

Minutes
February 24, 2025
4:00 PM
University Faculty Senate
Shawnee State University

1. Call to Order

UFS President Mariah Woodward called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Roll Taking

The attendance was recorded as follows:

M. Woodward (Senate President), D. Myers (Senate Vice President), J. Reneau (Senate Treasurer), A. Napper (Senate Secretary), A. Feight (University-at-large Senator), K. Koehler (Graduate Council Chair), R. Powell (CAS-at-large), T. Piontek (CAS-at-large), R. Walker (CPS-at-large), J. Scott (English & Humanities), B. LeCouffe (Fine, Digital, and Performing Arts), P. Blau (Mathematical Sciences), E. Larson (Natural Sciences), P. Madden (Education), T. Bunting (Social Sciences), S. Clausing (Business), R. LaBello (Nursing), J. Ok (Engineering Technology), A. Zaph (Allied Health Sciences), S. Allen (Rehabilitation Sciences).

Absent: M. Stone (CPS at large).

3. Approval of Minutes

No changes requested, moved by M. Woodward, seconded by R. LaBello. Approved unanimously.

4. Approval of Agenda

No changes requested, moved by M. Woodward, seconded by E. Larson. Approved unanimously.

5. Announcements and Remarks from the Senate President, Mariah Woodward

A. Napper will be serving as UFS secretary this spring while S. Ivers is on sabbatical. E. Larson will also be serving as the new representative for Natural Sciences.

It's been a long time since our last meeting in November! We've had fall commencement, a holiday break, a board of trustees meeting, and two OFC meetings. Dr. Chris Raber has been appointed as Dean of CHHS by the board. OFC reports that SB1 has had many hours of testimony and letters against, however it

seems likely to pass and will most likely be veto-proof with the estimated vote count.

6. Treasurer's Report: Jim Reneau

\$40 is still in the account after nameplates were bought for senators. Our current funding is about \$300/year, a decrease from prior years.

Motion to accept report – moved by S. Clausing, seconded by P. Blau. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Administrative Reports:

7.1. Interim provost, K. Inman

President Braun is unable to speak with senate today as he is in Columbus. The three colleges have been working on strategic action planning and should soon be presenting drafts to each college. Next steps will be for colleges to develop program level actions and goals.

The division of Academic and Student Affairs is also undergoing strategic action planning.

Directives from state and federal level are being investigated and plans for compliance at Shawnee State are being developed. Clarification and guidance from the Chancellor are being requested in a few areas.

Lastly, we are undergoing an OPM (Online Program Management) transition, which the associate provost will report on next.

7.2. Associate provost, J. Pauley

The OPM transition team is meeting every other week. This committee has four faculty member representatives: J. Scott (CAS), B. Lucas (CBET), M. Woodward (CHHS), as well as E. Larson (e-campus director). Guidance on tuition changes is currently being requested from the state. Online classes should no longer have a separate e-campus section designation, which should make it easier for students to plan and schedule accordingly and make it easier on faculty and departments when they plan future course offerings. Our current OPM (Risepoint) contract finishes up at the end of July 2025.

8. Announcements from the Senate Floor

M. Woodward: Has put through the November UFS Constitution and Bylaws document into Curriculog as a record of the most recent changes.

A. Feight:

An ad hoc committee was formed to recommend changes to the UFS constitution and bylaws, as well as ARMC guidelines/procedures. The committee has met twice and consists of A. Feight (chair), E. Larson, J. Carrington, and A. Napper. We have met with the administrative representatives of ARMC to discuss improvements to this process. In terms of a timetable, we're looking to bring forward a proposed UFS constitution and bylaws this semester, but the proposed ARMC recommendations are likely to take longer to develop.

9. Committee and Director Reports

M. Woodward: has already reported on OFC earlier.

10. Unfinished Business

UFS senators should all now have nameplates. K. Koehler needs to have one made, which will be ordered soon.

11. New Business

11.1. At the request of E. Larson, the following proposals were unbundled (items L–R & BB on the original agenda). These proposals represent the first set of program, certificate, and minor closures that have been requested by the Academic Resource Management Committee (ARMC).

- 11.1.1. Environmental Earth Science Minor
- 11.1.2. Environmental Engineering Technology (ETEV)
- 11.1.3. Environmental Life Science Minor
- 11.1.4. Exercise Science Minor
- 11.1.5. Geology BS
- 11.1.6. Geology Minor
- 11.1.7. Health and Wellness Minor
- 11.1.8. Sustainable Landscape Management Certificate

11.2. The remaining proposals were bundled – moved by J. Reneau, seconded by A. Feight. Bundling was approved unanimously.

- 11.2.1. Adolescent to Young Adult
- 11.2.2. BUMG -3310 -Business Ethics
- 11.2.3. BUMG -4250 -Entrepreneurial Strategy
- 11.2.4. CRIM - 4561 -Nonverbal Communication
- 11.2.5. DTHY - 1110 -Dental/Head & Neck Anatomy and Histology

- 11.2.6. DTHY - 1112- Histology/Embryology for Dental Hygiene
 - 11.2.7. DTHY - 1113 – Dental and Oral Anatomy
 - 11.2.8. DTHY - 1116 – Head and Neck Anatomy
 - 11.2.9. DTHY - 2212 – Dental Materials
 - 11.2.10. ETEC - 4501 - Digital Controls 1
 - 11.2.11. English - Generalist
 - 11.2.12. MSNR - 5130 - Instructional Technology & Informatics in Advanced Practice Nursing
 - 11.2.13. MSNR - 5235 - Teaching Methodologies and Needs Assessment
 - 11.2.14. OTD - 7009 - Doctoral Studies in Occupational Therapy Special Topics
 - 11.2.15. PTAT - 1115 - P.T. in Physical Dysfunction
 - 11.2.16. PTAT - 1230 - PTA Procedures Laboratory
 - 11.2.17. PTAT - 1231 - PTA Therapeutic Concepts
 - 11.2.18. PTAT - 2290 - Clinical Practicum 2
 - 11.2.19. PTAT - 2390 - Clinical Practicum 3
 - 11.2.20. PTAT - 2490 - Clinical Practicum 4
 - 11.2.21. ETCA - 1301 - 3D Parametric Modeling
 - 11.2.22. ETCA - 2202 - Intermediate CADD with Design
 - 11.2.23. ETCA - 2301 - Advanced 3-D CADD Design
 - 11.2.24. MOT - 51.2306 - MOT 6655: Level 1: OT Process in Mental Health
- 11.3. Motion to approve the bundle (11.2.1 – 11.2.24) by R. Powell, seconded by T. Bunting. Approved unanimously.
- 11.4. Unbundled items were discussed and voted on:
- 11.4.1. Environmental Earth Science Minor (item L on original agenda)
 - 11.4.1.1. E. Larson feels it is important to discuss each closure proposal separately and not to bundle and pass all at the same time.

This minor has had two students over its life.

E. Larson moves to approve the motion to warehouse.
Seconded by P. Blau. Vote count is eighteen (18) for, zero (0) against, one (1) abstention (A. Napper).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.2. Environmental Engineering Technology (ETEV) (item M on original agenda)

- 11.4.2.1. J. Scott clarified in discussion with E. Larson that this proposal was initiated against the wishes of the department (Engineering Technologies). From E. Larson, the proposal was incorrectly placed on the agenda to warehouse due to confusion at ARMC over the ability of the provost to initiate a warehousing proposal. UFS leadership indicated that the provost was not able to initiate warehousing proposals, however this was a misunderstanding of the procedure which does allow closures to be initiated by the provost when the department/school chooses not to do so.

The program itself has had no students and faculty for several years now.

E. Larson clarified that the current process of program closure requires either the department or the provost to submit the program closure paperwork as a result of an ARMC recommendation (subject to appeal – see the Program closure document for details).

D. Myers remarked that the department chose not to file closure paperwork, and didn't necessarily oppose the provost's closure proposal.

R. Powell moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by T. Piontek. Vote count is sixteen (16) for, one (1) against (E. Larson), two (2) abstentions (A. Napper, J. Reneau).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.3. Environmental Life Science Minor (Item N on original agenda)

- 11.4.3.1. E. Larson commented that the minor was created at the same time as the earlier minor (11.4.1), however no graduates have been awarded the minor.

J. Reneau queried whether the proposals from Natural Sciences had been approved by the department. E. Larson responded that all proposals were approved by the department with a vote count of ten (10) for and four (4) abstentions.

J. Scott asked whether the department or ARM had identified these programs for closure? E. Larson responded ARM.

R. Powell moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by E. Larson. Vote count is seventeen (17) for, zero (0) against, two (2) abstentions (A. Napper, B. LeCouffe).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.4. Exercise Science Minor (Item O on original agenda)

11.4.4.1. M. Woodward commented that this minor (and the Health and Wellness Minor, item 11.4.7 below) had no interest from students and so the department was ok with warehousing these two minors.

S. Allen moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by T. Piontek. Vote count is eighteen (18) for, zero (0) against, one (1) abstention (A. Napper).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.5. Geology BS (Item P on original agenda)

11.4.5.1. E. Larson explained that there had been concerns from administration since 2017 about this (predecessor, BS-Natural Sciences – concentration in geology) program. In December 2017, the administration placed this program on a “watchlist,” despite there being twenty students enrolled in the program at the time. At the time, departments were asked to submit a rationale for retaining their programs to a review committee.

However, the administration made decisions about the programs several days before the departments' documentation was due to the committee

Several years later, a new "Glossary of Academic Terms" document required that we replace our former geology concentration within BS Natural Sciences with a standalone degree program: the BS in Geology. This change was approved by ARMC (under provost B. Thiel) and subsequently received both local and state approval. Shortly afterward, a new provost, S. Ahuja, was hired and reaffirmed institutional support for the newly established program.

Faculty members in the program expressed concern to the administration about the sustainability of the program given student numbers (post-covid). Administration recommended that the program should continue in a wait-and-see fashion.

Eight years later (2024-2025), and the administration & ARMC has finally recommended the program for closure. Program faculty feel a sense of "closure," however frustration with the length of time administration has taken to reach this point, and the wavering level of commitment, has been unfortunate.

J. Scott had questions about the level of support from the administration. E. Larson responded with several comments, including a note that the program faculty has requested support in its last program review, but had not received any from the university.

S. Allen moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by T. Piontek. Vote count is twelve (12) for, one (1) against (A. Napper), six (6) abstentions (J. Scott, R. Powell, T. Piontek, P. Madden, P. Blau, A. Zaph).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.6. Geology Minor (Item Q on original agenda)

- 11.4.6.1. E. Larson mentioned that a few students had earned this minor over the years, but many of his comments about the earlier minors would apply.

R. Powell moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by J. Reneau. Vote count is fifteen (15) for, one (1) against (A. Napper), three (3) abstentions (R. Powell, P. Blau, Z. Zaph).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.7. Health and Wellness Minor (Item R on original agenda)

- 11.4.7.1. J. Scott asked whether the earlier comments applied to item 11.4.4 -Exercise Science Minor). M. Woodward confirmed that it was due to a lack of students.

R. Powell moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by J. Reneau. Vote count is eighteen (18) for, zero (0) against, one (1) abstention (A. Napper).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

11.4.8. Sustainable Landscape Management Certificate (Item BB on original agenda)

- 11.4.8.1. E. Larson explained that this certificate was a result of a direct request from former university president, Rick Kurtz. The program received no support from the administration and only one student completed it.

A. Napper commented that this certificate was created when he was department chair and involved a lot of work from faculty members in the Natural Sciences department as well as the Business department. We were promised an advertising blitz over summer to promote this, and several other newly created

programs, to increase our enrollment. No such promotion was apparently undertaken, and administrative follow through was nil. It is incredibly frustrating to receive promises from the administration when there is no follow-through.

J. Scott commented that the administration had greenlit a graduate program in Composition & Rhetoric that she initially proposed at ARMC, and promised funding for its implementation did not fully materialize for several years after its creation, leading to difficulties in running the program. Dr. Scott wondered if there was some way to hold the administration to the commitments it makes when approving new programs?

B. LeCouffe shared similar stories regarding lack of administrative follow through in proposals initiated by his department, and commented that it had led to reduced faculty morale and burnout in his area.

T. Piontek asked whether the Faculty Senate can hold the administration accountable to prior commitments made in support of approved programmatic proposals?

M. Woodward responded that the UFS has not figured out a mechanism to do so.

P. Blau suggested that developing a method for holding leadership accountable for prior decisions would be helpful, rather than through the process of bring censure or no-confidence motions.

A. Feight wondered whether department chairpersons should recommend budget requests for newly approved programs that have received ARMC support.

Interim provost K. Inman responded that she planned to bring these concerns to president E. Braun. She feels it

is the responsibility of the provost to take budgetary commitments made at ARMC and incorporate them in the budget planning cycle.

J. Reneau requested clarification that it would be the provost's job to make the budgetary commitment. The interim provost responded affirmatively that it makes sense for the provost, as chair of ARMC, to ensure that budgetary planning incorporate commitments made by ARMC.

R. Powell moves to approve the motion to warehouse. Seconded by R. LaBello. Vote count is eighteen (18) for, zero (0) against, one (1) abstention (A. Napper).

Motion to warehouse is approved.

- 11.5. B. Lucas (SEA president) addressed the UFS and encouraged members to call their state representatives about SB1. He also announced that the SEA advisory committee meeting will be held on April 17, followed by a party at Port City pub.
- 11.6. E. Larson reminded everyone about Celebration of Scholarship and the deadline for abstract submissions (March 13).
- 11.7. J. Scott asked everyone to consider reading SB1, paying particular attention to the following pages: 17–29, 32–38, 43–45, and 69–70.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn moved by R. Powell, seconded by S. Clausing. Approved unanimously.