**Committee Report Form | YSU**

**COVER SHEET TO BE ATTACHED TO ALL REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

**Date of Report:** 1/21/2025 **Senate Meeting Date:** 2/5/2025 Report # **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Intended Action:**  Informational\_X\_ Senate Vote \_\_\_ Consultative/Advisory\_\_\_

**Name of Committee Submitting Report:** Academic Events

**Committee Status (elected chartered, appointed chartered, ad hoc, etc.):** Appointed

**Names of Committee Members:** (all appointed)

Members Present: Chet Cooper (chair), Peter Reday, Monica Merrill, Stephanie Smith, Jackie LeViseur , Molly Burdette, Mollie Hartup , Heather Belgin

Members Excused: Snjezana Balaz, Maddy Lutz, Joy Polkabla Byers, Robert Korenic

**Please write a brief summary of the report the Committee is submitting to the Senate:**

See attached agenda and meeting minutes

**If substantive changes in your committee recommendation are made from the floor, would the committee prefer that the matter be sent back to committee for further consideration?**

**Introduction and Rationale**

**Revised Policy/Policies (when applicable)**

**Recommendation**

None at this time

**Events Committee Agenda – January 17, 2025**

1. Introductions
2. Committee Charge
3. Board Policy 10-05

(2) Faculty, staff, board of trustees members and/or anyone associated with the university may submit nominations for commencement speakers and/or honorary degree candidates to the academic events committee of the academic senate or directly to the provost/vice president for academic affairs.

(3) Per the academic senate bylaws, the academic events committee of the academic senate “shall be responsible for making recommendations concerning policy governing academic events such as graduation ceremonies, honors convocations, inaugural ceremonies, and recommend candidates for honorary degrees and commencement speakers to the university’s president.”

(4) The academic events committee will review the credentials of all the nominated candidates and will submit a list of no less than fifteen and no more than twenty recommended candidates for approval by the board of trustees during its regular June meeting. The list may be amended and reapproved by the board at any time throughout the year.

1. Mace Bearer policy – needs to be re-developed
2. Timeline

* Submission deadline from YSU community: 5:00 PM on January 27, 2025
* Nominations to Senate for approval
* List of nominees to Provost/Board of Trustees

1. Commencement Plans for Spring 2025 – Jackie and Heather
2. Nominations Received

* Mace Bearer – Dr. Amy Weaver
* Commencement Speaker
  + Catrina Wright (DM at Kilcawley House)
  + Jeff Magada, from flying High Inc.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 12th at 2:00 PM**

**Academic Events Committee**

**Meeting Minutes – January 17, 2025**

The Academic Events Committee (AEC) of the Academic Senate met at 1:00 PM on January 17, 2025 in the conference room located within the biological sciences research laboratory complex. The following members were present or were granted an excused absence:

Members Present: Chet Cooper (chair), Peter Reday, Monica Merrill, Stephanie Smith, Jackie LeViseur , Molly Burdette, Mollie Hartup , Heather Belgin

Members Excused: Snjezana Balaz, Maddy Lutz, Joy Polkabla Byers, Robert Korenic

The meeting began with introductions followed by the charge of the committee noted by Chair Cooper. The Chair reviewed the portion of the Board of Trustees policy (10-05) that directly pertained to the AEC responsibilities. In particular, the AEC is to solicit nominations for commencement speakers and honorary degree recipients, the present a list of notable individuals to the Board of Trustees. The AEC is also charged with soliciting nominees for Mace Bearer, which are chosen in consultation with the Office of University Events. The chair noted that there had been a policy on the selection of a Mace Bearer, but that policy appears to have been lost and should be reconstructed by the AEC at a future date.

The Chair reviewed the timeline for nominations to be submitted by the University community. After a review and selection of the nominees, they are to be presented to the Senate for approval prior to submission to the Board of Trustees. Several nominees have been submitted at the present time for consideration.

It was noted that the Spring 2025 commencement will actually consist of four separate events, each requiring its own speaker and mace bearer. It was also suggested that at a future meeting the AEC consider recommending that participants wear the hat that accompanies their academic garb.

The Chair requested that committee members begin informing colleagues that nominations are needed and to submit those names to him as soon as practical. The Chair will compile a list of names for the Committee to evaluate at its next meeting to be held at 2:00 PM on February 12, 2025 in the same conference room. It is possible that some work will be performed prior to that time via email communications.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM.