

This template is provided as guidance in assisting committees to satisfy the reporting requirements found in Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article III, Section 2. Please note the following applicable provisions:

The Chair of each Faculty Senate Committee shall report at least once each semester to the chair of the Executive Committee regarding the business conducted by the Faculty Senate Committee....

It shall be the responsibility of committee chairs to monitor their committee membership's status and any vacancies (whether occurring by repeated absence, leave of absence, resignation or retirement), and promptly report any occurring vacancies to the Senate leadership.

Email completed reports to facultySenate@unt.edu.

Report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Mid-year report Year-end report

Date: November 7, 2017

Committee Name: Academic Affairs

Chair or Co-Chairs: Wendy Watson

Meetings for the term/year: September 1, November 3

Membership and Attendance (year-to-date attendance record):

[These column and row titles may vary based upon the nature of the committee composition]

| Group Represented, committee office, if applicable | Name | Department or administrative unit affiliation | Term End (if applicable) | Meetings Attended | Meetings Absent (# Excused) |
|--|--------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chair | Wendy Watson | Political Science | 2018 | 2 | 0 |
| Co-chair | n/a | | | | |
| Secretary | n/a | | | | |
| Group I | Will Derusha | Spanish | 2019 | 2 | 0 |
| Group II | Carol Hargis | Library | 2020 | 1 | 1 (1) |
| Group III | Matthew Dulock | Math | 2019 | 2 | 0 |
| Group IV | Watson (see above) | | | | |
| Group V | Lou Pelton | | | 0 | 2 (1) |
| Group VI | Tao Zhang | | | 1 | 1 (0) |
| Group VII | Vacant | | | | |
| Group VIII | Vacant | | | | |
| At-large | n/a | | | | |
| Dean's Rep | Vacant | | | | |
| SGA Rep | Muhammad Kara | SGA | 2018 | 2 | 0 |
| Registrar designee | Lynn McCreary | Registrar | n/a | 2 | 0 |
| VPAA designee | Christy Cruisinger | VPAA | n/a | 0 | 2 |
| Grad School Designee | Vacant | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----|---|---|
| Admissions Executive Director | Rebecca Lothringer | Admissions | n/a | 0 | 2 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----|---|---|

Accomplishments (including items submitted for review or approval to the Executive Committee or Faculty Senate):

- **The Committee requested that the Executive Committee clarify the language in the Faculty Senate Procedures Manual to specify that the Committee receives its charges from the Executive Committee and not from the Senate itself.**
- **The Committee approved a proposal emerging from the Graduate Council that would allow grades of incomplete, in graduate courses, to convert administratively to failing grades rather than linger forever on a transcript.**
- **The Committee addressed an issue of whether it should have jurisdiction over issues emanating from the Graduate Council. While the Committee believed that, under existing language, it did, it consulted with the Committee on Committees. That committee has rewritten the charge for the Academic Affairs Committee and our jurisdiction over graduate issues is likely to expire before the end of this academic semester.**

Ongoing/future projects:

- **The Committee plans to consult with CLEAR, UCAN, and the VPAA about the issue of students having unrealistic expectations of online courses. Why do students believe these courses are easier than face-to-face courses? Are these courses, on average, really easier than face-to-face courses, and thus students develop a belief that all such courses are easier? What are the consequences? Do we see a higher drop and/or fail rate in online courses? If there is a problem what can we do to remedy it?**
- **We also consulted with our SGA rep about what students wanted. He indicated that students wanted more 5-year BA/MA programs, particularly those that would turn into teaching options. The Committee decided to launch an investigation into the possibility of using the model of Teach North Texas to develop similar program in non-STEM disciplines.**