

MINUTES
October 6, 2020
Undergraduate Assembly

The Undergraduate Assembly met in regular session on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. via Microsoft TEAMS. Minutes for the meeting follow.

Welcome Remarks **Pranesh Aswath, Sr. Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Policy and Undergraduate Assembly Chair**

Dr. Aswath opened the meeting with a soundcheck and ground rules. The meeting was recorded. Ground rules: Only one person at time for any question or comment. Please use the “raise hand” feature in Teams. No interruptions during a person’s 1 minute.

Attendance **Pranesh Aswath, Sr. Vice Provost for Academic Planning and Policy and Undergraduate Assembly Chair**

Attendance was taken to ensure a quorum was met. Those present are listed below.

Syedali Abolmaali	Ruth Gornet	Nancy Michael
David Arditi	Genevieve Graff	Laura Mydlarz (Khaledi)
Pranesh Aswath, UA Chair	Katie Hageman	Adrian Parr
Philip Baiden	Grace Hao	Lynn Peterson (Crouch)
Bonnie Boardman	Brenda Harris	Edith Reed
LaShaunn Bold	Michael Holmes	Megan Rogers (Merwin)
Jeanean Boyd	Leslie Jennings	David Rosser
Elisabeth Cawthon	Arafaa Khan (Student Governance)	Aaron Smallwood
Kay Yut Chen	Young-Tae Kim	Amber Smallwood
Stephanie Cole	Conroy Kydd	David Sparks
Paul Conrad	Cynthia Laborde	Priscila Tamplain
Theresa Doughty	Blaize Lafleur (Student Governance)	Kimberly Tate
Sergio Espinoza	Rebecca Lewis (IER)	Amy Tigner
Ceil Flores	Karen Magruder	Jodi Tommerdahl
Matt Fujita	Madan Mehta	Nila Veerabathina
Daniel Garcia	Elizabeth Merwin	James Williams

Minutes **Pranesh Aswath, UA Chair**

Approval of March 24, 2020 Minutes (attached)

Stephanie Cole submitted motion to approve minutes; Philip Baiden seconded.

Motion carried.

Election of Secretary**Pranesh Aswath, UA Chair**

Regina Praetorius, former UA secretary, is no longer serving as a member of the UA. The group needs to select a new secretary. Ask for nominations and/or volunteer. No comments. Agenda item tabled until the end of the meeting to allow all to consider.

Submissions from the UCC***David Arditi, UCC Chair**

Dr. Aswath introduced David Arditi as the new chair of the UCC.

Dr. Arditi briefly presented the UCC documents that were up for approval by the Undergraduate Assembly. All documents were made accessible to the UA prior to the meeting for review.

No questions or discussion on the documents for approval consideration.

David Sparks motioned to accept all submissions from the UCC as presented; Stephanie Cole seconded.

Motion carried.

Core Curriculum Committee**Meagan Rogers**

Dates for the 2020-21 Core Course proposals were shared with the group. The timeline is:

October 5: Call for core course proposals

November 13: Deadline to submit proposals.

December 11: Decision made by the CCC and any proposals needing revision will be returned for correction.

January 15: Updated proposals with revisions due

January 26: UCC recommended proposals brought forward to the UA

Any substantial edits to currently approved/existing core curriculum courses will require resubmission of the course to the CCC for consideration and approval/recommendation. A substantial edit is defined as a change to any of the following for an existing core curriculum course: component area, type of assessment, course objectives or learning outcomes. The CCC will also consider periodic review of existing core curriculum courses to ensure they meet core curriculum requirements.

Additional resources are being added and can be accessed on the UCC website to assist with course submission proposals.

Representation of UA on the University Calendar Committee**Dr. Aswath**

Dr. Aswath explained that the Undergraduate Assembly serves as an advisory group to the University Calendar Committee. No one from the UA presently serves on the calendar

committee. It would be helpful if the UA was represented. He stressed that the position would not entail a lot of work, but a UA presence would help to address faculty concerns. Dr. Aswath asked for nomination and/or volunteer.

Ceil Flores volunteered to serve. Ceil Flores will serve on the University Calendar Committee going forward as the representative from the Undergraduate Assembly.

Nomination of Internal UTA Reviewers for Program Reviews Dr. Aswath

- All UTA programs are required to go through a review process, whether internal or external. All graduate program reviews are mandated every 10 years.
- Review team usually consists of 2 external reviewers who work in the discipline being reviewed along with 2 UTA internal reviewers who also serve as hosts.
- This current academic year Theatre Arts, University Studies and Philosophy will be reviewed.
- Dr. Aswath asked if all UA members would consider serving as a UTA internal reviewer. He would like to combine a list of potential reviewers. If any member is interested, they are asked to email Pranesh Aswath and/or Amber Smallwood.

Pass/Fail Option for Spring 2020 Dr. Aswath

- Discussion on whether it would be feasible to continue with the Pass/Fail option for Spring 2020. It was found that using the P/F option showed an uptick in retention rates.
- Would it be feasible to have some courses on a P/F option on a permanent basis?
- Some evidence that this option helped with student stress levels.
- Would grade replacement/forgiveness be possible? – This is only available for 1000 and 2000 level courses, but it does not apply to P/F courses.
- Dr. Aswath asked UCC to discuss whether they would support pass/fail options at their next meeting.

Other All

- **Modalities with Undergraduate Courses – Abolmaali**
Discussion on asynchronous and synchronous modalities.
Some students don't like asynchronous courses. FTIC students prefer synchronous.
Suggestion to have another student survey done after the Fall semester to see if students still feel the same
More discussion is needed going forward.

Adjournment

Ruth Gornet motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:18 p.m., Bonnie Boardman seconded.

Motion carried.

*Respectfully submitted,
Karen Bittner on behalf of Pranesh Aswath*