



BLUE & GOLD DIGEST

May 2016

A monthly summary of major activities from ETSU governing bodies

FACULTY SENATE

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- The Senate elected officers for the upcoming year. The transition will take place at the Faculty Senate Retreat on August 16 when the 2015-16 year is closed. Officers for the 2016-17 year are: President: Susan Epps; Vice President: Bill Flora; Secretary: Eric Sellers; Treasurer: Melissa Shaffer; and Chief Operating Officer: Patrick Brown.
- The Senate approved the process for the selection of the faculty representative to serve on the new local governing board (*Note: see the [Senate website, bylaws section 1.5.4. Membership](#) for the full process*).
- The floor is now open for nominations and will remain open through the end of the Faculty Senate Retreat on Tuesday, August 16, 2016. Nominations should be sent to Dr. Virginia Foley at foleyv@etsu.edu. Nominations should include the name of the nominee and a statement of how the nominee meets the criteria for consideration.
- The Senate approved (and applauded) the Progressive Discipline Policy presented by Dr. Randy Byington, chair of the working group from Academic Council.
- A code of ethics was approved to be presented to the entire faculty for a vote during the fall 2016 semester.

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

Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- Dr. Mike Hoff provided a summary of potential disruptions or activities that might impact the fall enrollment. He reported that information from the various colleges indicate that enrollment is expected to remain steady, showing positive increases in some areas.
- Dr. Judith Slagle and Dr. Maria Costa presented information about emergency preparedness for study abroad, summarizing ETSU's responses to events in Belgium, France, Ecuador and Japan in fall 2015 and spring 2016. Because of Fair Labor Standards Act requirements, ETSU legal counsel has recommended that a phrase be included on proposal forms for study abroad courses that prohibits non-exempt employees from traveling abroad as part of their jobs. Dr. Costa announced locations and dates of summer study abroad programs for 2016.
- Dr. Stacy Onks, Dr. Mike Hoff, and Dr. Bach presented information regarding a THEC invitation for ETSU to submit a grant proposal for the Institutional Outcome Improvement Fund. The grant proposal, "Retention Initiatives for Sophomores: Creating a Dedicated Retention System at ETSU" was submitted on May 13, 2016.
- Dr. Bartoszuk presented the Aug. 2011 - Jan. 2016 data for the Graduate Student Success Specialist initiative. The program's goal is to bolster academic success in students who have life/work balance issues by helping them to develop realistic goals and to take pre-emptive measures for potential pitfalls. The initiative, a collaboration between Graduate Studies and the Social Work department, has resulted in an 81 percent retention rate among Social Work graduate students who have met with a specialist.

STAFF SENATE

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- The Staff Picnic will take place Thursday, May 19, from 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- ETSU Chief of Police Jack Cotrel spoke to the Senate about guns on campus.
- Nominations for Staff Senate will be accepted in late June, and the election will be conducted in July.

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

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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Meeting highlights/activities summary:

- The SGA announced the following appointments for the 2016-17 year, which will need to be confirmed in the fall: Chase Coleman as Attorney General; Olivia Ellis as Secretary of State; Molly Jones as Secretary of Exterior; Dominique Cain as Secretary of Interior; Emma Hammer as Secretary of Public Relations; Dustin Gilmer as Secretary of Allocations; Meredith Bell as Chief Justice; and Millie Pendola as Chief of Staff.
- Senator Miller was elected President Pro Tempore.

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

INTERIM UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

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The IUC did not meet in April. For complete minutes and other information regarding the Interim University Council, visit <http://www.etsu.edu/president/interim-council/default.aspx>

NOTE: Blue and Gold Digest will return in September 2016 upon the start of the fall 2016 semester.