

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of November 07, 2023
FACULTY SENATE

<http://www.utoledo.edu/facsenate>

Approved @ FS on 11/21/2023

Summary of Discussion

Note: The taped recording of this meeting is available in the Faculty Senate office or in the University Archives.

President Rouillard: Good afternoon. I would like to call the meeting to order and ask Senator Coulter-Harris to call the roll.

Senator Coulter-Harris: Thank you, President Rouillard. Can everyone hear me?

Group of Senators: Yes.

Senator Coulter-Harris: Can you hear me online?

Group of Senators: Yes.

Senator Coulter-Harris: All right, thank you.

Roll Call: 2023-2024

Present: Ammon Allred, Elissar Andari, Tomer Avidor-Reiss, Gabriella Baki, Bruce Bamber, Sharon Barnes, John Bellizzi, Sheri Benton, Terry Bigioni, Timothy Brakel, Ritu Charavarti, Carmen Cioc, Daniel Compora, Deborah Coulter-Harris, Vicki Dagostino-Kalniz, Maria Diakonova, Holly Eichner, Hossein Elgafy, Elyce Ervin, Collin Gilstrap, Karen Green, Sally Harnych, Rene Heberle, , Cindy Herrera, Mitchell Howard, Jason Huntley, Gary Insch, Ahalapitiya Jayatissa, Dinkar Kaw, Lauren Koch, Revathy Kumar, Linda Lewin, Kimberly McBride, Daniel McInnis, Thomas McLoughlin, Kimberly Nigem, Mahasin Osman, Mohamed Osman, Roberto Padilla, Elaine Reeves, Jennifer Reynolds, Linda Rouillard, Eric Sahloff, Barry Scheurmann, Gaby Semaan, Kathy Shan, Chunhua Sheng, Stan Stepkowski, Steven Sucheck, Weiqing Sun, Jami Taylor, William Taylor, Kasey Tucker-Gail, James Van Hook, Jerry Van Hoy, Aela Vely, Randall Vesely, Don Wedding.

Excused Absence: Samir Hefzy, Catherine Johnson, Paul Schaefer, Lee Strang

Unexcused Absence: Mohamed Moussa, Puneet Sindhvani

Senator Coulter-Harris cont'd: President Rouillard, we have a quorum.

President Rouillard: Thank you, Senator Coulter-Harris. I want to call your attention to the Faculty Senate website. We have all of our committee members listed. The University Sabbatical Committee is also listed. I know some of you all had some questions about the substitutes. We have Greg Gilchrist from Law, Ruslan Slutsky from the College of Education, and Joseph Schmidt from the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. You will also find the UCAP Committee members there.

I'd like to remind you about the Faculty Senate survey regarding budget cuts. We currently have 334 questionnaires. We have 417 open. Given the number of unfinished---

Senator Semaan: Sorry for interrupting you, President Rouillard, but we cannot hear you online. If you can move closer to the microphone, please.

President Rouillard: Okay. Sorry. Regarding the Faculty Senate survey, we have 334 finished questionnaires. We have 417 that had been open and started, but not finished. So, I am extending the survey for another week through November 15 at midnight to give the people who started the survey the chance to finish. To give those of you who haven't started as well, a chance to finish. If you can't find the

link, please contact me. Lisa Taylor will send out another link for you. Some people are, as usual, finding that these things end up in their spam folders. So please let us know if you haven't gotten the link.

I'd also like to let you know that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee sent a letter of support to students acknowledging the effects of the Middle East conflict on our students. We've encouraged them to come to their faculty to talk, to get some support, to ask for support and give support as well. We've also given them links to the Counseling Center and to the Medical Center for other kinds of support and help.

The Executive Committee attended the ALT meeting on Friday, Nov. 3. We learned that workload forms will be due at the end of January. The teaching component of these forms will be automatically populated by the banner course entries for AY25. As I understood it and other members of the Executive Committee were there, the Banner schedules are due on December 9. Is that what you all remember?

Senators Van Hoy and Barnes: Yes.

President Rouillard cont'd: So it is important to verify your courses before December 9. Colleges will begin working on their new or updated strategic plans. A template is being developed for those plans. It is not clear if faculty will vote on those plans or not, though it is clear that it is expected that faculty will have input on those college level strategic plans.

We also learned about changes to the Carnegie Classifications of universities. The updated qualifications were described at the ALT meeting. They will become much simpler, focusing on the number of Ph.Ds. produced and on research expenditures. To be classified as R1 institution, we must graduate at least 70 Ph.Ds. per year and spend at least \$50 million on research. In a conversation with President Postel, he assured us that in fact, we already meet those criteria. So, it is very likely that we will be qualified as an R1 in spring 2024. The data I saw suggests that we graduate about 115 PhDs per year, and that our research expenditures, I believe are over \$50 Million per year.

President-Elect McBride and I met with President Postel last Friday. We discussed such topics as the need to promote our teacher education programs in particular, given the state and national shortage of teachers. We also stressed that state legislative workforce and higher ed. committees need to put the teacher shortage on their list of programs that relate to workforce needs. I have to admit that when I hear the discussions from legislators about workforce demands, we certainly hear computer science statistics. We hear STEM. And that's all very true and it is all very good. But, we also need to hear and our administration and the IUC need to bring it to legislature attention that one of the workforce demands, one of the most important workforce demands in our current economy is teachers.

I will be meeting with the Provost later this week and have asked to discuss some items related to curricular matters and decisions that have not come through Faculty Senate. These relate to definitions and stipulations for concentrations and to OT 36. I will keep you updated after that conversation. But I do want to thank Interim Provost, Scott Molitor who has assured us that things such as program closures, or suspensions would indeed now come before Faculty Senate, which they have not given the list of 50 that we saw recently.

That concludes my report. Does anyone from the Exec. have anything to add?

Senator Coulter-Harris: Yes. I would like to thank you, President Rouillard and I would like to thank the Faculty Senate Office for putting out our student involvement survey to all faculty. So if you could encourage your students to please fill out the survey, it only takes about five minutes. Dr. Karen Greene will present the results of the survey at the last Faculty Senate meeting on December 5th. Also, the Faculty

Senate subcommittee on parking will be giving their report on the 21st. But I want to thank you both. Thank you so much.

President Rouillard: Okay, anybody else? Senator Brakel?

Senator Brakel: Just a reminder about House Bill 151---

Senator Eichner: We can't hear. Can you move to the mic?

Senator Brakel: Okay, there was a mic beside me. Can you hear me now?

President Rouillard: Can you pass this (microphone) back to him?

Senator Brakel: This is a quick update about House Bill 151. You've received an email from the AAUP over the weekend regarding various aspects of that. But there are a couple of issues related to Faculty Senate that you need to be aware of. And we also need for you now to make sure you are contacting representatives, and especially House Speakers and so on. But specifically, there's still this requirement about [an] American history course that contains some very specific things that are supposed to be studied. And it is now going to be removed from the Chancellor and it sounds like universities will now have purview of developing that course. There are still issues related to controversial beliefs or policies, especially as it relates to climate change, foreign policy, diversity issues and so on. That is still within the bill. So, we want to make sure that you are aware of that. And then also, there are some issues related to restricting intellectual diversity in the classroom as well as issues related to syllabi and the posting of that. So, those fall within the Faculty Senate purview. Please read the email for who to contact and more information about the bill.

President Rouillard: Any other comments from the Executive Committee? Hearing none. Well, in that case, we'll move on to the next item of the agenda, which is to adopt the agenda. Is there a motion to adopt?

Senator Avidor-Reiss: So moved.

Senator Semaan: Second.

President Rouillard: All those in favor of adopting the agenda, although I will ask your indulgence, Trustee Will Lucas isn't here yet; and so, if he's not here at 4:30 pm, we'll keep moving on until he gets here. So, with your indulgence, with a little bit of flexibility. All those in favor of approving the agenda, please signify by saying, 'aye' or writing 'yes' in the Chat box. Any opposed? Abstentions? *Approval of the Agenda Passed.*

All right, then the next thing we need to approve are the Minutes from October 10. I believe Quinetta has already circulated those. Is there a motion to approve the Minutes from October 10?

Senator Coulter-Harris: So moved.

Senator Van Hoy: Second.

President Rouillard: Any discussion, questions or comments on the Minutes? Then in that case, all those in favor of approving the Minutes of October 10, please signify by saying 'aye' or writing 'yes' in the Chat box. Any opposed? Any abstentions? *Motion Passed.*

So, that brings us to reports. Provost Molitor can't be here in person but wanted to give his report virtually today. I see he's there. Are you ready Provost Molitor?

Provost Molitor: Yes. Can you hear me?

President Rouillard: We can hear you.

Provost Molitor: Thank you, Dr. Rouillard, and apologies I cannot attend in person today. I would like to start with a tribute to a colleague of ours, John Klear. Some of you may remember John from the Arts and Sciences Student Services office. John later moved on to work in Institutional Research and most recently he worked as an analyst for Enrollment Management. Two weeks ago, John succumbed to his injuries following a hiking accident at Yosemite National Park.

I first got to know John in my role as director of assessment and later as undergraduate associate dean in the College of Engineering. John was one of my “go-to’s” on questions related to where and how I could find student data for assessment and tracking. He was always generous with his time, and willing to take the time to help me figure out whatever it was I was trying to do. More recently, John became an active member of Toledo’s running community, and I would either see him at one of the races I would run, or he would email after the fact to ask why I wasn’t there and to provide me encouragement to show up at the next race.

Runners that regularly enter races are usually running for personal reasons - to break a personal record, to place near the top of our age group, to run faster than our previous race, or to achieve other milestones. John took a more selfless approach to racing. In several events, John entered as a pacer. The job of the pacer is to run at a fixed pace that is deliberately slower than they would usually run. In doing so, a pacer is helping other competitors that have a goal of completing the race within a certain time, by serving as a reference point, and more importantly, by providing support and encouragement for those that are trying to achieve their own personal milestones. This is one of many examples that illustrates the kind of person John was.

John is survived by his wife Jenny and sons Oskar and Josef. I would ask that you join me in a moment of silence to honor John. ... Thank you. I appreciate you indulging me on this.

I wanted to pass along a few updates. The search for the Provost and Arts & Letters dean are progressing. Finalists for the Provost candidates will be on campus and participate in open forums in January. We are also finalizing search committees for the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and College of Nursing dean searches and will kick off these searches shortly. We are close to launching a revised onload workload form that should simplify the process by extracting the teaching workload directly from the Banner course schedule and are hoping to accelerate the workload timeline to have workloads submitted before the Fall 2024 – Spring 2025 course schedule goes live to students in February 2024.

We will soon be distributing information to the deans for the academic program prioritization process. Again, the emphasis of our program prioritization process is to reduce the number of course offerings where possible, which will allow faculty to focus on improving their current offerings and developing innovative programs that will garner new enrollment. I understand in the coming weeks there will be some difficult conversations occurring within the colleges on this topic. However, business as usual is not an option to reverse our enrollment decline and to invest resources in areas that have potential for enrollment growth.

Finally, I would like to respond to a question from the previous Faculty Senate meeting that Dr. Avidor-Reiss asked [me] about the University's response to the recommendations made by the Art & Science group. My interpretation from the Art & Science report was that we had strengths in areas that prospective students found attractive when deciding on which college to attend, and that we just had to market these strengths more explicitly. However, as Dr. Avidor-Reiss conveyed to me after the previous Senate meeting, this was not the full story.

A more significant finding is that we must also adapt our culture to ensure students receive the creative, innovative and hands-on experiences they are seeking. Tomorrow, I will be meeting with other senior leaders to discuss our next steps in response to the Art & Science recommendations and I will provide more information on our proposed path forward as soon as possible.

Thanks again for the opportunity and I would be happy to answer any questions.

President Rouillard: Does anybody need the microphone for questions? Are there questions online?

Professor Barbara Miner: Yes, I have a question.

President Rouillard: Okay. Please go ahead.

Professor Miner: Thank you. I think that was really exciting Scott, to hear about students wanting hands-on experiences. But I don't want to approach that point from a place of thinking there's a vacuum of courses that offer those kinds of experiences or entire programs that do. And so I'm wondering, if before you have those discussions or in the initial phase of those discussions, it might make sense to actually pull together a catalog of courses and programs that offer the exact thing that we are not marketing to students, which is deep experiential learning, both on campus and off-campus that does exactly what students want. I don't know that the University has a good roster of those courses or programs. So that concerns me a great deal.

Provost Molitor: No, that is an excellent point. I believe that is part of the process. Number one, figuring out and cataloging as you stated, what we are doing in that regard. And then, figuring out areas that we could add those experiences where we're not doing them. So, I couldn't agree more. I think you're absolutely correct on the first step of that process. And I will make sure I convey that in the discussion we have tomorrow.

Professor Miner: Can I just follow-up really briefly? One of the things that I know from my meeting with students from 115 visits, high school visits, all kinds of things, is that basically the University of Toledo is one of the best kept secrets. The extraordinary efforts of all the faculty to get these kinds of programs available to students is simply not being made aware of. So, it's being put out there for the general public. So, it is a two-step thing which is documenting what we're offering and then getting it out there. I'm not sure we have to throw the 'baby out with the bath water' or reinvent things. It's more, we need to put out to the general public the amazing things that we're doing.

Provost Molitor: I agree. I would just add a third step, which is to make sure we're doing these things in areas where we're not currently doing them. But otherwise, I completely agree with you.

President Rouillard: I think there's also an additional component to that. And that is that while students may express interest in particular programs when they are looking to apply to universities, they don't know what they don't know. They often develop interests and disciplines after they arrive here. We can't just rely on 'well, they filled out a card that said they're interested in this, and we've got five people interested in this, and seven people interested in this. So, we'll present only those programs to them at

some sort of Open House.’ I think we have to give them a much broader view of all of the resources that are available at a university. Anything else?

Senator Barnes: Thank you. Thanks, Provost Molitor. I’m wondering if you would say more about the prioritization process. Are the folks who are looking at engaging in the process being given guidelines by your office, or other offices on campus, and what's the process going to be?

Provost Molitor: Yes, we are in the process of finalizing the data we are going to be sending out and the guidelines for which the review should be conducted, and the types of milestones, and metrics and things like that. Once we have those finalized and we share them with the college dean’s offices, we will certainly share that with the Faculty Senate and Graduate Council as well.

Senator Eichner: I'm sorry if I missed it, but is there a timeframe for that to be coming out?

Provost Molitor: Yes. So this will begin towards the end of this semester. Obviously, we're moving close to the end of the semester, and we will continue into the spring semester and hopefully everything will be wrapped up by the end of the spring 2024 semester.

President Rouillard: I hate to bring things to an abrupt close, but Trustee Will Lucas informs me that he has a hard stop at 5 o’clock. So if you don’t mind, we will move to his conversation with us. And we thank you, Provost Molitor for being with us today.

Provost Molitor: Thank you.

President Rouillard: So, without further ado, it is my pleasure to introduce you to the current Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Will Lucas. I know that he is a man of many talents and interests. He is a poet, a tech wizard, as well as a local entrepreneur. So, it is my pleasure to welcome you.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Thank you so much.

President Rouillard: There you are.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Thank you so much. Should I stand in a particular spot, or do they see me? Thank you so much for allowing me an opportunity to come at this juncture. I think the timing couldn't be better. I want to start with just a little bit of introduction because I know not everybody in here is aware of my story, and I think it is important to set it up this way. So, my name is Will Lucas. I was born and raised here in Toledo. I've been here all, but two years of my life. Those two years were spent in Atlanta, chasing my songwriting dreams and music production dreams. But, I’m a child of Toledo. I actually grew-up across the street from the University. I grew up on Ranch, which is right behind Corpus Christi. So from my front lawn, I could actually hear the band practicing when I was playing catch with my dad outside. I remember those days. So, to be on the Board at all is a privilege considering where I come from and being a first-generation graduate. I’m the first person on both sides of my family to graduate from college. And so, to be the Chair of the Board, I couldn’t say more about what that means to me and my mom.

I was a non-traditional student. I didn’t immediately go to college. Right after high school, I knew I wanted to be an entrepreneur. I knew I wanted to start a business, and I went on about the work of doing that immediately after going (to high school). And every month or so, somebody would say, you need to go back to school, you need to go to school, you need to go to school. So, I persisted. I just didn't do it consistently throughout, you know, in a consistent way. But I did. What’s been important to me, you know, based on my story is the recognition that the non-traditional student is [now] becoming the ‘traditional’ student. In that, there are a lot of people who have the kind of story that I have. Maybe they weren’t trying start a business -- but life happens -- or they have other dreams, or whatever it is. But my

story and not being the consistent student is one that is becoming more pervasive. And so, I'm honored to be with you guys today.

Because I have a hard-stop, I'm so thankful for Dr. Rouillard for sending some questions that I can speak to, because it is important that I speak to the things that matter and are great import to you guys. Before I get into that, and I won't 'suck' up all the time. Today, I am an entrepreneur. I have four businesses here in town. One, that you guys may be most aware of, is Tollhouse. It's a private social club downtown. We have the first and only jazz club in town in 10 years. And so, I have the 'honor' of having Murphy's piano on my stage downtown. And hidden in Tollhouse is Rusty's Piano, because it is going to be in another building down the street. But I also have a technology startup. I have a media production company. We do video production, website development, and communication strategy, and we also do real estate. So, that is me. That is all the time I'm going to spend talking about myself. So again, thank you to Dr. Rouillard for presenting the questions so that I have an opportunity to speak to the things that matter. So, diving into those, can I preface them before I respond to each of them?

President Rouillard: Sure.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Okay, thank you.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #1: Senator Cirino recently sponsored a symposium for university trustees on SB83. Did UToledo trustees attend? What is our Board of Trustees' position on SB83? At this symposium, Senator Cirino called for more partnerships between trustees and lawmakers. What sorts of partnerships would you envision?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: Senator Cirino had a symposium a couple of weeks ago. They talked a lot about House Bill 83 and wanting to have partnerships with Trustees and etc. We did have solid representation, virtually and onsite at the symposium. Although I won't have comments to share today about pending legislation and proposed legislation, I think it is prudent for Trustees, at many universities, to be partnered with lawmakers - particularly to advance the positive thing that is going on at their schools. You know, obviously, I spend a lot of time in Columbus. I've also had the privilege of being the Vice Chair of the Casino Control Commission, an advisor to Lieutenant Governor on "Innovate Ohio," and immediate past chair of the MLK Commission. So, I think it is important that we have facetime with legislators who are proposing legislation, passing legislation, ideating legislation. These things are important that they are aware of the things that matter to us. And so, it is prudent for us to do this. It is also important they are aware of the things that not necessarily come from internal to the institution, but the stakeholders and the external -- [such as] what matters to the students, what matters to the business community -- because legislation has consequences. So, I'm pleased to be invited at this juncture because it's such a hot topic, and I'm open to hearing your ideas on the things that we should be aware [of] because we don't always get this opportunity. So again, I'm thankful for the invite. One of the things that was mentioned, and I took a note on this because it meant so much to me as a business operator, Senate President Matt Huffman made a statement where he said when they think about legislation, "What are the tools we can give these Boards so that they can go out and do the thing?" What he was alluding to is, they don't do this every day. And so, they are coming up with ideas and etc., and listening to folks trying to put together legislation that they think is helpful (sometimes). But I bring up that quote, because I think about these things the same way. I'll reference it. I think in parallel so excuse me - indulge me for a second. We have five bars at Tollhouse and four lounges, a coffee house, sports bars, co-working space that will open Thursday this week, and a full-service kitchen. My job is not to go cook in the kitchen. Right? My job is to make sure that the people who cook have what they need to do their thing. So, to his, President Huffman's, comments, what they are thinking about, for better or for worse, is trying to give the Boards and Trustees tools. And what we think about every day is how do we give the President and the Administration tools, so that they can go out and do their work so that you guys can go out and do yours. And so, that is what I think is important to know

about how I view the role, and how I view the administrations' role. We're supposed to be partners in this. So I'm thankful for that opportunity and the humbling opportunity to be able to do that.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #2: What is the BOT's vision for the Institute for Constitutional Thought?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: The Institute for Constitutional Thought, and what is our vision for that? I would say, what we aim to do is adhere to the guidelines and support the stated spirit of the effort, which is to help develop future leaders with the legal profession, and to provide space for diverse voices and to discuss and debate 'key' questions about American society, history, law and politics. With that, I recognize that the concern many have shared is that, and you know, these concerns are not lost on us, is that this is designed to impose a particular ideology or suppress a separate ideology. I think any effort in action is going to have to be managed. Also, people should have the right to speak up. And you are speaking up, and the students are speaking up, and communities are speaking up; some institutions, some folks inside some institutions have made some comments. I think also, purely as a funded institute, I choose to see it as an opportunity because it is an opportunity to provide academic instruction. What is important for us, I guess the Administration, the Provost etc., is that we provide opportunities so that these things can be managed. There are rough edges that are going to have to be sand-down, and that is with any new effort. So it's important that while it's been argued that the opportunity here is a narrow focus, I'm not here to argue that it isn't a narrow focus. What I will say is, that the need for funding for other efforts still exist. And that is a true statement. You know, I don't want to see these as mutually exclusive because 'they gave money to this' and 'they won't give it for that.' It's important that we still push for funding for academic opportunities that we feel are important. But it's going to have to be managed is the short answer. So, I choose to see it as an opportunity to do some good work. And if you have concerns, continue to fight to be heard. Well, you don't have to fight, [because] we're listening. So, continue to speak up when you have concerns about these sorts of things.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #3: Students are concerned that the University has not made a statement on the Middle East conflict, and yet we have students with friends and family among both the Palestinians and the Israelis. How do you suggest that we support our students who are concerned about people on both sides of the border?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: What is the next one? "Students are concerned that the University has not made a statement on the Middle East conflict, and yet we have students with friends and family among both the Palestinians and the Israelis. How do you suggest that we support our students who are concerned about people on both sides of the border?" Providing a safe space for students, families, and supporters is of the utmost importance to us, and I think everybody feels that way. Alongside that, it is the important for us to create a space where thoughtful, even passionate dialogue can happen, and it is embraced -- And that is what college campuses are supposed to be. We're supposed to 'battle' about ideas, not literally battle. But we're supposed to have these debates. That's what's so great about this institution. We're going to disagree on things, and so we want to provide places where people can feel safe to disagree and to speak up about their disagreement. So, I will say that we are committed to a safe campus. And there's a difference [I recognize] in having a safe campus and feeling safe on campus, and I don't want to gloss over that. But we are committed to providing a safe campus to where those disparate ideas, and disparate backgrounds, and philosophies can be protected and amplified in some ways. I think it is important also that we don't shy away from opposing ideas; it's too much of that going on already with other things going on in our social discourse. I know the President and other administrators have been out talking to student groups and they're continuing to do that. It's important that they do that. But I'm also not going to sidestep the conversation that folks have asked for a published statement. So what I will say is, we will focus on--at this time--working to make sure people are safe. That is what I can say to that.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #4: Some people say that UToledo does not know how to define or identify itself. What image does the BOT have for the university?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: I'm reading the next one. "Some people say that UToledo does not know how to define or identify itself. What image does the Board have for the University?" I wish Megan was here, but we recently published an RFP...proposal seeking an agency to assist us in doing this work and clearly defining our identity. We're in that process. I heard somebody say it on Zoom a couple of moments ago before I got up, which is we have a lot of value, and you know, we're too big a secret for the stuff that go on. I'm going to tell you a real quick story. I grew up here, again, as I mentioned. I heard for my entire life, 'if Toledo,' 'if we can just do these next couple of steps, then we're going to be what could have been.' I heard stories that we were supposed to be what Chicago is today, but people decided to keep going west, and all this kind of stuff. And as I was getting older, I was like, at what point are we going to realize the potential? You know, it's always potential out there. Like, at what point do we get it? And it's not lost on you guys. I hope that Toledo is undergoing a renaissance. There's a lot of really cool things happening, so this time feels different. You know, I had the privilege in investing in some real estate downtown. I believe it is too often that folks not from Toledo see the value that we have in this community, and we don't see it enough. That's not speaking for everybody, but by and large, what I've heard; I was born here so I'll take the privilege of saying that. Sometimes we are our own worst enemy. I was in China when I found out the only express way that goes as far north as you can go, as far south as you can go, as far east as you can go, and as far west, cross right downtown. The only ones in the country. I was in China when I learned that. And so, you know, these things are remarkable to me that we don't always see the value. I will say again, Megan is doing is doing a great job of trying to find an agency that will help us clearly define this thing. So I admonish you to please, and I ask you to please, if you have ideas on how, even if you have problems with how we've tried to message ourselves previously, we want to learn from those. I spend all day, every day; I work in branding and marketing, so I think about this a lot. And so, I really, sincerely request [for you to] send. Maybe you can condense it and aggregate it somehow, but send all those ideas to Megan, because we're trying to figure it out also.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #5. Faculty encourage BOT members to visit some of our classes so they could get to know faculty better and talk with students about their experiences here. Would board members be willing to spend some time doing this to better understand teaching and learning on our campus? Faculty Senate will happily facilitate this.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: Next one. "Faculty encourage BOT members to visit some of our classes so they could get to know faculty better and talk with students about their experiences here. Would board members be willing to spend some time doing this to better understand teaching and learning on our campus? Faculty Senate will happily facilitate this." I don't find this inappropriate at all. As a matter of fact, I was voting this morning and I ran into Eleanor Kostecki on my way out of voting. She said she would love for me to come talk to our communications group. And I work in communication, so, you know, I welcome the opportunity to meet, to see what they're learning in class, and to talk about how it relates to what we're doing in the real world. Hopefully it is what we're doing in the real world, but I believe it is because we're really good here. But yes, if you have ideas on classes we should attend, I ask you to really reach out to Scott Molitor, and say, hey, you know, we like to extend an invitation. And even if it's not to me, but there's, I think, seven – Dr. Postel, is it eight Board members today, maybe nine?

University of Toledo President, Dr. Postel: Eight and two students.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: There others of us who should, those should be extended to as well.

Faculty Senate Exec. Committee Question #6. Please provide us with more information about the role and structure of UHealth. Besides ProMedica, what other health-care partnerships do we have?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas cont'd: The goal is to improve operations. To be honest, healthcare operations, including the delivery of health care, research and instruction [is] included in that. We're undergoing this effort. We looked at what would be considered standard bears, Ohio State, Medical Center, and Michigan. What we are working towards here is an operation that works at its best. You know, I mentioned this when I talked about Toledo. We don't want to be our own worst enemy and standing in our own way of progress. And so, the goal with UTHHealth is to put together a collection of people with diverse expertise that can help advance the mission of those particular articles. Again, research, instruction, health care, and delivery. Just a little over a year ago—I remember this clearly—the hospital wasn't in a great place, 18 months ago, maybe two years. Dr. Postel and his team have done a remarkable job of turning that around to where we are not having the conversation any more about where's the hospital going to go. I mean, that wasn't a long time ago. People forget, you know, because we so too often focus on the issue at hand, and we don't take the moment of gratitude in the morning and say the things that are actually going well. And that's something that is actually going well today. So, through a lot of grueling work, this leadership team has largely turned it around. So I think they are owed a debt of gratitude for that. What I recognize also (same thing I said about the institute) these things have to be managed. Just because you got it right one day, tomorrow there's a whole new set of issues that you guys and others who aren't here today will be faced with. And so, we want to be supportive of that and put the right structure as advised by best practices in place so that we can do this most effectively. We shouldn't be duplicating back-office operations - it doesn't make sense. So, what we are trying to do is streamline so that we're not our own worst enemy and standing in our own way to progress. So, yeah, I mean, those are effectively the comments.

I will close my prepared remarks by saying, you know, I was born and raised here. I graduated from UT. There's a testament to what I've been able to humbly achieve in my life being a Trustee at all, and today, being Chair of the Board and Vice Chair of the Casino Control Commission. I'm the youngest appointed commissioner the state has ever had. And so, there are probably people in this room or on this call who taught me. It is very likely that I was in your class -- so you know my grades<laughter>. I don't know, but there's probably somebody on this call or in this room who I came through your class. And so, the story that I have is a testament to the caliber of people who are in this University and institution, both administratively and academically. I am thankful. I know we don't always have the opportunities to express that kind of gratitude, but for me, and probably from my mom also, thank you for what you do because you spend a lot of time learning yourself so that you can teach others. So, I am appreciative of that work, and I know others are also. Thank you.

President Rouillard: Any questions for Trustee Lucas?

Senator Avidor-Reiss: ... [Indecipherable]

Senator Eichner: If something is being said, we can't hear online what's being said.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: So the gentleman, I'm sorry, I didn't get your name. But he asked about a document that was created about a year ago that spoke to enrollment. He asked if I had seen it. I have not seen it. But it was positioned to administration, and there are some gaps on whether we're doing some of that stuff, not doing some other things. But the foundation of what I believe I hear you saying is that you want to heal a divide, because there's some maybe consternation in some conversations. Is that inadequate?

Senator Avidor-Reiss: Yes, it's certainly right... [Indecipherable]

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Certainly. I could not appreciate those comments more. And so, I've been on this Board since 2016 --and you know the Board changes too--and so there's entrees of new people, exits of folks. And every time you get somebody new and every time somebody leaves, the dynamic changes, and so you've got to find ways to get along, and to work best to get along, and to work best. It's not always about getting along, because we do fine. But sometimes you have to think about how do we fit bringing our different and diverse experiences to something, so that we can move the ball forward? And so, I would say as Chair and as an individual, it serves nobody when we're at loggerheads. I think what's important to know so that we don't get to those places, is that not everybody's going to get what they want. And I think we all are adults to be able to admit not everybody-- administration, or faculty, or Board members, or citizens of Toledo -- are ever going to get everything they want. But I think it's important, as I've said today a few times, it's important that you continue to speak up. I'm not ever against somebody having an alternative position. If I have a position, I'm going to debate it out and if I'm wrong, I'm wrong. And happy to be that way. But I want to hear a good position. At the end of the day, we are all here to do the same thing -- to educate future leaders, future artists and future whatever they want to be, a stay-at-home parent etc. You know, we want them to be educated. So, that is what we are all here to do. And so, I think if we come to the table with a pure heart, actually wanting to listen and not digging our heels in when we hear something we don't like, I think that's the best position we can be in as an institution.

Senator M. Osman: Good to see you, my friend. I have a question about the affiliation, the second version. So, what's the strategic plan for the University? What is the strategy in pursuing this updated version? What's the goal? And what's the timeline if we have answers yet?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Is he talking about the ProMedica deal?

President Rouillard: Yes.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Right now we're hoping that we have a partner who's able to continue to be a going concern and a thriving concern. We have a lot of students that are under their care, so I think it is important that -- you know, nobody's wishing for a downfall, but it is not great seeing (and they would admit this too) what is happening. I can't speak today of any particular strategic plan. We have a President who I think is in a better position to speak on the strategy. But I think it is important that we always recognize that we have students over there and they are having good experiences. They're going to be physicians, they're going to be nurses one day, they're going to be anesthesiologists, etc. They're going to be taking care of us someday, and so, I want to make sure that they're in the best position to learn. So, that is my strategy -- to put them in the best position to learn.

President Rouillard: Senator Eicher.

Senator Eicher: Hello. Did you call on me for a question?

President Rouillard: Yes.

Senator Eichner: All right. I just wondered what the Board of Trustees stance was on the lack of negotiations or functional negotiation with the Union? So right now, lecturers are working without a contract. They've been denied their raise, and I'm wondering what the Board of Trustees or how they feel about that?

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: I would say those are ongoing. I can't necessarily speak to the details of those. Unfortunately, we won't have a lot of comment for this one. But I'm hopeful at the

end of the day that we come to something that, you know, folks can be happy with, and live with, and people feel appreciated. That's what I can give to that one.

President Rouillard: Ally Day had her hand up for a bit. Do you have a question?

Professor Ally Day: I do. Thank you, Linda. Hi. My name is Ally Day. I teach in the College of Arts and Letters in the Disability Studies program.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Say that one more time, I want to hear it.

Professor Day: My name is Ally Day. I teach in the College of Arts and Letters, Disability Studies program.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: Got it.

Professor Day: So I'm wondering if the Board has had a substantive conversation about the National AAUP Audit Report, and why are we still talking about enrollment numbers when it seems like there's numerous other problems financially? You know, you began sort of asking questions by sort of addressing the division, as if it was a division about feelings when I think there's maybe a division on campus that's about facts, and whether or not we have people actually listening to faculty concerns about things like budget cuts. We're not getting clear answers, particularly from the CFO and the President's administration.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: I appreciate the question. What I would say to that is we are in receipt of those documents. Our Finance Chair, Mike Miller made sure all of us have gotten that. And what I'd say to it is, well, number one, I don't want to belittle anybody's position on presenting this as a 'feeling.' I don't want to come across as saying this is about 'feelings,' cause it's not. It is about people who have genuine concerns, to your point, based on fact. And so, I apologize if I positioned this as an issue of personal dispute. And I will repeat, or I'll emphasize what I said about a separate issue. These things are not mutually exclusive. Enrollment is a problem. There are other problems also and they all speak to the financial health of the University, and we're trying to figure them all out. We can't do that in isolation. We're doing that with you guys. We're doing that with the unions. We're doing that with the community. We're trying to figure these things out. And again, we're not going to agree on all things, all solutions. But I'm hopeful that you guys will continue to speak up if you have ideas, issues, concerns, even passionate ones. Because I believe you have not only the right, but the privilege of being heard. I would say that the Board is completely open to hearing those views, even the ones that folks may disagree with.

Professor Day: I just want to follow-up. I do think that there's some significant concern with CFO Matt Schroeder and his actual ability to do the job that he has.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: The CFO you said?

Professor Day: Yes.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: I think you have a great President to speak to his team, and so I will allow the President to speak to his administration. I do have to run in a minute or so.

President Rouillard: Question. So, if faculty have questions or concerns that they would like to share, should we contact you or---

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: It would be through the Board's secretary, so, you'll go through Katie, just like you did for this one. Again, I am open to hearing those things, but I just want to make sure we go through the proper channels. And so, if you have questions about us visiting your lecturers, to have engagement with students, that would be Scott Molitor, I imagine. If you got questions that you want to present to the Board, that would be through Katie.

President Rouillard: One more question.

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: This is probably the last one.

Senator Brakel: [Indecipherable]...

Board of Trustees Chairman, Mr. Will Lucas: I apologize that I have to run. But I really want to say, I'm very thankful for the work that you guys do and for allowing me the opportunity at this juncture. When you get asked to do the Board's service like this, you know, there's a level of excitement because again, for me, I went here etc., and you get an opportunity to serve the community. And you know, the roses, while they are still a rose, this stuff is not always easy. But I appreciate the dialogue and again, the debate, as I mentioned earlier because at the end of the day, we want what you guys want – and that's to educate the future and to provide world-class research so that we can change the world. And I believe we can do that from the city of Toledo. Thank you.

President Rouillard: Thank you very much for coming. We appreciate the time. All right, so that brings us now to some reports. Senator Compora, would you like to do the Academic Programs report?

Senator Compora: I'm ready if you are.

President Rouillard: Okay. Take it away.

Senator Compora: Hopefully, this has come up on the screen. Is that showing up okay, President Rouillard?

President Rouillard: Yes, it is.

Senator Compora: Okay. We have one program modification. It was for the **Japanese Minor**. The summary of the changes are listed on the screen: "Modify requirements so that students can complete the minor and provide flexibility in course choices. Resulted in a 1 credit hour reduction." It was very minor changes. The committee had no questions for the proposal who was Kasumi Yamazaki. She's on leave this semester but got Gabby Semaan can answer questions. I believe he is present today. He is a sitting senator. This was a pretty straightforward change. It just resulted the drop in hours from 22 to 21, change in the contact person, and some rewording of SLO's. That was about it.

President Rouillard: Are there any questions about this program modification? Any questions online? Ally Day is your hand still up for this or for your previous question?

Professor Ally Day: No question.

President Rouillard: Okay, all right. If there are no questions, Senator Compora, do you want to move to a vote then?

Senator Compora: Yes, I would appreciate. If all in favor would signify by putting 'yes' in the Chat box or saying 'aye' in person.

President Rouillard: And any nos? Any abstains? Hearing none.

Senator Coulter-Harris: All yeses in the Chat.

President Rouillard: Okay. Thank you, Senator Compora. *Motion Passed.* Thank you, Senator Compora. So, all right, the next committee report is the Undergraduate Curriculum report. I am co-Chair with Lynne Hamer. Lynne's class schedule prevents her from being here during this semester. So I told her that I would help out with these presentations. We have six course modifications today. Quinetta is going to bring those up.

The first one is **Film 2230, Creative Approaches to Cinema**. This is merely a change of co-requisite. Now Film 2330 instead of 2340, which is due to a number change in their courses. We will share our screen here in a minute before we go on. And because these are pretty cut and dry, I think we can do them all as a consent agenda, unless somebody sees something that they are concerned about.

The next courses is **General Engineering 1010**. This is a name change. They are going from Professional Development to Professional Development for Pre-Engineering Majors. There is also a grade change from standard letter grade to now pass/no credit. We actually had to change that as well and I did this with the submitters' permission. It was pointed out to us that students have to petition for a pass/no credit grade. So actually, what we have to do is simply keep it at the standard letter grade and the instructor can certainly inform the students that they have this option they might want to use. This course also had updated SLO's on the syllabus that we asked for, and that were done. Any questions? Yes?

Unknown Speaker: [Indecipherable] ...

President Rouillard: We had this discussion, I believe in the committee. I'm trying to remember who brought this up. I can't for the life of me remember who brought this up. But that students have to petition for that option.

Provost Molitor: Dr. Rouillard, can I make a comment on that?

President Rouillard: Oh, Provost Molitor, you're there? Yes, can you help us with this?

Provost Molitor: Yes. We can actually change the grading of a course that is letter grade to pass/no credit at the undergraduate level. There are a number of examples of courses that have that grading system. So that way, students are automatically graded pass/no credit without a petition. There are courses that have standard letter grading where students have to petition. So, there's no reason if the Faculty Senate approves that this course can't change to pass/no credit by default.

President Rouillard: That is, in fact, what they want so I will go back and inform them that we can make that edit. All right, so the changes are, title change going then from letter grade to pass/no credit and updated as SLO's on the syllabus.

The next course, **MBC 4780, Internship in Medicinal Chemistry**. The change here is from 6 to 12 credits to 3 to 6 credits. They have also asked to change from letter grade to pass/no credit. So that shouldn't be an issue there either. Any questions?

The next one is **PHPR 2020, Careers in Cosmetic Science**. Here, the modification is somewhat unclear, but I've spoken with Marianne Churchwell. It appears that this made it into the catalog without having made it through all of the steps in the curricular process. And so, we are dotting the 'i's' and crossing the 't's' with this.

Next is **PHPR 4780, Internship in Pharmacy Administration**. Again, we shouldn't have any problem with the requested change from standard letter grade to pass/no credit.

The final course modification is **PHPR 4940, Skincare Science**. The change here is dropping the credit hours from 2 to 1. Any questions on these course modifications? Any questions online? Yes?

Senator Scheuermann: [Indecipherable] ...FASFA?

President Rouillard: It shouldn't affect FASFA.

Senator Scheuermann: [Indecipherable]...

President Rouillard: Yes, once this goes through CIM. It shouldn't affect FASFA, because there's still enrolled for credit hours, I would think. Provost Molitor, did you hear that question?

Provost Molitor: No, could you repeat it?

President Rouillard: Here, I'll hand the mic over to Senator Scheuermann.

Senator Scheuermann: I have a quick question about if you have a whole class that is using a pass/no credit format. And yet you have a student there who needs that class for credit. Will it impact unintentionally their ability for FASFA, or for some other kind of financial support, or other?

Provost Molitor: No. Financial aid is all based on completion. There's nothing based on grade point average for federal financial aid. We do have grade point average requirements for merit scholarships, but then if you take a course, pass/no credit, it has no impact on the GPA. And there's nothing that says that you have to take, like 12 credit hours of graded courses a semester or something like that. You'd just have to take a certain number of courses per semester, per year, and pass those courses. And then for merit scholarships, you would have to maintain GPA requirements from graded courses. So, it shouldn't be a problem.

President Rouillard: Okay. Any other questions? Hearing none. In that case, I would like to move to a vote. All those in favor of these six course modifications, please signify by saying, 'aye,' or typing 'aye' in the Chat box. Any opposed? Any abstentions? **Motion Passed.** Okay, very good. That brings us next to Senator Sharon Barnes and the OFC report.

Senator Barnes: Hi, everybody. Nice to see you. Happy election day. It may be a dysfunctional democracy, but it's our democracy. I hope you voted.

The Ohio Faculty Council met on October 20th, and we had basically three big agenda items. The first was a visit with Ohio Higher Education Chancellor, Randy Gardener who has announced that he is retiring in January. The person who has been appointed to replace him by the governor is Mike Duffy. Chancellor Gardener says he is "a good successor who respects faculty, and most of us know him." I do not know him.

He talked to us at length about how to work with legislators. We asked him a series of pretty-honest questions about that, and he had some suggestions. Particularly, he said Governor Dewine says, "data wins the debate, so come with good information." Although Chancellor Gardner also said, "some people think they know enough data to have their opinion, and they're not interested in learning data that will change their opinion. And that's a problem that you have to work with as you're dealing with folks at the

state level.” And this led us to a conversation about Senate Bill 83, and how we can be effective in communicating with folks about the consequences. He reiterated some of the things that I think Will Lucas would agree with about what are the impacts being beyond the obvious, what are the significant long-term consequences -- and that to continue to press those messages. So, I think that that was a big part of our conversation. We also had a very short conversation about online education and his language, you got to serve the customer and give the consumer what they want. Not my favorite language for education. But this is something that Senator Miner was raising that we need to be really expansive and looking at what students want and what we’re providing. And making sure we’re communicating that. So, I think that was a connection there.

Finally, a lot of the legislation that we're seeing, like, House Bill 83 is actually part of a larger nationwide, someone used the phrase ‘bill mill.’ That this is language that's being exported out to a variety of states. And how do we deal with that? His advice was to know who they are. Because apparently, there's one foundation, probably Jerry, you know more about this, that's doing a lot of the authoring of the language of these bills. Or Renee, yeah, I know you know also. So, I thought it was interesting that his advice was to educate them about Ohio, read their play book, and know what they do. So, I'm looking forward to the new chancellor and hoping that he will work with us and help us do that hard work.

We had a visit also with Senator Katherine Ingram, who was with us in September. We addressed many of the same topics that we addressed with her when she was here. Senate Bill 83, she continued to say she has guarded optimism about nothing moving forward this session, but we should make sure we are keeping it on our radar because it is going to continue to be an issue.

We also had an interesting conversation college credit plus, which I actually asked about, because I’m noticing students who are too far in their education without, it’s not emotional maturity, its compacity to think about where they’re going next. Not ‘compacity.’ They just need more time to do it but they are already too far in their degree. And I think this revision of what counts for financial aid, and what doesn't is going to maybe even make this worse. So we had a really interesting conversation about that, and I hope we’ll have more conversation about it. We didn’t arrive at a position on it. I mean, because it also creates a lot of access, and that is really, really important. So we don’t want to lose the access. But we were talking about how many credit hours students can take, when they can take them, and how that works. So, hopefully, we can work maybe with our higher ed. folks to really think about that strategically, in terms of how to maximize the benefit for students.

Lastly, we had a discussion about a possible video conference with colleagues from public universities who are also experiencing anti-DEI legislation and how they're dealing with that. I think that is probably going to happen in the spring video conference if we can arrange it. So, look forward to more on that.

And then on that anti-DEI legislation, this was not an Ohio Faculty Council thing, but an issue for me right now that I’m trying to raise awareness about. The university is suspending race-based scholarshiping and prohibiting other kinds of things that we do to recognize and celebrate our diversity. The anti-affirmative action legislation, I've talked about this in this venue before, the decision by the Supreme Court doesn't require us to do that. But apparently, I think Dr. Molitor has said, you know, the Attorney General at the state is saying, I will penalize you for doing this. And so, I said this last time or somewhere, to me, this is racist intimidation. I think that I would like to see this university be a leader in saying no, and encouraging all the other state institutions to also say no. Really I think if we do that we can collaboratively, collectively push back against what really, I think is a way to conservative respond to the Supreme Court decision. I think we owe our students that. So sorry, I didn’t mean to go off on the ‘soap box.’ But I did want to say that this is something I think is really, really important to our community, to our students, to the surrounding community. And I think we can do this if we stand together.

President Rouillard: You specifically asked that we bring Janelle Schaller ---

Senator Barnes: Oh, I forgot.

President Rouillard: And there was one other person you mentioned.

Senator Barnes: Somebody from the Foundation.

President Rouillard: To [come to] Faculty Senate to talk about this issue. I'll work on that for the next meeting.

Senator Barnes: Thank you.

President Rouillard: Are there any questions or comments for Senator Barnes? Anything online?

Senator Coulter-Harris: There's a comment in the Chat. This is from Senator Jayatissa. 'How important is SB 83 for all Ohio universities?'

President Rouillard: It is important. The alternatives are all of the different versions and apparently, we are up to version 11. Is that correct?

Senator Brakel: Yes, we are at version 11 right now. I understand that Senator Cirino has told the university presidents or the board of trustees' symposium that this will be the last reiteration of the bill. It's like, take it or leave it; I'm not going to make any more changes. That's why we have to pressure House Bill 151 right now, which is the companion bill to Senate Bill 83.

President Rouillard: Okay, so we will move on to Senator Coulter-Harris' committee report. This is the Committee on Student Affairs. These are sub-committee reports. Is that correct?

Senator Coulter-Harris: That is correct. Thank you very much. Good afternoon, everyone. Our Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs, our sub-committee on dining. The people who were involved on the sub-committee were: Sally Harmych, Barry Scheuermann, Sarah Aldrich Renner, and Paulette Kilmer. I want to remind everybody that the Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs acts as a liaison between the faculty, the Student Government, and the administration on matters of common interests. These issues directly tie into enrollment and retention problems. We have brainstormed initial strategies for resolution of these problems. But as we researched further, more strategies for solutions will become evident.

Persons in attendance at the 11, October 2023 meeting include Barry Scheuermann, Sally Harmych, Michael Dennis, Brian Kulpa, and Don Bargo. This particular presentation is to apprise Faculty Senate and the University of Toledo's administration on the issue of dining halls operations and services that the Student Government identified and presented to the Faculty Senate Committee on Student Affairs. The following issues from the UT Student Government included: dining halls need extended hours of operation, quality of food should be consistent, food labeling should be consistent, that the financial cuts to operational hours hinder the purchase of meal plans. Apparently, the number of meal plans has decreased significantly this year. The Student Government would like a faculty member on its dining hall committee, and they stated that there were zero positive reviews for the dining hall this year. And with that, I'm going to yield to the heroes of my subcommittee.

Senator Harmych: I don't know that we are 'heroes' at this point but thank you. So, at our meeting on October 11th, we did get a tour of the dining hall. We talked about student access. We talked about food information and communication, and allergy information and labeling, and food quality. So, I'm going to start by talking about the tour and the student access issues. So touring the facilities as expected, it was very clean. It was full of students. In fact, we were in the way during the first rush of the morning for breakfast after students were getting out of their first classes. We found that the options are clearly labeled. There was good labeling in terms of allergy information. We were happy to see all the different areas there. The Student Union does include 'all you can eat' dining hall, the Eatery as well as the Student Union market and seven retail locations students have access to. The biggest complaint from students is about dining availability, and this as we learned is limited by the financial situation as many things on campus are at this time.

So this year, only 2,177 meal plans have been purchased. This is down about 50% since 2019. This is compounded with enrollment issues -- a number of students living in the resident halls, which are the majority of students who purchase meal plans. So, as a result of this, Rocket Dining and UT Dining had to make some difficult decisions that the students may not agree with 100%, so we were investigating this.

So they did decide to reduce the hours of the two 'all you can eat' locations at the Eatery and Food Hall at Ottawa East. The new hours, we have breakfast and lunch at the Eatery at North Campus or the Student Union. The idea here is that students tend to have more classes on campus, on this side of the campus during the morning. Also, they evaluated meal swipes, which gave them information about when the dining halls were the busiest and so this was pushing students over to get breakfast, lunch when they were on campus. The Food Hall Ottawa East opens at 2 o'clock in the afternoon to 8pm. It serves late lunch and early dinner, and also dinner for the students. Again, coordinating this with students being in the residence halls at night, and most likely eating dinner once they're finished with classes. So, also, we have the other eateries at the Student Union.

The retail locations are open until later, including the market, which is open a little bit as well, 8 pm. So even though the Eatery closes at 2:30, the other locations on campus or in the Student Union are open until 8 o'clock in the evening. So, again, this is talking about them tracking card swipes to make this decision. The other part of this decision was also in trying to kind of force students out of their residence halls in the morning, eating breakfast, ... over breakfast and lunch. And then also at night because they're at home again, eating dinner closer to home. Again, I think the biggest complaint from students comes from those who live on North campus, and with the Union closed, they have to walk to Ottawa to get dinner in the evenings, which in the cold it could be terrible. They don't always want to leave their rooms at night, and so, those were the main complaints. At Ottawa East there's also some additional locations open because students do say we like to eat later than eight o'clock at night. So, there were complaints that maybe they didn't have access to meal swipes and things like that at that time of night. There are options like ... as well as the Ottawa East market. They are open till much later for students to have availability. We did ask them about the possible use of dining cards off campus. I remember in my history at UT, there was a time where there were locations off campus where you could use your dining dollars or your cards. They were not receptive to the idea with the limited number of meal plans that have been purchased. They want as much money spent on campus for food as possible. So, understandable again with the financial situation. So, I'll pass it off to Barry.

Senator Scheuermann: Thank you very much. Let me start off by saying that in meeting with the folks from the dining services, they were very receptive. They responded almost immediately to our request to meet and were very open in the discussions. And so, we thought we had a very good meeting with them. We asked a lot of questions, and they gave us a lot of answers and a lot of follow-up back and forth as well. So, issue number two is related to food labeling, whether it was related to the ingredients or allergies

vegetarian and those sorts of things. So as we walked around, we learned a lot about the labeling, and you could see the labels they were providing. And I think, you know, overall, you try to strike a balance between providing sufficient amount of information in a plainly visible area. But you can't do everything, every ingredient. And again, the menu changes considerably. So I think trying to strike a good balance between giving them enough students, enough information to make informed decisions, while at the same time, they do provide a lot of information. And throughout the presentation we have included links, so if you want to go to the website. The students have access to a lot of information at their fingertips. It's mobile accessible and those sorts of things. So there are specific areas that you can go and request if you have special dietary requirements, whether it be a cultural issue or reason, or whether it is vegan/vegetarian, you have that capability. But again, it is up to the students to initiate that conversation with the dining services. Again, they do have areas where they prepare the vegetarian dinners in. They do keep those areas separate and clean so that they are in isolation. And so, there's no opportunity for cross contamination as well.

I think the next slide gives you an example of the little cards that are available for the students to inform them of their choices as well. These are placed, a little placard at all of the stations throughout the areas for the students. They can obtain a full nutritional assessment of the meals by going online where they can get a breakdown of all the information that you would need as a nutritionist. You could get all that information. So again, it's not out front and ready as they are picking up their meal, but it is accessible through the website. You can go online and order your dinner ahead of time through a mobile app and pick it up. So it is accessible. Again, you can go online and figure out what they're serving at that time and figure out the menu online as well. A lot of information is provided, but again, you have to look for it. And we know what students can be like sometimes with a syllabus -- it is there, but it is not where they think it should be. Sometimes it does take a little bit of hunting.

We did have conversation about the food quality, and they were well aware of the photos that we had received about the molding bread as well as the undercook chicken. And I think there was one who bit into a potato that had a blade on the inside. Again, as soon as they were notified of the information, they did an immediate training to try and resolve the issue. They were very aware of the students need to have good quality food. So, I think we walked away from our meeting looking at it as if they are doing their best. Again, to have, I think three issues that we're aware of when they are serving approximately 13,000 meals a week, that is not that bad at odds. I think again the corrective actions are immediate. They do additional trainings as needed. So, they do put things in place right away as issues are made known to them. They have done a pretty good job also of putting QR codes up and around the different areas, providing information for contacting the dining services if you do have a problem. One of the recommendations would be to make those perhaps a little bit more apparent and a little bit more visual so the students can see them and access them easily. And again, they assured us that all complaints are taken seriously. And they will take immediate action in order to improve their product for the students.

We went back and looked at the health reports from the Toledo Lucas County Health Department. The most recent ones that we've found, we reviewed with only minor infractions. Again, there were no critical issues that we could find in those reports. Even when we were there discussing, and kind of in the way of the breakfast crowd, we could see some of them coming out and temping the food and making sure that everything was okay. They were doing that on a regular basis as well, and so that was reassuring. They do clean the food service areas in between the different menus. Everything gets wiped down and cleaned before they bring out the next menu. Sometimes that does cause a little bit of an issue with the students because they may show up in that small, short window when things are not available. But again, that is what they are trying to do, making sure everything is cleaned up from the previous service before they start the next one. There is a sign that demonstrates that.

We came up with some other questions for our meeting. We asked, what is the difference between meal swipes and meal exchanges? And we wanted to see how, if there's any way that we can improve how those are managed by students, making it easier, like can it be included on one card or whatever. And one of the main questions was about the limited hours of service that we are not experiencing. So, we asked that question about the possibility, or what would it take in order to have additional hours, or even go back to the hours last year. And again, the cost of that. When they gave us all the numbers and showed us the data - again, like everything else, it is tied into enrollment, and it is a very difficult process.

Is there a QR code where the students can report issues and ask questions? They already have a number of signs and places where you can pick up your cutlery. For example, we noticed there was a couple of signs there for instructing students; you know, if there's something that you want to make a comment about, here's where you can contact. So they made it very easy that way. They do have a survey station on the way out of the eateries, which is just kind of the happy face, side face to get some immediate responses from the students as well. So they are trying to implement as many ways as possible to communicate with the students. We want this all to be a good experience for our students. As I said before, eating is like going to a wedding. Everybody talks about the food. No one notices the wedding. So, that is what we're working with. Students mentioned that they sometimes have difficulty finding different areas and so again, if you use the app, if you go to the website, many of the areas are mapped out. Plus, if you go to the main website as well for the dining services it will tell you which ones are open, and it will give you menus. There's a lot of information that is available, it's just not maybe at your fingertips or at least with one click.

We did include a couple of other appendices in the report. I don't think you can distinguish the colors very well or not, but this represents the change in the hours of operation from last year to this year. Last year includes both the green and the yellow areas. That was the availabilities. Whereas this year, it is just the green shaded areas. And so you can see how the food hall in Ottawa used to be open earlier for breakfast, but that is now closed. The hours are extending-in for the reasons that Sally already mentioned. These are just numbers that show fall of 2019, we had 4,047 meal plans purchased. Our current data indicates that we are right around 2,177. So, as Sally mentioned, we're about a 50% reduction in the meal plans. I think that is it for our presentations. So we're happy to take any questions.

Senator Avidor-Reiss: [Indecipherable] ...

Senator Scheuermann: Do you want to tackle that?

Senator Coulter-Harris: That issue was brought to us by the Student Government leaders. And what they do is ask their cohorts and their colleagues if they are happy. They have big meetings and they get together and identify four issues every year. And one of the main issues this year was dining halls. Especially the fact that dining halls have shorter operational hours, which was a big concern to them, especially for student athletes who sometimes are training a little later at night; they perhaps don't want to go and spend their dining dollars at a quarter to 8 on fast food. Right? So, I think it is an overall Student Government consensus that has been established and then provided to all of us on our committee. Is that an answer?

Senator Avidor-Reiss: [Indecipherable] ...

Senator Harmych: Based on the current financial situation, I mean, I'll admit I was ready to go in and, you know, all guns blazing and say, no, we need to change this. But looking at the financial situation, I can understand and the reasoning behind it also made sense to me in terms of looking at where students are at most of the times when the hours hit. I am disappointed that we couldn't make a huge change, but I

can see what they're doing. And I do have to say, I do think some of this comes down to students feeling inconvenienced, maybe not wanting to walk so far. They did relay a story about a student whose mother was in contact with them and concerned that it was getting colder, and the student didn't wasn't sure if they were going to open breakfast again in Ottawa so he wouldn't have to walk so far for breakfast. He lives in Parks. He is going to have to walk to Ottawa or Student Union. So, I think some of it comes down to inconvenience. Yes, I would like to say that we can make some changes on this, but financially I don't think we're going to be able to at this point. I think it is about students getting used to it.

President Rouillard: We're going to move on to the next one. But I do want to thank the subcommittee for some very good information. Thank you. It's good to know that maybe things aren't quite as bad as we thought. We have two more speakers. Two are our two students. I know Ximena Fernandez Paucar is going to us about an initiative for donations to help with period equity. And then we will have Dan McInnis who will talk to us about Honors. So, I'm going to give you the mic.

Ximena Fernandez Paucar: Hi. Again, thanks, Dr. Rouillard for having me here today. Hello, everybody. My name is Ximena Fernandez Paucar. I am currently a senator in Student Government and currently a member of the Period Equity Committee. If any female... professors are here today, and if you have classes in the Field House or in the Library, you probably have seen some period products in the bathrooms. They are available for all students. Period Equity got started on May 2022, by the Student Government. We have been working a lot with the Eberly Center in order to provide female students with the adequate period products. As of right now, we are looking to host a lot of period-drives. A lot of the products that we supply comes from period-drives. So, if anybody is here, if any department of any sort would like to host that with us, please let me know. We are trying to expand a lot into more buildings, so we are really asking for a lot of support to have enough period products so old buildings on campus would have these available, as it is a right for all female students. Also, if any of you have any contacts we can use so we can have a lot more coverage and maybe some members of the community can help us, that would be great. I feel like allocating some budget if possible. I know some things are really tight as I been hearing this entire meeting. But I feel like it is really important, and we feel like it is really important that all students have the chance to get access to these hygiene products, which are a basic right. So, if anybody has any questions, please let me know. You can contact me through email through the president, Lucas Will or anything. Thank you so much for having me.

President Rouillard: And you are looking for donations, correct?

Ximena Fernandez Paucar: Yes.

President Rouillard: And where should we leave donations or forward donations?

Ximena Fernandez Paucar: Student Government Office.

President Rouillard: Thank you, Ximena. Thank you very much. Okay, our last speaker this afternoon is Senator McInnis from Honors. He had some issues that he wanted to address.

Senator McInnis: Can everybody hear me in the Chat?

Senator Semaan: We can.

Senator McInnis: Thank you. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today, President Rouillard. I want to begin with a disclaimer that these words were written by me and do not necessarily reflect all the opinions of others Honors faculty. I'm speaking as an individual faculty member today, and not as the Senate representative of Honors.

My name is Dan McInnis, and I was hired by the University of Toledo into the Honors College in 2018. This is the eighth institution of higher learning for which I've had the pleasure of working. I think very often on the privilege I've been given and that others in our fields are not always afforded such opportunities. I have recently expressed to my colleagues how profoundly grateful I am to have worked these past 5 ½ years with some of the best and brightest students at UT.

On September 14, Interim Provost Scott Molitor announced to Jesup Scott Honors College faculty that our college will be dissolved. This decision was communicated directly to faculty and staff shortly after Dr. Dickson's departure in September.

Since January, leadership within our college has been tenuous. Since last November, we have lost 2 of 5 faculty lines, our secretary, and our dean. There was not an open venue where the remaining faculty and staff could voice and defend the positive things we do. Instead, a decision was made to eliminate the college, and Honors' future remains unclear. This all comes at a time when we continue to have robust enrollment in our Honors courses, with over 450 students enrolling this fall, and almost all our course sections have been full to cap.

Faculty have a stake in Honors, so I am compelled to come to the defense of the program. While the administration has no intention of eliminating the Honors program wholesale, they are strategizing about new leadership, and Scott Molitor has been excellent at communication including some next steps for faculty, including the reassignment of faculty to home departments, I am deeply concerned that we are in danger of losing the benefits that Honors bestows on UToledo students as well as the Toledo community at large.

Our courses, along with many others in other colleges, require students to be directly engaged with our communities in Toledo. Our courses implore students to consider ethics, morality, violence, truth, and systems that continue to oppress those with less power. Perhaps more important than ever, our courses require students talk to each other respectfully and openly, with an ear to all opinions, even if we disagree – to consider the greatest challenges of our time – erosion of democracy, climate change, disinformation, prison systems, racism, poverty, and the challenges facing both men and women in modern America.

When I was hired in 2018, a fellow colleague suggested that one of the most important things about our Honors College is that students entering pre-professional programs such as pre-medical, pharmacy and engineering may get few humanities during their undergraduate years. For some, Honors may be the only place they are able to engage with some of these ideas outside of the necessary courses required for their majors.

For years we have been hearing about the "Humanities being under attack". With the dissolution of the Jesup Scott Honors College, we may be in danger of losing specific experiences and active learning, and I believe students could be the casualties in the long run.

In our Honors classes we have stressed the 6 C's: Critical Thinking, Communication, Cultural Competency, Creativity, Community Engagement, and Collaboration. While faculty have voiced how important these are for the appropriate development of a civil society, it is the students who are calling for discourse in these areas.

Our students are deeply concerned that tech corporations developed a siloed and balkanized approach to communication and information dissemination through social media. They are aware of the addictive qualities of these tools designed to keep them distracted from policies of oppression.

Our students are very concerned about climate change and the human impacts on the biomes which we depend on for our own survival. They are concerned about the implications of democracy's erosion around the world, and here at home. They care about what's going on outside of UToledo, and the borders of the US. But many of them tell me they are losing hope. Without support of courses and faculty in the Humanities, and crossover courses that include both humanities and science, we are destined for these wicked problems to become worse.

For the sake of the university at large, we should not let the rush to eliminate offerings limit our mission. Our mission is education. Our mission is to prepare our students to face a more troubled world than the one we experienced as undergraduates. If we don't do this, who will?

Perhaps BGSU. They have a solidly budgeted and well-organized Honors College 40 minutes down I-75. Their retention and enrollment numbers continue to climb. Without an organized plan, I believe we are likely handing them even more students in a hyper-competitive recruitment environment. Without a supportive budget, strong leadership, and a solid strategic plan to guide our Honors programs, I believe this could get worse.

Mission statements, strategic plans, and marketing are vital to any university's success, but equally important and more difficult to cultivate and support, is a university's soul. Even if you're not religious, anyone can understand that. Who keeps us moving? What gives us faith that we can last? Who brings us together with genuine empathy and establishes genuine trust? But without motivation, without trust, without faith, without empathy, without open debate we will continue the "downward spiral" I have heard past administrators talk about.

I implore you, as one who witnesses the benefits of Honors courses, and hears it directly from students (we have that qualitative data and hear it from them directly every spring), please consider the societal benefits of an Honors program. From this moment forward in Honors, we need to establish an appropriate budget, assign capable, focused, and hard-working leadership to guide the program, and then decide what serves our students best in the short and long terms.

Thank you so much for allowing me to make these remarks.

President Rouillard: Are there questions?

Dr. Ashley Pryor: As someone in Honors, I really appreciate my colleague for his comments and, and particularly the framing around points of disagreement. It is something we've pride ourselves on in the college. And maybe this is a point of disagreement, but I will just say that I'm really in some ways, hopeful and grateful. While it doesn't sound great to change from college to program, I see it as a really an exciting opportunity for it. What it allows for is affiliations with faculty from across the University potentially. Dan was just so wonderful in talking about the value of the humanities, but also, I think the power of the humanities is in the power to make

connections across all of these disciplines and sciences in the Sciences etc. Again, Dan, thank you so much. I'm just sharing my particular view that although it's always a little scary to have a change. I'm actually kind of excited about the possibility. But to tag with Dan with imploring, you know, we need other faculty. I think it is exciting to reinvigorate and really keep whatever the meaning of the Honor's program holds in the future. We are stronger together. I just am excited about new ideas and enthusiasm, etc. So thank you for allowing me to make that comment.

Senator Scheuermann: I'll just be real quick. Again, I represented our college in the Honors when it was actually still a program way back when Tom Barden was leading the charge. And so, I think, yes, as much as we may be disappointed or questioning losing a functional college, I would agree that this is an opportunity for us to kind of reinvasion what an Honors program might look like. Because one of the things that could actually be strengthened is actually the interrelationships with all of the colleges and how they participate in the faculty membership in a program. Again, it was very strong back in the early 2000's when I first got here. So again, I have hope that it can be whatever it is going to be in a great way for the students.

Senator Lewin: What can we do? How can we be helpful from the Faculty Senate?

Senator McInnis: I don't know much about curriculum moving forward, and I think that's sort of in the nascent stages of discussion. I think right now the conversation is about the faculty that are in Honors right now and also what we're doing about leadership. I think that is the current question. Keep us in mind. I mean, we're obviously going to be going through a lot of changes and those affiliations that Ashley talked about, are likely to become much more vital as we progress forward.

President Rouillard: Our student guest has a comment.

Student Government rep: Hi. I just have a question as a current Honors College student. How will this affect our curriculum going forward because I am registered for two honors courses next semester?

Senator McInnis: I don't normally speak for a provost, because that just invites a whole lot of problems. Oh, great. I'm going to let Scott do that. Provost Molitor will answer the question.

Provost Molitor: Thanks. So, students should know that any changes would not apply to those currently enrolled in the program. It would only apply to students moving forward, who started the program after any changes have been made. And just to emphasize - no changes to the Honors curriculum have been made yet, and I don't anticipate anything changing during the course of this year. So any students currently enrolled in the program will continue to follow the curriculum that was approved when they first enrolled and will be able to complete those requirements as they're currently stated for them.

President Rouillard: Barbara, did you have anything to say?

Senator Miner: Yes, I just wanted to chime in and say that I hope no one has gotten the impression that faculty are simply being dropped. In fact, I just wrote a welcome letter to Professor McInnis from the Department of Art. I know that Ashley Pryor will be part of our Philosophy Department. So, it is not like the faculty are being let go. I don't want that to be the impression. We as departments are welcoming our colleagues and new ideas are being brought from the Honors College.

President Rouillard: Thanks, Barbara. And I would just like to conclude at one minute pass, by reminding the students that whatever change happens in programs, the University is required to teach you out of a program that you are enrolled in. So if you enroll in a program and that program should suddenly go away, the University has a state mandated responsibility to get you out through your program. Okay. So you might want to take that message back.

Are there items from the floor? Is one of the items to go home? Is there a motion to adjourn?

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm. Thank you very much. We will see you in two weeks in Nitschke.

IV. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Coulter-Harris
Faculty Senate Executive Secretary

Tape summary: Quinetta Hubbard
Faculty Senate Administrative Secretary