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Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2021, 3:30 PM

Virtual

The meeting convened at 3:36 PM.

11_1_21 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, (President Graves)

A motion was made to accept the 11_1_21 Faculty Senate Minutes. The motion passed with 74 in favor, 0 opposed and 3 abstaining.

Reports from the Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees

- 9_30_21 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 11_17_21 Committee of Academic Affairs and Economic Development Meeting

Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee (GPAC), (Professor Humberd)

- Proposal to revise the Certificate in Clinical Pathology

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 69 in favor, 1 opposed and 6 abstaining.

- Proposal to revise the Master of Public Administration (MPA)

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 68 in favor, 1 opposed and 6 abstaining.

- Proposal to revise/exempt the Deferment of Enrollment Policy for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 67 in favor, 2 opposed and 5 abstaining.

- Proposal to revise the Healthcare Concentration in the MBA

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 68 in favor, 1 opposed and 8 abstaining.

- Preliminary Proposal for a Master of Science program in Biomedical Engineering

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 52 in favor, 11 opposed and 11 abstaining.

GPAC – For Information Only

- Proposal to revise the MS and PhD curriculum in the Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology (BMEBT) Program
- Proposal to clarify language in last month's proposal on limiting MBA students to 12 credits per semester

Undergraduate Policy Committee (UPC), Professor Graves

- Proposal to revise the BA in Elementary and Moderate Disabilities

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 67 in favor, 1 opposed and 10 abstaining.

UPC – For Information Only

- Proposal to revise the BS in Nutritional Science, Dietetics Option
- Proposal for a 3-year degree pathway in Exercise Science

Other Business

- Resolution on Academic Freedom
- Additional Resolution on Academic Freedom, (Professor Latham)

“Attached is a *Resolution in Support of Freedom of Expression* for consideration by the UML faculty senate. This resolution is modeled off the widely recognized Chicago statement, which has been adopted by a number of other faculty bodies across the country - <https://www.thefire.org/chicago-statement-university-and-faculty-body-support/>

The resolution put forth by Professors Tigert and Schneider is commendable, and I support it; however, it only covers academic freedom with respect to their area of topical concern. At a time when, academic freedom at large is increasingly under attack, it is important that we also endorse a broad umbrella that protects freedom of expression regardless of discipline or political persuasion.

As such, I would like to see our senate also affirm its support for academic freedom across the board.

Thank you for your consideration, Scott Latham”

A motion was made to table these Resolutions. The motion passed with 59 in favor, 5 opposed and 6 abstaining.

- Motion (Margaret Manion) that the University restore staffing at the library to a level equal to comparable institutions and to at least what it was in 2010, a minimum of 14 librarians and 14 auxiliary staff

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 52 in favor, 1 opposed and 7 abstaining.

- Change in Withdrawal from University Policy

<https://www.uml.edu/Catalog/Undergraduate/Policies/Academic-Policies/Withdrawal-from-University.aspx>

University Withdrawal After the Deadline-to-Withdraw specified on the Academic Calendar

A student who withdraws from the university after the deadline-to-withdraw specified on the academic calendar and prior to the end of the term will be graded with a greater penalty grade (“F” grade). The university withdrawal effective date will be the date the Withdrawal from University Form is received. ~~must be graded by all course instructors unless the student is authorized to withdraw for documented reasons of extended illness or critical personal emergency.~~

A student who wishes to withdraw from the university with a “W” Withdrawal grade after the deadline-to-withdraw specified on the academic calendar must file an academic petition, together with appropriate documentation specifying the cause for the withdrawal after the published deadline, with the Office of the Provost. Following a review of the academic petition and verification of attached documentation, the Office of the Provost may permit the student to withdraw from all courses with course notations of X.

Withdrawal from courses may have implications for degree progress, veteran’s benefits, health insurance, financial aid, and immigration status. Students are advised to consult their academic advisor as well as officials in appropriate offices prior to withdrawing from class. Instructors are required to submit a last known date of attendance or academic activity for students who receive a grade of F or other non-passing grades. Students who cease attending without officially withdrawing may affect their Financial Aid.

A motion was made to accept the Proposal. The motion passed with 46 in favor, 1 opposed and 5 abstaining.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.