

**Minutes of
THE FACULTY SENATE OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

This meeting of the 2023-2024 Faculty Senate was held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, in Rothwell 456 and via Webex. The following members were present:

Mr. Stan Apple	Ms. Tara Malone
Dr. Michael Bradley	Dr. Julie Mikles-Schluterman
Dr. John Clements	Dr. Tom Nupp
Dr. Rene Couture	Dr. Michael Rogers
Dr. Melissa Darnell	Dr. Kuldeep Singh
Dr. Peter Dykema	Dr. Bethany Swindell
Ms. Jasmine Greer	Ms. Sherry Tinerella
Dr. Jacob Grosskopf	Dr. Ellen Treadway
Dr. Newt Hilliard	Dr. Erica Wondolowski
Dr. Virginia Jones	Ms. Susan West
Dr. Carey Ellis Laffoon	Dr. Azin Sanjari Pirmahaleh

Also present: Dr. Julie Furst-Bowe (VPAA); Dr. Jeanine Myers (Associate VPAA); Ms. Tammy Weaver (Registrar); Dr. Christine Austine (GE Assessment); Dr. Gregory Michna (General Education Assessment)

1. **Call to Order:** Dr. Newt Hilliard called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Sept Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting from Stan Apple, seconded by Dr. Carey Ellis Laffoon. Motion carried.
3. Committee Updates
 - a. Standing Committees
 - i. Budget Advisory Committee (Dr. Tom Nupp): No Update
 - ii. General Education Committee (Ms. Sherry Tinerella): Dr. Christina Austin and Dr. Gregory Michna gave an update on the progress of the General Education (GE) Assessment committee. All goals are on track to be evaluated at least twice per program review cycle to allow for the opportunity to implement new approaches and to evaluate goals before the next ADHE or HLC reporting cycle. Five of the goals use rubrics that were adapted from the AAC&U Value Rubrics by GE Committee members. Currently, one goal is evaluated each semester, and all faculty are invited to participate in providing artifacts and serving as evaluators. More information is available at <http://www.atu.edu/generaleducation/assessment.php>.
 - iii. Institutional Aid Committee: No Update
 - iv. Shared Governance Committee: Dr. Newt Hilliard: No Update

- i. Campus Space and Utilization Committee: Dr. Kuldeep Singh: No Update
- ii. Faculty Salary and Benefits Committee: Dr. Newt Hilliard: No Update
- iii. Institutional Scholarship Appeals Committee: Dr. Bethany Swindell: No Update
- iv. Professional Development Committee: Dr. Peter Dykema encouraged faculty to apply for the first round of Professional Development Grant Program funding.
- v. Technology Prioritization and Impact Committee: Dr. Stan Apple: No Update
- vi. Emergency Management and Safety Committee: Dr. Carey Ellis Laffoon reported on efforts to secure additional AED's and Stop the Bleed Kits to go with the new Naloxone boxes on campus. Also, plans are being made to accommodate eclipse watchers on campus during the April 8, 2024, event. More information will be forthcoming.

b. Ad Hoc & Senate Committees

- i. Faculty Workload Committee: Dr. Melissa Darnell: No Update
- ii. Insurance Benefit Committee: Dr. Jon Clements reported that open enrollment will start soon and that rates are the same as last year.
- iii. Faculty Senate Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee: Dr. Erica Wondolowski: No Update
- iv. Exploratory Committee on P&T Salary Increases: Dr. Newt Hilliard reported that this committee is on hold.
- v. Prior Learning Assessment: Dr. Julie Mikles-Schluterman: No Update
- vi. Micro-Credentials: Dr. Michael Bradley: Committee will meet on October 13.
- vii. Rules Committee: Dr. Peter Dykema: No Update
- viii. Recruitment and Retention: Dr. Myers reported that faculty from every college, administration, and student government serve on this committee and will meet monthly with the charge to "Increase ATU enrollment though the university-wide coordination of student recruitment and retention activities." The first action item for the fall 2023 semester was to review the "early alert" program and to evaluate the current university wide retention initiative's: Strategic Enrollment and Recruitment Plan-Action Plan 2022-2025. Dr. Carey Ellis Laffoon is on this committee and will attend the upcoming October meeting.

New Business

- a. VPAA Update: Dr. Julie Furst-Bowe reported that internal searches for the three open college dean positions are underway and going well, along with the external search to fill the graduate dean position. Also, the Executive Committee is in the process of moving out of Tomlinson. Finally, three sabbatical applications were submitted and approved.
- b. Curriculum Committee: Ms. Tammy Weaver presented curriculum approvals from September 26, 2023. All were approved. Please see attached list.
- c. Reduction in force policy: Dr. Newt Hilliard facilitated a conversation regarding the attached draft policy. He noted that this policy is a framework for the university to follow in case these issues come to pass. Faculty Senate will consider the final draft for approval at the November meeting. The Faculty Senate-approved policy will go to the ATU Board of Trustees for their consideration at the December meeting. Dr. Hilliard asked senators to share this draft with constituents and to ask for feedback to

be emailed to facultysenate@atu.edu. Questions, comments, and concerns will be forwarded to the writing team. Finally, Dr. Hilliard asked senators to share the attached ADHE low enrollment watch list with constituents

Old Business

- a. Dr. Jeanine Myers reported that the AI Policy Taskforce that last met in April 2023 is meeting this fall to write an AI policy for course syllabi and to update the student handbook. Jasmine Greer, Arwen Taylor, and Jacob Grosskopf are members of this taskforce.
- b. Dr. Jeanine Myers confirmed that the Academic Early Warning system is being facilitated by Student Services: <https://www.atu.edu/advising/earlywarning.php>

Open Forum

- a. Tom Nupp reported on the recent scholarship meeting in which the committee is restructuring how scholarships are given out. More information will be forthcoming.

Announcements and Information Items

- a. Jon Clements invited the university community to attend a choir concert at the All Saint's Episcopal Church in Russellville this Sunday, October 15, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Dr. Jon Clements at 4:41 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Stan Apple. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Newt Hilliard

Dr. Newt Hilliard, Chair



Dr. Ellen Treadway, Secretary

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 26, 2023/
FACULTY SENATE OCTOBER 10, 2023-APPROVED**

College of Arts & Humanities – Department of Behavioral Sciences

1. Add SOC 3123: Sociology of Culture, to the course descriptions;
2. Add SOC 3141: Careers in Sociology, to the course descriptions;
3. Add SOC 3143: Qualitative Research Methods, to the course descriptions;
4. Add the Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice to Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration;
5. Add the Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Psychology to Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration; and
6. Add the Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Sociology to Master of Science in Student Affairs Administration.

College of Arts & Humanities – Department of English and World Languages

1. Modify the Bachelor of Arts in World Languages – Spanish

College of Business & Economics – School of Business

1. Modify the Curriculum in Health and Information Management.

College of Education & Health – Department of Emergency Management, Professional Studies, & Student Affairs Administration

1. Add OL 3233: Volunteer Leadership and Development;
2. Modify the Curriculum in Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership (all concentrations); and
3. Add the Accelerated Bachelor of Arts in Organization Leadership to Master of Arts in Organizational Development Learning.

College of Education & Health – Department of Kinesiology & Rehabilitation Science

1. Add RS 3063: Resiliency, Vulnerability, and Crisis, to the course descriptions;
2. Add RS 4243/CNSL 5243: Psychopathology, to the course descriptions;
3. Modify RS 3003 Medical and Psychosocial Aspects of Disability, as follows: change the course number to RS 4003; add the cross listing CNSL 5003; require a grade of C or better; and modify the course description;
4. Modify RS 3123: Ethics and Professional Development, as follows: change the course number to RS 4223; and add the cross listing CNSL 5223;
5. Modify RS 3133: Diversity and Inclusion in Human Service Settings, as follows: change the course number to RS 4233; add the cross listing CNSL 5233; require a grade of C or better; add a prerequisite; and modify the course description;
6. Modify the Curriculum in Rehabilitation Science;
7. Modify the Minor in Additions;
8. Modify the Minor in Child Welfare and Social Services;
9. Modify the Minor in Disability;
10. Modify the Minor in Recreation Services; 11. Modify the Minor in Rehabilitation Science; and

12. Delete the Minor in Aging.

College of Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics – Department of Engineering & Computing Sciences

1. Add CMPE 4191: Computer Engineering Design Project I, to the course descriptions;
2. Add CMPE 4192: Computer Engineering Design Project II, to the course descriptions;
3. Modify the Curriculum in Computer Engineering;
4. Modify the Curriculum in Information Technology Track 1: Programming, Database, and Web; and
5. Modify the Curriculum in Information Technology Track 2: Network and Security.