



THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

THE SENATE RECORD

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The Senate Record is an official publication of the University Faculty Senate of The Pennsylvania State University, as provided for in Article I, Section 9 of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and contained in the *Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the University Faculty Senate*, The Pennsylvania State University, 2009-2010.

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When existing communication channels seem insufficient, Senators are encouraged to submit brief letters relevant to the Senate's function as a legislative, advisory/consultative, and forensic body to the Chair for possible inclusion in The Senate Record.

Reports that have appeared in the Agenda for the meeting are not included in The Senate Record unless they have been changed substantially during the meeting, or are considered to be of major importance. Remarks and discussions are abbreviated in most instances. Every Senate meeting is Webcast via Mediasite and may be viewed at <http://senate.psu.edu/agenda/index.html>. All Senate meetings are digitally audio taped and on file in the Senate office. Transcriptions of portions of the Senate meeting are available upon request.

Individuals with questions may contact Dr. Susan C. Youtz, Executive Secretary, University Faculty Senate.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	<a href="#"><u>Final Agenda for October 20, 2009</u></a>	Pages i-iii
II.	<a href="#"><u>Minutes and Summary of Remarks</u></a>	Pages 1-5
III.	Appendices	
	a. <a href="#"><u>Attendance</u></a>	Appendix I

## FINAL AGENDA FOR OCTOBER 20, 2009

A. <a href="#">MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING</a>	Page 1
Minutes of the September 1, 2009, Meeting in <a href="#">The Senate Record</a> 43:1 <a href="http://www.senate.psu.edu/record/index.html">http://www.senate.psu.edu/record/index.html</a>	
B. <a href="#">COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SENATE</a>	Page 1
Senate Curriculum Report of October 6, 2009, <a href="http://www.senate.psu.edu/curriculum_resources/bluesheet/bluex.html">www.senate.psu.edu/curriculum_resources/bluesheet/bluex.html</a>	
Administrative Review (AD14) of the Office of Dr. Susan C. Youtz Executive Secretary of the University Faculty Senate	Page 1
C. <a href="#">REPORT OF SENATE COUNCIL</a> – Meeting of October 6, 2009	Page 1
D. <a href="#">ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR</a>	Pages 1-2
E. <a href="#">COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY</a>	Page 3
<a href="#">SPECIAL INFORMATIONAL REPORTS</a>	
Long-Term Care Insurance	Page 3
F. <a href="#">FORENSIC BUSINESS</a>	Page 3
G. <a href="#">UNFINISHED BUSINESS</a>	Page 3
H. LEGISLATIVE REPORTS	
<a href="#">Committee on Committees and Rules</a>	
Revision to the Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 (Election to the Senate)	Pages 3-4
<a href="#">Undergraduate Education</a>	
Addition to Policy 48-40 Deferred Grades	Page 4
I. <a href="#">ADVISORY/CONSULTATIVE REPORTS</a>	Page 4
J. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS	
<a href="#">Admissions, Records, Scheduling, and Student Aid</a>	
Faculty Senate Scholarships Awarded to Undergraduates	Page 4

Faculty Rights and Responsibilities

Page 4

Annual Report for 2008-2009

Undergraduate Education

Report of the 2008-2009 Joint Senate/Administrative Review Committee  
on the Implementation of First-Year Engagement Plans

Page 4

Report on Academic Integrity

Page 4

K. NEW LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS

Page 4

L. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
GOOD OF THE UNIVERSITY

Page 5

The University Faculty Senate  
Tuesday, October 20, 2009, at 1:30 PM

The University Faculty Senate met on Tuesday, October 20, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in room 112 Kern Graduate Building with Lee Coraor, Chair, presiding.

### **MINUTES OF THE PRECEDING MEETING**

**Chair Coraor:** The September 1, 2009, Senate Record, providing a full transcription of the proceedings, was sent to the University Archives and is posted on the Faculty Senate Web site. Are there any corrections or additions to this document? I see no corrections or additions; may I hear a motion to accept the minutes? Second? Thank you.

All in favor of accepting the minutes please say aye. Opposed, nay.

The ayes have it. Motion carried.

The minutes of the September 1, 2009, meeting have been approved.

### **COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SENATE**

**Chair Coraor:** The Senate Curriculum Report of October 6, 2009, is posted on the University Faculty Senate Web site.

Under the guidelines of AD14 (Academic Administrative Evaluation) a review of Executive Secretary Susan Youtz and the Senate office is underway. John Nichols is chairing the review committee. If you wish to provide input into this process, you may contact John directly.

### **REPORT OF SENATE COUNCIL – MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2009**

**Chair Coraor:** Enclosed in today's agenda are the minutes from the October 6 meeting of Senate Council. Included in the minutes are topics that were discussed by the Faculty Advisory Committee to the President at the October 6 FAC meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

**Chair Coraor:** Out of courtesy to our presenters, please turn off your cell phones and pagers at this time.

As you know Senate meetings are aired live on Mediasite. As the winter months approach and bad weather may keep senators from attending meetings, we want to let you know that we are working with media technology staff to identify a mechanism for senators to submit questions and comments from their desktops via Mediasite. As we get closer to the December meeting, more information will be shared with you.

The flu season is upon us and students are missing class due to illness. We have heard of growing concerns in University Health Services over the number of students who are either being asked to provide medical excuses, or who perceive that faculty are requiring them to do so for illness-related absences.

Jeremy Cohen received the following email from a student and shared it with us:

Unfortunately I had no choice but to attend the exam this morning. I feel terrible for putting the health of others at risk but the professor gave me no other choice. I did not have verification of an illness from University Health Services at the time of the exam and I was not willing to risk a zero. This experience shows that our faculty needs to better understand the policies and procedures of the University. Something clearly needs to be done about how Penn State handles contagious viruses as a whole, because everyone obviously is not on board.

In Provost Erickson's August 7 communication he asks faculty to make every reasonable effort to enable students to complete their courses while recognizing that infected students should safeguard the health of faculty, staff and other students by following self-isolation guidelines. Students should be provided with all possible opportunities to make up missed work and faculty should not expect to receive a health care provider's certification that a student has had the flu. Students who are ill should inform their faculty as soon as possible that they are absent because of the flu and make arrangements to make-up missed assignments or exams. Thank you for your cooperation and please spread that word to your colleagues to help our students who are ill this season.

The Senate officers have completed visits to Abington, Brandywine, Great Valley, Harrisburg, New Kensington, and Greater Allegheny and will visit DuBois tomorrow. The officers will debrief with Provost Erickson and Vice President Romano on October 27.

During these visits some faculty have asked me about the disk scanning initiative and whether faculty would have the ability to perform the scan on their own. I am pleased to confirm that the President and Provost have agreed that faculty members who wish to scan their laptops on their own may do so. More information on this option will be available at a later date.

An Ombudsman, which will soon change to Ombudsperson, Workshop was held on September 18 with 29 participants. Twenty-three units were represented and sixteen campus ombudsmen joined the workshop by video conference.

Duff Gold is serving as interim University Ombudsman following Peter Deines' passing. Duff's term will conclude at the end of spring 2010. Senate Council elects for the position of University Ombudsman and I ask for your assistance in identifying nominees. The person nominated must be a current or emeritus faculty member. On the Senate's Web site, you can find much more information about the work of the ombudsman. The Senate legislated this position in spring 1998. Duff served nine years as ombudsman and Peter Deines served three years. If you have nominations, please send them to myself or Susan Youtz.

Next agenda item, Comments by the President of the University; I would like to invite President Spanier to come forward and make a few remarks.

## COMMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

President Spanier commented on the following topics:

H1N1 – approximately 250 cases a week; week of October 19: 77 new cases

Health Services does not provide excuses for student absences

Financial status of the University

Fall 2009 enrollments

Status of position search for Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School

High-risk student drinking

President Spanier responded to questions on the following topics:

Statistics of where alcohol is consumed

Fewer alcohol problems with inclement weather and less tail-gating

Messages to alumni and their role in alcohol issues

De-emphasis on “party school”

Overview of proposed University Park Undergraduate Association medical amnesty program

Arts and Architecture – Romeo & Juliet (outdoor performance)

Other alcohol programs – effectiveness, social norms (provide people data – no solutions)

## SPECIAL INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

### Long-Term Care Insurance

This invited presentation on Long-Term Care Insurance (LTCI) was given by Robin Oswald, Employee Benefits Manager, Office of Human Resources. Further information about this new benefit can be viewed at <http://www.ohr.psu.edu/Benefits/benefits.htm>.

### FORENSIC BUSINESS - NONE

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

## LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES AND RULES

Revision to the Senate Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 (Election to the Senate)

Dawn G. Blasko, Chair

**Chair Coraor:** The first Legislative report is from Committees and Rules and it appears as Appendix D. This report is a proposed amendment to the Bylaws and was presented at the September 1, 2009, Senate meeting, and will be voted on today. Before we vote, are there any questions for Committee Chair Dawn Blasko? I see none. The report has been brought to the floor by committee and needs no second. Are we ready to vote? All those in favor of this report, please say aye.

**Senators:** Aye.

**Chair Coraor:** Opposed, nay. The ayes have it and the motion passes. Thank you, Dawn.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION  
Addition to Policy 48-40 Deferred Grades  
Jonna Kulikowich, Chair

**Chair Coraor:** The next report is from Undergraduate Education and appears as Appendix E. Committee Chair Jonna Kulikowich will respond to questions.

**Jonna Kulikowich, Education:** Policy 48-40 on deferred grades is presented before you to consider including a statement that if a DF is on a transcript, one will not be allowed to graduate. This would align this policy to the policy 48-50 when there has not been a grade awarded. It also includes the same statement at the end of the policy.

**Chair Coraor:** Are there any questions? I see none. The report has been brought to the floor by committee and needs no second.

All those in favor of this report, please say aye.

**Senators:** Aye.

**Chair Coraor:** Opposed, nay. The ayes have it and the motion passes. Thank you, Jonna.

**ADVISORY/CONSULTATIVE REPORTS – NONE**

**INFORMATIONAL REPORTS**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS, RECORDS, SCHEDULING, AND STUDENT AID  
*Report on Faculty Senate Scholarships Awarded to Undergraduates*, Appendix F.

FACULTY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES  
*Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, Annual Report of 2008-2009*, Appendix G. This annual report provided a summary of the cases considered in the last academic year.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION  
*Report of the 2008-2009 Joint Senate/Administrative Review Committee on the Implementation of First-Year Engagement Plans*, Appendix H. Co-chairs of the committee, Yvonne Gaudelius and Caroline Eckhardt, presented this report and responded to questions.

*Report on Academic Integrity*, Appendix I. Karen Feldbaum, Associate Director of Judicial Affairs, and Yvonne M. Gaudelius, Assistant Vice President and Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, presented the report and responded to questions.

**NEW LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS - NONE**

**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOOD OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**Chair Coraor:** Are there any comments? I see none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Coraor:** May I have a motion to adjourn? All in favor please say aye. Motion carries. The Senate is adjourned until December 8, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

The following Senators were noted as having attended the October 20, 2009 Senate Meeting.

Agawu-Kakraba, Yaw	Clark, Mary Beth
Aggon, Norman	Cohen, Jeremy
Al-Mondhiry, Hamid	Conroy, David
Ambrose, Anthony	Cook, Jonathan
Andrews, Nathan	Coraor, Lee
Atchley, Anthony	Costanzo, Francesco
Aurand, Harold	Coupland, John
Avery, Christine	Crawford, James
Aynardi, Martha	Crouter, Ann
Babb, David	Cuervo-Hewitt, Julia
Baggett, Connie	Curtis, Steven
Ballora, Mark	Davis, Dwight
Barney, Paul	Day, Rick
Barnstable, Colin	Donahue, Henry
Baum, Paul	Eckhardt, Caroline
Beebee, Thomas	Egolf, Roger
Benson, Thomas	Erickson, Rodney
Berkowitz, Leonard	Farmer, Elizabeth
Bittner, Edward	Foley, Karin
Blackwood, James	Fosmire, Gary
Blasko, Dawn	Fox, James
Blood, Ingrid	Francis, Karina
Boehmer, John	Frazier, James
Bordi, Peter	Furlough, Michael
Bowen, Blannie	Gingrich, Dennis
Bower, Robin	Glumac, Thomas
Bowers, William	Goldstein, Jennifer
Braun, Gretchen	Good, David
Bridges, K. Robert	Gouran, Dennis
Brown, Frederick	Gray, Barbara
Brunsdon, Victor	Grimes, Galen
Buckley, William	Griswold, Anna
Burlingame, Philip	Hagen, Daniel
Butler, Peter	Haigh, Michel
Butler, William	Halberstadt, Geoff
Byrne, Patrick	Halpin, Elisha 'Clark
Cai, Guoray	Halstuk, Martin
Camplese, Cole	Hampton, Grace
Cardamone, Michael	Hannan, John
Casteel, Mark	Harmonosky, Catherine
Catchen, Gary	Hayford, Harold
Chelko, Cory	Hemmert, Daniel
Cherry, Robert	Herb, Steven
Clariana, Roy	Hester, Anne
Clark, John	High, Kane

Hinchey, Patricia  
Hoffmann, Barbara  
Holen, Dale  
Hufnagel, Pamela  
Idowu, Peter  
Irwin, Zachary  
Jablonski, Nina  
Jackson, Eric  
Jago, Deidre  
Jayakar, Krishna  
Johnson, Ernest  
Jones, W. Terrell  
Kasting, James  
Keiser, Joseph  
Kenniston, Dillon  
Khalilollahi, Amir  
Khoury, Peter  
Kiss, Matthew  
Knodt, Ellen  
Korostoff, Neil  
Koyce, Ryan  
Kramer, John  
Kremer, Gul  
Kuchler, Alexandra  
Kulikowich, Jonna  
Lagoa, Constantino  
Laman, Jeffrey  
Lee, Barrett  
Leva, Martha  
Lightfoot, Cynthia  
Loeb, Robert  
Loewner, Samuel  
Lu, Xiaofei  
Luloff, Albert  
Lynch, Christopher  
Mangel, Lisa  
Marsico, Salvatore  
Masters, Katherine  
McCarty, Ronald  
McDonald, Anita  
McKinney, Karyn  
Miles, James  
Morales, Aldo  
Mullin, Christopher  
Myers, Jamie  
Nasereddin, Mahdi

Norwood, Paris  
Ofosu, Willie  
O'Hara, Dolores  
Pangborn, Robert  
Paseka, Katherine  
Paterson, Eric  
Pawlak, Staci  
Pendharkar, Parag  
Perrine, Joy  
Peterson, Steven  
Poole, Thomas  
Pytel, Jean Landa  
Quesenberry, Nicholas  
Radhakrishna, Rama  
Rajotte, Edwin  
Ray, Chester  
Reeves, W. Brian  
Ricketts, Robert  
Robinett, Richard  
Robinson, Cynthia  
Romano, John  
Romberger, Andrew  
Ropson, Ira  
Rothrock, Ling  
Rowland, Nicholas  
Ruiz, James  
Rung, Donald  
Salvia, A. David  
Sandmeyer, Louise  
Santoro, Gerald  
Scheeler, Mary Catherine  
Schengrund, Cara-Lynne  
Schreier, Benjamin  
Schulte, Patricia  
Schwab, Jacqueline  
Shannon, Kathleen  
Shannon, Robert  
Shirer, Hampton  
Shostell, Joseph  
Sims, Barbara  
Smith, James  
Smutz, Wayne  
Spanier, Graham  
Spector, David  
Staneva, Marieta  
Staub, Alexandra

Steiner, Kim  
Strauss, James  
Strauss, Susan  
Szczygiel, Bonj  
Taylor, Ann  
Teats, Christopher  
Tierney, John  
Troester, Rodney  
Truglio, Maria  
Turner, Tramble  
Vandiver, Beverly  
Volm, Ian  
Vrana, Kent

Wardrop, Denice  
Waterhouse, William  
Welch, Susan  
Wiens-Tuers, Barbara  
Wilson, Ronald  
Wolbrette, Deborah  
Wright, Melissa  
Yarnal, Brenton  
Yarnal, Careen  
Zambanini, Robert

Elected = 168  
Students = 22  
Ex Officio = 4  
Appointed = 11  
Total = 205