



Youngstown State University—an urban research university—emphasizes a creative, integrated approach to education, scholarship, and service. The University places students at its center; leads in the discovery, dissemination, and application of knowledge; advances civic, scientific, and technological development; and fosters collaboration to enrich the region and the world.

ACADEMIC SENATE AGENDA

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 4:00 P.M.

Room 132 · DeBartolo Hall

1. **[4:00 PM] Call to Order/Certification of Quorum**
2. **[4:01 PM] Approval of Agenda**
3. **[4:02 PM] Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2019 meeting** (Attachment 1)
4. **[4:04 PM] Senate Executive Committee Report** – Chet Cooper, Senate Chair
 - Received Athletic Academic Initiatives presentation from Division of Athletics
 - Addressed Common Syllabus Issues (to be discussed by Academic Standards Committee)
 - Approved Department of Theatre and Dance to have repeated term for departmental senator next year, if desired – there are only two eligible faculty in the department, one being the chair
5. **[4:10 PM] Ohio Faculty Council Report** – No Report
6. **[4:10 PM] Charter and Bylaws Committee** – No Report
7. **[4:10 PM] Report of the Elections/Balloting Committee** – No Report
8. **[4:10 PM] Reports from Other Senate Committees**
 - a. Academic Events Committee – No Report
 - b. Academic Programs Committee – No Report
 - c. Academic Research Committee – No Report
 - d. Academic Standards Committee (Gary Walker, Chair) (Attachment 2)
 - Electronics in the Classroom
 - Common Syllabus
 - e. General Education Committee – No Report
 - f. Honors Committee – No Report
 - g. Library Committee – No Report
 - h. Professional Conduct Committee– No Report
 - i. Academic Grievance Committee– No Report
 - j. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee – No Report
 - k. Program Review – No Report No Report
 - l. Technologies Committee – No Report

9. [4:10 PM] Unfinished Business

- a. Re-envisioning General Education Working Group (Betty Jo Licata, Chair)
- b. Technology Adoption to Augment Student Success (Ernie Barkett, President, SGA)

10. [4:30] New Business

11. [5:00 PM] Adjournment

Attachment 1

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Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 4:00
P.M. Room 132, DeBartolo Hall

Minutes (recorded by Max Grubb)

1. **Call to Order @ 4:03 pm**
 - a. **Quorum Present**
2. **[4:04] Minutes approved from December 5, 2019 meeting (Motion made by Kathy Garlic and seconded by Carol Lamb)**
3. **[4:05 PM] Senate Chair Cooper announced Amy Flick, Faculty Senate Secretary's resignation.**
Made a request for anyone interested being Faculty Senate Secretary to see him.
4. **[4:06pm] However a number of issues have arose concerning academic standards. These are being referred to the Academic Standards Committee and a follow-up is expected at the next Faculty Senate Meeting.**
5. **[4:07pm] No reports except** Curriculum Committee has a report was sent out for review. With no questions it was accepted.
6. **[4:08 PM] Unfinished Business**
 - a. Re-envisioning General Education Committee - Chair Dean Dr. Betty Jo Licata Report
 - i. 13 member committee
 - ii. Looking at general education of students not program
 - iii. General concepts
 - iv. Goal to have preliminary recommendations in may
 1. What general education of YSU should look like.
 2. What general learning outcomes of general education of our students should be
 3. Strategic Development of General Education program to distinguish the YSU student experience
 4. Goal is to come to Faculty Senate in May with proposal
 5. Details then next year
 6. What 21st century general education should look like as attached to senate agenda
 7. In meetings have been brainstorming, examining other university programs, national trends and noting that the state is having big discussions on general education

8. Nationally universities are adapting the LEAP (Liberal Education for Americas Promise) model
9. Talking about the general education across the 4 years for our students.
10. Have to deal with mindsets of students and faculty that general education is something to get out of the way in first couple of years. Should be a 4 year process and is the responsibility of all of us.
 - v. Will have open forums next month to get best thoughts
 - vi. Keep this as an open and transparent process.
 - vii. Concerns were expressed to have part-time faculty engaged in the process.
 - viii. Discussion as an interdisciplinary process, on aligning with student financial realities, how we talk about general education with students, and getting students out on time

7. [4:34 PM] New Business

- First Year Redesign – Carol Lamb and Shelly Blundell
 - Task force formed end of last academic year
 - Looked at ACT distribution of 2017 students and retention to determine our biggest opportunities for improvement.
 - FYE course is one strategy
 - Data points were presented on incoming 2018 students regarding their course work as high school students, the number that entered YSU as decided and undecided and who they turned to for academic advice.
 - The goal is to establish a foundation for success.
- Strategic Planning Update – Mike Sherman
 - (SPOT – Strategic Planning Organization Team)
 - Getting feedback
 - April 17th university wide strategy planning forum (campus wide)
 - Having a variety of speakers on campus for this process
 - Looking at Points of Pride
 - This process includes accenting academic excellence, student success and community engagement
- Blackboard Adoption – VP of Student Council
 - Discussion of having a requirement for posting assignment and exam grades on blackboard.

8. [5:11 PM] Adjournment

Academic Standards Committee Proposals for the 3/6/2019 Senate Agenda

Draft language for the *use of electronic communication devices in the classroom.*

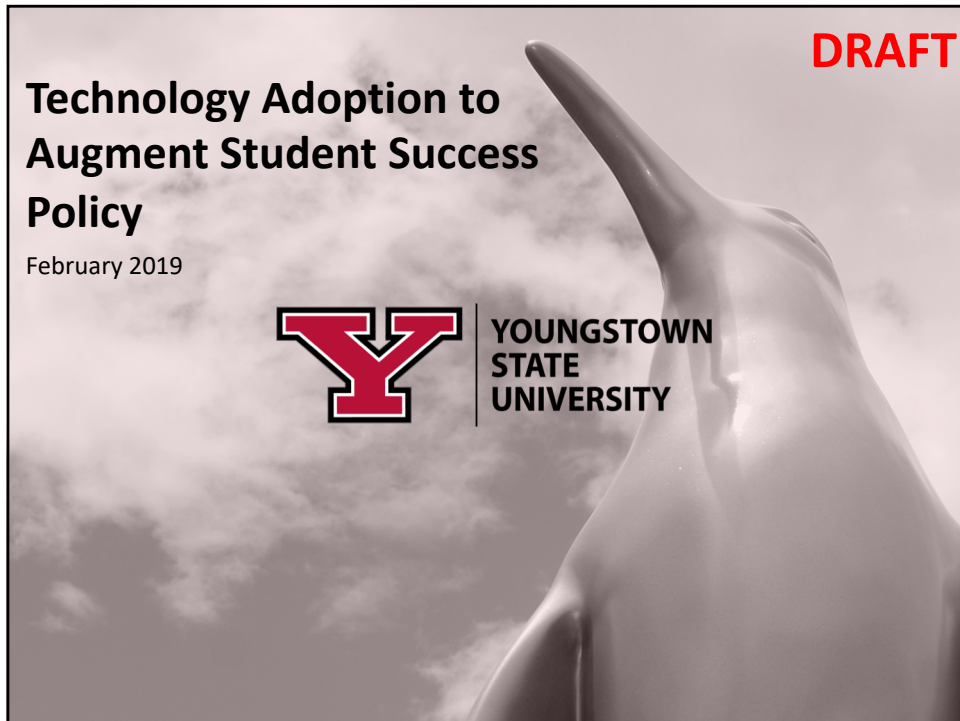
"Personal Electronics, such as cellular phones and tablets, play an important role in the communications necessary in our contemporary world. As these devices have the potential to be used in ways contrary to academic standards and may facilitate academic dishonesty, the faculty member may take steps to limit the use of these devices in the classroom and their courses. If a faculty member has an electronic device policy, that policy must be stated in the syllabus. At the same time, personal communications devices are necessary as a safety tool in time of emergency. The faculty Member cannot bar the student from having these devices in their possession in the classroom."

Rationale: Students need these personal communications in order to receive sometimes critical information during the day, in the classroom and on the move. This is evidenced by the implementation of the YSU text messaging system, and recent events proved the value of such communications.

Draft Language of the *"Common Syllabus Policy"*

"Faculty syllabi, either distributed in hard copy or digitally, must contain detailed academic information governing course specific classroom policies, as outline in Article 28.3 of the OEA agreement. In the interest of specific academic clarity, reference to other important information, but not strictly academic information, the student should be referred to the Academic Senate's Common syllabus page."

Rationale: Justification of keeping the common syllabus material at one location on the Senate Website is for accuracy of information that is subject to revisions at any time. It makes such revisions, that are deemed necessary, easier to implement, by revision of this site alone. By doing this way, policy can be revised in a way that does not require duplication of the same revisions hundreds if not thousands of times across campus.



Agenda

- Why is Technology Adoption essential to Student Success?
- Current State of LMS Adoption
- Policy specifics
- Next Steps
- Questions / Discussion

Why is LMS Adoption essential to Student Success?

- According to the Educause Center for Analysis and Research:
 - Higher numbers of students in public institutions work over 30 hours per week
 - Grade and syllabus posting in the LMS have been found to enhance academic performance
 - Enhanced academic performance equates to higher student engagement, retention and overall success

<https://library.educause.edu/~media/files/library/2018/10/studentitstudy2018.pdf?la=en>



Placeholder SGA Student Survey Results



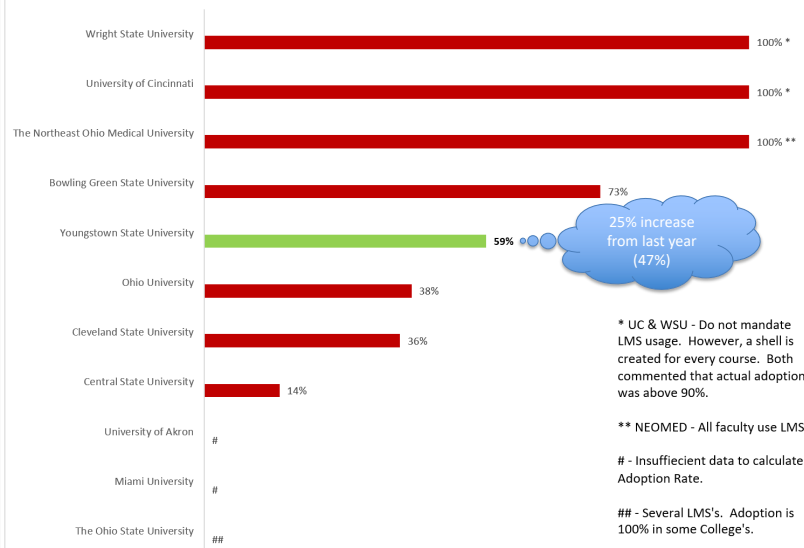
SGA Academic Chair Interview Summary

- SGA members met with 12 Chairs spanning each of the Colleges (except WCBA, WCBA adopted BlackBoard across the College this Spring).
- Feedback ranged from “using BlackBoard and it is an effective tool” to “our department uses GoogleDocs for class information sharing (except grades) and that works for us”.



<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/14nA-CbdV5S21z4u9fRiOsCf82c4miAtunbeUcUeUsa0/edit?usp=sharing>

LMS Adoption Rate



Survey data collected Fall 2018

Policy specifics

Academic department chairs, in consultation with department faculty, shall provide to the dean a recommended plan for adopting the identified technologies within a timeframe that permits two (2) semesters for all full-time faculty teaching within the department to become familiar with and use the technology at the basic level (or as determined through OEA negotiations). An accelerated time-frame may be implemented for part-time faculty. Identified technologies include:

Learning Management System (i.e., the standard, core LMS supported by YSU Information Technology Services) at the basic level or beyond including:

- Syllabus published in the LMS for each course within the first week of the semester
- Grades entered in the LMS twenty-four hours prior to the withdrawal deadline and the final course grade for each semester



Policy specifics

The dean will review and approve in writing the chairperson's recommended plan for faculty technology adoption. Prior to approval, the dean may return proposed adoption plans for modification and/or clarification. Once approved, the dean will forward departmental adoption recommendations to the office of academic affairs. The provost may return departmental recommendations to the dean for modification and/or clarification.

Information Technology Services (ITS) will develop and implement processes such that faculty will not be required to double enter the same data in multiple systems (e.g., no grade Banner grade entry once Blackboard adopted).

An LMS training program and materials will be provided to assist in the adoptions of basic level LMS functionality.



Next Steps

- YSU ITS & BlackBoard Support Team will create a BlackBoard shell for every course for Fall 2019.
- Contact Bill Swann or Joe Alberti to schedule time to customize your course shell.
- A schedule of BlackBoard classes will be coming out starting in August.
- Upon Board of Trustees approval, ITS will begin the integration between BlackBoard and Banner for grades.



Questions / Discussion



