



BLUE & GOLD DIGEST

February 2019

A monthly summary of major activities from ETSU governing bodies

FACULTY SENATE

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- Dr. Fred Alsop, the first Faculty Representative to the ETSU Board of Trustees is in his last year of his two year term. Dr. Alsop has been an outstanding representative on the Board. He has represented the Board at many events, served on the Academic subcommittee of the board, and been a leader in his work with other Trustees. The Faculty Senate is most appreciative of Dr. Alsop's dedication and service as well as establishing a strong standard for the Faculty Representative to the Board.
- Per the Faculty Senate By-Laws, the senate developed a ballot of nominated faculty to move forward to the full body of faculty for a vote. This vote will occur in the next two weeks. The next Faculty Representative to the Board will be named in time to work with Dr. Alsop on a seamless transition to the Board.
- The faculty senate has developed sub-committees (Administrative Review, Shared Governance, Campus Communications, Grants and Research, and Faculty Safety and Planning). Each group is developing recommendations for enhancing practices and services at ETSU. Faculty senate is not a policy making body but does engage in shared governance through review and recommendations relating to faculty issues. The hope is that faculty senate will enhance the shared governance process by taking a proactive effort in recommending future campus actions.
- The Faculty Handbook subcommittee of faculty senate chaired by Past President Dr. Susan Epps is in the final stages of completely revising the faculty handbook to represent a repository of ETSU policies that are most focused on faculty. The handbook does not contain policies outside the ETSU established policies. It is a

place to easily find policies most directly related to faculty. The revisions should be completed this semester.

Note: For complete minutes and other information regarding Faculty Senate meetings, visit <http://www.etsu.edu/senate/>.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

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Action Items:

- A proposal to change the name of a concentration in the B.S. in Engineering from Construction Technology to Construction Engineering Technology was approved.
- Academic Audits are one of the program evaluation processes that non-accredited undergraduate programs use for Quality Assurance Funding. Because ETSU programs have performed poorly on Academic Audits as compared to Program Reviews, Academic Council approved a proposal to no longer permit Academic Audits.
- The Letter of Notification for the establishment of a Doctorate in Occupational Therapy (OTD) in the College of Clinical and Rehabilitative Health Sciences was approved. Pending the President's and the Board of Trustee's approval, the item will be sent to THEC where it will be posted for public comment. Depending on the speed with which the various vetting and approval steps occur - including accreditation - the program will likely be implemented in summer 2022.
- A proposal to establish a minor in Epidemiology was approved.
- The title, charge, and membership of a new committee - the Instructional Space Advisory Group, chaired by Dr. Theresa McGarry - was approved.
- The instructional delivery mode was changed for two academic programs: (1) the M.Ed. in Reading from hybrid to fully online, and (2) the M.B.A. in Business Administration from traditional to traditional and hybrid.
- Dr. David Currie provided a presentation entitled Research Cloud Computing Resources related to Amazon Web Services (AWS). AWS is able to build personal clouds for research projects, address extreme technical demands, meet rigorous security requirements, offer students real-world tools for classroom projects, and more - for a fraction of traditional costs. Interested persons should contact Dr. Currie for more information.

STAFF SENATE

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- The senate has begun planning for the staff picnic, which will be held in the Mini-Dome May 10.

Note: For complete minutes and other information regarding Staff Senate meetings, visit <https://www.etsu.edu/staffsenate/>.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- Passed legislation encouraging additional hallway seating in Rogers-Stout, encouraging the addition of a student member on the university budget committee, and a resolution in support of a pay increase for adjunct professors at ETSU.
- President Gupta and Vice President of Finance and Administration Waldroff represented ETSU at a state SGA executive round table event at The University of Tennessee Chattanooga. Major discussions were held regarding encouraging legislators to vote in support of a voting student member on locally governed institutions boards of trustees and also supporting legislation allowing undocumented immigrants to receive in-state tuition.
- SGA has begun the process of selecting a new student trustee for 2019-2020 as well as planning for SGA elections for 2019-2020.
- SGA is working on civility week March 25-30 and is very excited about keynote speaker Kareem Abdul-Jabbar.

Note: For complete minutes and other information regarding SGA meetings, visit <http://www.etsu.edu/sga/minutes.aspx>.

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- Dr. Bill Kirkwood discussed a financial aid rule that goes into effect fall 2019.
- The council approved revisions to the At Risk Pay Policy.
- A proposal for the protection of University Woods was presented by Dr. Kevin O'Donnell and Kathleen Moore. The council endorsed the proposal.
- A discussion took place regarding the structure of the Budget and Strategic Planning Committee.
- The council approved the Updated Alcohol Policy.
- President Noland reported on his recent trip to Nashville and commented on the timeline for the upcoming budget cycle.
- Dr. Mike Hoff presented a draft of the updated mission profile.

Note: For complete minutes and other information regarding University Council, visit <https://www.etsu.edu/universitycouncil/>.

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- *No report.*