



University of Massachusetts Lowell
Office of the Faculty Senate
Alumni Hall, Room 101, 84 University Avenue
Lowell, Massachusetts 01854
Faculty Senate Coordinator: Kerry Patenaude
Telephone: 978-934-3413
E-mail: Faculty_Senate@uml.edu

Faculty Senate President: Kevin Petersen
Telephone: 978-934-4095
E-mail: Kevin_Petersen@uml.edu

Faculty Senate Meeting #2 Minutes **Monday October 2, 2023 at 3:30 PM • UCC 260**

1. Minutes from Meeting #1 on May 1, 2023 - [Approved](#)
2. Announcement of Committee Chairs (Kevin Petersen) – [Michael Geiger](#), Undergraduate Policy Committee (UPC) Chair; [Scott Latham](#), Graduate Policy & Affairs Committee (GPAC) Chair; [Michelle Hunt](#), Core Curriculum Committee (CORE) Chair; [Thomas Shea](#), Research & Development Committee (RDC) Chair; [Dennis Christodouleas](#), Library Advisory Committee (LAC) Chair. Thomas Shea shared that RDC has voted to rename the committee to the Research, Production, and Performance Committee to encompass support of the activities of all faculty, such as artists and musicians.
3. Presentation: Curriculog Approval Processes (Kerry Patenaude) – The presentation included an overview of the Approval Processes (AP) available in Curriculog and the “Life of a Proposal” from originator to catalog offering. Rationale for expanding use of Curriculog includes goals to move away from paper and electronic forms, streamline communication across the university, provide consistency, transparency, version control, and an archive for institutional knowledge. This year Faculty Senate is using the Agenda and Program Proposal features of Curriculog, and help is available online and at curriculog@uml.edu. The Processes page on the Faculty Senate website will be expanding throughout the academic year. Questions were raised about accessing the agenda and proposals, using Curriculog on cell phones, and a process for archiving agendas.
4. Reports from Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees (Matt Hurwitz & Michael Graves) – The Board meets regularly to discuss higher level enrollment trends, financial factors, etc. and the Faculty Representatives serve as the eyes and ears for UMass Lowell. While they are not able to ask questions during the meetings, they are able to advocate for relevant issues on campus. Matt requested that senators use the microphones during the meetings to ensure accessibility, and reiterated Kevin’s request that senators bring back to their departments the topics and issues discussed during committee and Faculty Senate meetings.
5. Presentation: RHED Distinction (Wendy Hyatt) – The River Hawk Experience Distinction (RHED) program <https://www.uml.edu/rhed/> was launched 5 years ago as an initiative out of the Provost’s office. RHED was created to give students the opportunity to blend a personal interest, with their academic program, participate in outside of the classroom experiences – and gain a credentialed outcome from these efforts. The current Distinction areas are: Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Community Engagement, Sustainability and Global

Engagement. Students from all majors can participate. In order for a student to be awarded a Distinction, they must complete 2 courses + 2 experiences + 4 guided reflective learning assignments on each segment – within their chosen Distinction. Upon graduation, the Distinction is added to the student’s transcript, and they are awarded a red braided cord to wear at commencement. New this year are Faculty Fellows for each Distinction. RHED is seeking additional courses for their Distinctions, and additional students to join the program. Please see your Faculty Fellow or Wendy for more information or to offer Distinction ideas.

6. Task Forces to address (1) AI, and (2) Interdisciplinary (Kevin Petersen) – We are calling for volunteers to serve on the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force which will include students, and the Interdisciplinary Task Force which will be Co-Chaired by Michael Geiger and Michelle Hunt. Task Force descriptions were provided. Each Task Force will meet regularly to investigate the relevant issues and make recommendations for future actions during a Spring 2023 Senate meeting. Please email Kevin Petersen and Kerry Patenaude if you would like to volunteer.
7. Undergraduate Policy Committee (Michael Geiger)
 - For Information Only:
Proposal to revise the minor in Disability Studies
8. Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee (Scott Latham)
 - Proposal for new option in Aerospace Engineering in the PhD in Engineering program
Approved.
9. The Year Ahead: Executive Session (Kevin Petersen) The Senate commenced roundtable discussions to brainstorm priorities and challenges in the realm of academic oversight. Each table was asked to share back from the group discussion via the anonymous [Faculty Senate Suggestion Box](#) or by email. We hope to provide space for ongoing table discussions at each Senate meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

Next: Faculty Senate Meeting #3 on Monday November 6, 2023 in UCC-260 (Moloney Hall)