

Washburn University General Faculty Meeting

Date: March 9, 2022 at 3:30

Location: [Zoom](#)

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| I. Call to Order | Dr. Farley |
| II. Approval of Minutes of the February 10, 2022 General Faculty Meeting | Dr. Farley |
| III. Remarks | |
| • From the President | Dr. Farley |
| • From the Vice President for Academic Affairs | Dr. Mazachek |
| IV. New Business | Dr. Mazachek |
| • Requiring General Faculty approval | |
| 22-5 Proposal to change university mathematics general education requirement | |
| V. Announcements | Dr. Mazachek |
| Notes on shared governance at the university | Dr. Morse |
| VI. Adjournment | Dr. Mazachek |

Washburn University
General Faculty Minutes
February 10, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Farley called the meeting to order at 3:30 via Zoom.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021 General Faculty Meeting. The minutes were approved.

III. REMARKS

From the President

- President Farley discussed the projected higher education budget in Kansas which includes an increase over the current year's budget of 1.5 million dollars. The purpose of the funds has yet to be specified. This may come with the stipulation no tuition increase. Without an increase in tuition, the proposed five percent salary increase will not be feasible.
- There has been an elimination of sales tax for food and food ingredients / groceries; we are working to be unaffected by this statute.
- There has been a request from the House Education Committee for information regarding students, program costs, the most profitable programs, general operations, and other such details.
- There are changes to mask mandates across the U.S. regarding mask mandates for K-12 and businesses. There are no plans in Kansas or at WU for changing what we are doing. There is possibility for pushback; we will be working with the local health department for guidance.
- There is current and will be further construction on campus. Things are going well overall. In December, the board passed a 35-million-dollar project to update Henderson. We have also received a ten-million-dollar donation from a private donor, which is meant to be spent on a recital hall. There are other buildings on campus to be moved to West campus (by the Villages).
- Michelle White-Godinet, the new Equal Opportunity Director/Title IX Coordinator, was introduced.
- Luther Lee, the new Vice President of Administration and Treasurer, was introduced.

From the Vice President for Academic Affairs

- Dr. Mazachek expressed her continued gratitude for the outstanding work being done on campus.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dr. Morse shared details regarding the Service-Equity Ad Hoc Committee, including mission and members. The group is tasked with creating a list of all committees on campus to provide a better understanding of equity in service among educators and staff. This information is meant to provide recommendations to Faculty Affairs and Faculty Senate regarding transparency and ensuring that those on campus have venues in which they may have their voice heard. Supporting documents were shared via the share option on Zoom.
 - 22-2 Formation of Service-Equity Ad Hoc Committee of Faculty Senate
 - List of committee members
- Dr. Grospitch announced that the campus mental health counseling waitlist has been cleared; there is still access to phone counselors as well.
- There is a track meeting on campus this weekend (Barker)

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm.

FACULTY GOVERNANCE AGENDA ITEM 22-5

Date: 1/24/2022

Submitted by: Jennifer Ball, Associate VP for Academic Affairs (x 1840)

SUBJECT: Proposal to change university mathematics general education requirement

Description: With the help and support of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, the following changes are proposed to the “General Education Core Requirements” (as stated in the 2021-22 Undergraduate Catalog):

Proposed Statement: *The following course-specific core Student Learning Outcome courses are required of all undergraduate degree-seeking students (C or better): MA 112 Contemporary College Mathematics (QSR) ~~or MA 116 College Algebra (QSR)~~. This requirement will be satisfied if the student demonstrates appropriate competency as determined by the Mathematics and Statistics Department. (Additional ways to satisfy the mathematics requirement: completion, with a C or better, of any Washburn mathematics course or its equivalent numbered higher than ~~MA 116 College Algebra~~ MA 112 Contemporary College Mathematics, or an ACT score in mathematics of at least 28, or an SAT score in mathematics of at least ~~640~~ 660). MA 112 Contemporary College Mathematics does not meet the mathematics requirement for all programs.*

Rationale: By changing the current requirement of “MA 112 or MA 116” to MA 112, it is hoped that students will be encouraged to take MA 112 when it will satisfy their degree requirements. Students passing MA 116 as their first college math class will have met the university mathematics requirement and will also meet three hours of the mathematics/natural science general education distribution requirement. This simplifies and clarifies the requirement and will make consistent the application of MA 116 to general education distribution requirements. This will not change the mathematics requirement of any program. The SAT adjustment is due to the scoring changes implemented by SAT in 2016.

The members of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics has provided this additional rationale regarding their belief that this change will help students reach their graduation goal.

MA 112 contains more every-day math and general quantitative reasoning while MA 116 focuses on skills students need to succeed in higher level math and/or science courses. The Kansas Core Outcomes Group has a very detailed and specific list of items that must be covered in MA 116. The KCOG list for MA 112 is more general and allows for flexibility with topics.

Over the past two years (FA19-SP21), 73.5% of students in MA 112 finished the course with a C or better. Over this same time period, 55.7% of students in MA 116 finished the course with a C or better. Despite efforts by advisors and the Math Department, the University still has

students enroll in MA 116 when their degree requirements only require MA 112. This change will hopefully encourage more students to enroll in MA 112 instead of MA 116.

Financial Implications: None

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2022

Request for Action: Approval by AAC, FS, Gen Fac

Approved by: AAC on 1-31-2022

FS on 2-7-2022

Gen Fac on

Attachments Yes No