The Senate approved the revised questions for online courses last month. The revised questions will be included in this semester's evaluations of online courses.

Passed motions amending the Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws making CCLEAR faculty eligible to vote for faculty senators in their departments and eligible to be elected and serve in the Faculty Senate (XIX-M12 and XIX-M13)

This change to the Senate will be implemented next spring.

Approved a proposed revision to the Library collection maintenance policy (XIX-M14)

Dean Fulton reports the library has implemented this policy.

Endorsed the report and recommendation from the Joint Panel on Teaching and Learning (XIX-M15)

Victor Benassi, faculty director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning, is chairing the committee on the formation of a Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning. Committee discussions are ongoing. Committee members are working in two sub-groups that are focused on: issues internal to UNH and external (outreach) issues, with report due in spring 2016.

Approved a motion to add statements to the Faculty Advising Handbook clarifying the role of faculty advisors, and a section in the Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities handbook providing guidance to students as to sources of academic information, the types of support typically provided by faculty advisors, and the students' responsibility in maximizing the effectiveness of advising (XIX-16)

The additions to the Faculty Advising Handbook have been made here:

<http://www.unh.edu/uacc/faculty/general-advising-information>. The additions are included in the "General Advising Information" tab under the heading "Faculty Advisors."

The additions to the Student Rights, Rules, and Responsibilities handbook have been sent to Dean of Students Ted Kirkpatrick. Dean Kirkpatrick has one suggested change: In 06.1.1, the Senate must clarify the first sentence in the second paragraph. OS staff may not serve as academic advisors. No HR OS classification has academic advising as an assigned duty and OS are not generally expected to possess the educational degrees necessary to discharge those duties at the college level. Dean Kirkpatrick suggests that the Senate consider a revised language: "Faculty and PAT staff members may serve..." Assuming the Senate is agreeable to this change, the revisions will be included in the 2016-17 version of the SRR&R.

Approved a series of motions related to the Confucius Institute. One of the motions recommended the hiring of a tenure-track faculty member to teach Chinese. (XIX-M17)

The Provost has approved a request from COLA to hire a tenure-track faculty member in Chinese. The search should start soon.

Respectfully submitted,
Dante Scala
Vice Chair, Faculty Senate

