

UAMS Academic Senate Council

<b>Names</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Jennifer Gan, COM		excused
Priya Mendiratta, COM	x	
Tiffany Huitt, CHP	x	Excused
Summer Khairi, CHP	x	
Ashley McNatt, CPH		Excused
Elizabeth Riley, CON	x	
David Ussery, COM	x	
Emily Sparkman, CHP	x	
Dana Moser, CHP	x	
Layla Simmons, CHP		excused
Gunnar Boysen, CPH		x
Lin-Xi Li, COM	x	
James Selig, CPH	x	
Richard Turnage, COM		x
Corey Nagel, CON		Excused
Sara Jones, CON		Excused
Darin Jones, COP	x	
Bradley Martin, COP	x	

Guests: Abdullah Hayar, Amber Teigen, Anthony Goudie, Eric Rosenbaum, Ginell Post, Leanne Lefler, Lee Ann Mac Millan-Crow, Lindsey Blake, Steve Post, Wendy Ward

**Academic Senate Council Meeting Agenda & Minutes  
August 25, 2021**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Mendiratta at 2:00pm.

**II. Report of Minutes**

Minutes were approved by the board.

**III. Updates and New Business (Mendiratta)**

a. Meetings with the Provost update

- i. Dr. Martin, Dr. Mendiratta, Dr. Ward and Dr. Huitt meet with Dr. Garner and updated her on the senate agendas, constitutional review and revisions, and future directions and support for academic activities.

b. Senate constitution revision update

- i. Proposed Amendments to the Constitution by the Academic Senate Constitutional Review Committee

1. Faculty Affairs committee is a standing committee
2. Attendance: If a person misses 3 or more meetings, the Academic Senate could consider voting them off.
3. Reformulated the nomination committee into the membership and election committee
4. Eliminated the agenda committee, which is a standing committee
5. Changed the reporting for the Academic Senate to the Provost.
6. We don't restrict when amendments to the constitution could occur.
7. Changed quorum thresholds to reflect the Academic Senate.
8. Members of the Chancellors Advisory Committee can have a voice, but not vote
9. Modernized the language to reflect the electronic era.

- ii. Abdallah Hayar and Brad Martin Proposed 7 amendments to the proposed amended constitution (see exhibit A)

iii. Amendment 1: Fair Faculty Representation

1. "All faculty members shall have a voice that is either communicated via their elected college representatives or directly by attending Academic Senate meetings.

The Academic Senate will be composed of:

- two faculty elected from each College
- one additional faculty for each 200 faculty in excess of 200 for each college."

2. Vote Counts:

a. Yes: 6

b. No: 6

iv. Amendment 2: Two-term limit on representation

1. "Faculty representatives may be immediately reelected for a second term. At the end of two consecutive full terms, a representative shall wait at least one year before becoming eligible for election again to the Senate."

2. Vote Counts:

a. Yes: 9

b. No: 3

b-c.

- v. Amendment 3: Membership of elections committee
  1. "A member will exclude themselves from the committee if they are planning to be nominated for the position."
  2. Vote Counts:
    - a. Yes: 11
    - b. No: 0
- vi. Amendment 4: Adding the task of conducting a faculty survey every 2 years
  1. "At least once every two years, the Faculty Affairs committee is responsible for conducting a faculty survey to monitor the engagement, concerns, and well-being of the faculty. The committee together with the president will analyze the results, present them during the Full Academic Senate meeting, and post them on the Academic Senate website."
  2. Vote Counts:
    - a. Yes: 0
    - b. No: 11
- vii. Amendment 5: Clarify Academic Senate's Academic Function
  1. "The Academic Senate is not responsible for student academic affairs, and it is not the primary body for the formulation of specific curricula and courses, new programs, as well as admission and degrees requirements within the colleges of the UAMS Campus. Rather, the individual colleges, as dictated by their various accrediting agencies, retain the rights and responsibilities for these tasks by creating specific committees which include significant faculty representation. However, the Academic Senate have the authority to discuss and raise faculty concerns related to Academic issues and to make appropriate recommendations to those committees that are directly involved in the academic affairs."
  2. Vote Counts:
    - a. Yes: 0
    - b. No: 9
- viii. Amendment 6: Announce the time and location of Academic Senate meetings
  1. "The meeting time and location (physical or virtual) of the Academic Senate should be announced by E-mail to all faculty members at least two days before of the scheduled meeting. A preliminary agenda of the meeting will also be sent as an attachment together with the announcement. Faculty should be allowed to participate in the meeting without restriction. However, the Academic Senate officers may verify that that those attending are indeed faculty members or guests/invitees, and they may regulate attendance to ensure that the meeting will be conducted in an orderly manner."
  2. Vote Counts:
    - a. Yes: 0
    - b. No: 11
- ix. Amendment 7: Include a Senator from Academic Affairs
  1. Amendment 7b: Add two Senators from Academic Affairs
    - a. The Academic Senate will be composed of:
      - two faculty elected from each College
      - two faculty elected from Academic Affairs
    - b. Vote Counts:
      - i. Yes: 11

- ii. No: 1
- c. Faculty survey update – Huitt
  - i. Faculty Survey this year has been combined in collaboration with Dr. Sterba’s Office and Dr. Ward’s Office. Instead of three separate surveys, we are sending out one survey reflecting the questions of all the groups.
  - ii. Include questions about the impact of COVID
  - iii. Total survey questions is 50 questions. Estimated about 22 minutes to finish the survey.
  - iv. Distributed probably at the end of September or early October.
- d. Fall Full Senate Meeting, Sept 29 2021
  - i. Zoom meeting
  - ii. College Reps need to update Dr. Mendiratta if you want to be included on the agenda.
- e. Representatives for Faculty resource fair on Sept 30, 2021, 5 pm-630pm
  - i. Need 2 Representative to the Academic Senate
  - ii. Will give out swag
- f. Muslim Prayer Room
  - i. Gave update to Dr. Garner
  - ii. Heard positive reviews
  - iii. At least twenty students who attended
  - iv. Thank you to the Provost and DDEI for helping to make this possible.
- g. Update on Fresh n Reddie
  - i. A unique meal kit service brought to you by UAMS
  - ii. Pictures and Logos are coming together
  - iii. UAMS is dedicated to provide its faculty, staff and students with the tools to improve their health. Our latest initiative is Fresh n Reddie, a meal kit service offering easy to prepare and affordable pre-measured ingredients that you can take home and make for dinner. No more stopping at the store for groceries or to a restaurant for take-out! These recipes have been tested and approved by our Nutritionist from the UAMS Culinary Medicine Program.
  - iv. Meals will be ready from box to table in approximately 30 minutes.
- h. Seminar series November 17, 2021, Topic proposed.
  - i. Will contact people to lead seminar.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

- a. Research Committee (Gan)
  - i. No major updates
  - ii. Submitted survey suggestions to the faculty affairs committee for the Senate to review.
- b. Faculty Affairs Committee
  - i. Primarily working on the faculty survey
- c. Communications Committee (Hayar)
  - i. Contacting officers to write something in the newsletter
- d. Subcommittee for Constitutional Review (Martin)
  - i. College Reps need to mention to their faculty that we are revising the constitution and we will be calling a broad Academic Senate Meeting.

#### **V. College Officer Reports**

- a. Graduate School (Boysen, Li)
  - i. Research Induction Ceremony is on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

- b. College of Health Professions (Moser, Simmons)
  - i. College wide new student orientation last week
  - ii. Handed out PPE
- c. College of Medicine (Mendiratta, Turnage)
  - i. Need to meet with new Dean
- d. College of Nursing (S Jones, Nagle)
  - i. The new Nurse Anesthesia specialty has admitted its second cohort into the DNP program. There were 284 applicants for 18 slots. The two cohorts in the nurse anesthesia program exceed national diversity enrollment numbers; 66% of the second cohort and 44% of the 1<sup>st</sup> cohort are from URM groups compared to 17% nationally. Dr. Gonzalez, program director, is a national leader in diversity within nurse anesthesia.
  - ii. Our new master's program in Nursing Case Management will enroll its first cohort in the fall of 2022.
  - iii. Our new Accelerated BSN program, on the Fayetteville campus, will enroll its first cohort in the summer of 2022. Applications open September 2021. This program will allow students who already have a bachelor's degree in any field to become a registered nurse in just fifteen months, which in time will significantly alleviate the nursing shortage in Northwest Arkansas. The new NWA simulation facility, to be built out this academic year, will shared with other programs.
  - iv. With the aid of a grant from the Skelly Charitable Foundation, we are beginning to incorporate telehealth into our programs, including this year's new Digital Health course for graduate nursing students that was offered this summer.
  - v. Certification pass rates for most of the specialties in the DNP program remain at, or close to, 100%.
  - vi. Our RN-BSN program was ranked the best online RN-BSN program in Arkansas, as well as the fastest.
  - vii. In the wake of the COVID pandemic, our student NCLEX pass rates dropped significantly, as they did for schools of nursing across the nation. We have returned to in-person instruction and adjusted teaching processes to better accommodate the needs of remote learning if a return to online teaching is needed.
- e. College of Pharmacy (D Jones, Martin)
  - i. Voted on self-study, going through accreditation right now.
- f. College of Public Health (Goudie, Selig)
  - i. No updates
- g. Academic Affairs (Blake)
  - i. No updates

**VI. Reminders and Announcements**

- a. UA System BOT meeting, September 16-17, 2021, UA Fayetteville
- b. [Ask@UAMS.edu](mailto:Ask@UAMS.edu)

**VII. Adjourn at 323pm.**