

AGENDA
UCA Faculty Senate
December 15, 2011
Wingo 315, 2:00 pm

- I. Approval of Minutes from November 8, 2011** (see attachments)
- II. Remarks, Interim President Tom Courtway**
- III. Remarks, Provost Lance Grahn**
- IV. Committee Reports**
 - A. University Admissions Committee Report** (see attachments)
Dr. Robert Parrent, Vice President of Enrollment Management
 - B. Retention Committee Report** (see attachment)
Dr. Robert Parrent, Vice President of Enrollment Management
- V. Performance Funding** (see attachment)
Diane Newton, Vice President of Finance & Administration
- VI. Faculty Handbook Committee**
Senator Lynn Burley, Faculty Handbook Committee Chair
 - A. Proposed Medical, Parental, and Military Family Leave Policy** (see attachments)
Peter Mehl, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
 - B. Resolution to Add Clarifying Phrase** (see attachment)
 - C. Resolution to Clarify Mid-tenure Review Procedure** (see attachment)
 - D. Clarification of Teaching Load** (see attachment)
- VII. Shortened Mission Statement & Feedback**

Feedback from shortened mission statement discussions suggests using the last sentence of UCA’s Mission Statement instead of creating a new one:

“The University of Central Arkansas is dedicated to academic vitality, diversity, and integrity.”
- VIII. Academic Calendar Proposal**

Beginning with the 2013-14 Academic Year it is requested that the academic calendar be adjusted to move the Fall Break days for students from October to the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week. Accompanying this change, we request that the calendar be adjusted such that there will be two full weeks of class after Thanksgiving each year.

This proposed change originates from the problems associated with teaching courses that schedule laboratories from Monday through Friday (usually lower-division courses). Every short week during the semester results in a week of laboratory instruction being cancelled. This problem is particularly acute during the fall semester when implementation of the proposed change will recover a full week of laboratory instruction in October while not reducing the number of contact days for our faculty and students. Our current calendar includes the first short week (two days), Labor Day (four days), Fall Break (three days), Thanksgiving Break (two days, and Study Day week (four days). The proposed calendar would decrease the number of short weeks from five to four. The two weeks of classes after Thanksgiving is requested to ensure that our students are fully engaged in academics again following thanksgiving and prior to Final Exams.

IX. President's Report

- A. Financial Aid Committee Update
- B. HLC Update: Institutional Research Consultant Dr. Kathy Coy
- C. BAC Update (see attachments)
- D. Food Services Contract (see attachment)
- E. Media Advisory Committee: Retiring faculty recognition
- F. Retention Numbers for Arkansas Lottery Scholarship (see attachments)
- G. Other Items: Thank-A-Teacher,
- H. Status of Previous Concerns: University College

X. Senate Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. Charge: Committee on Committees reviews request for recognition of the Academic Council in the *Faculty Handbook* and make recommendation.
2. Charge: Faculty Handbook Committee review procedure and make a recommendation concerning the possibility of combining the process for granting tenure and promotion to Associate Professor so there is one decision rather than two.

B. Committee on Committees

1. General Education Council

Add the Director of Academic Assessment as an ex-officio member

2. University Safety Committee (see attachment of new description)

Proposed changes to membership:

1. Larry Lawrence (Director, Physical Plant-Ex-Officio) become a permanent member of the USC.
2. Graham Gillis (Associate VP/Admin. Services/Human Resources) become a permanent member of the USC.
3. Adam Henderson (Director, Environment Health and Safety-Ex-Officio) become a permanent member of the USC.
4. Kim Hutchcraft (Insurance Manager) be moved to Ex-Officio capacity on the USC.
5. Venita Jenkins (Associate Director, Media Relations) become a Ex-Officio member of the USC.

C. Academic Affairs

D. Faculty Affairs I

E. Faculty Affairs II (see attachment)

XI. Announcements and Concerns

A. Next meeting: January 26th at 12:45 pm in Wingo Hall 315

B. Board of Trustees meeting: Friday, December 16th at 2 pm

C. Other Announcements and Concerns

XII. Adjournment