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2016-17 FACULTY SENATE XXI - February 20, 2017 Minutes Summary

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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
2016-17 FACULTY SENATE XXI

<p>The fundamental function of the approved minutes of the Faculty Senate is to accurately document actions taken by that body. Additionally, the minutes traditionally seek to provide context by capturing some statements of Senators, faculty in attendance, and guests. The minutes do not verify the veracity, authenticity, and/or accuracy of those statements.</p>

Meeting called to order at 3:41 p.m. on February 20, 2017

MINUTES SUMMARY

I. Roll – The following senators were absent: Carter, R. Collins, Curran-Celentano, Edwards, Gardner, & Simos. Barnett, Berndtson, Krzanowski, and Scherr were excused. Mica Stark and Nancy Targett were guests.

II. Remarks by and questions to the provost – Provost Targett said she had a few items to share with the Senate. She noted that the number of student applications to UNH is down 6% from this same time last year, overall, although School of Law applications are up for the same time. She said that of greater importance to her than the actual number of applications is the way we convert student applications into yield events, and she asked the senators to encourage the departments to work on producing high-touch yield events.

A senator asked for a breakdown of the numbers of applications. Nancy reported that, as of a week ago, graduate student applications are down 13%, while undergraduate applications on the Durham campus are down by 5-6%. School of Law applications are up. Transfer applications are down both in Durham and in Manchester, although she noted that the Manchester numbers may be less reliable because those applications generally come in later in the spring anyway. The provost said we still have had more than 19,000 applications, but that the administration is watching the trajectories to continue to competitively position ourselves for greater success in converting those applications to enrollments. She said that students respond to high-touch, personalized interactions when they come to campus for a visit. She noted that the application deadline has been pushed back to March 1.

The provost announced that the university will be using a new vendor for our student evaluations of teaching, as the previous vendor was unable to provide the assessments that we requested. She said that the university will transition to the new vendor at the end of this semester and that, in addition to the Provost's office, IT, the former chair of the Teaching Evaluation Form Implementation Committee, and the Senate leadership have been involved in this process.

Nancy announced that assessment will be moved out of the office of the Vice President for Enrollment, and back under the stewardship of the provost's office. The assessment portfolio will include teaching evaluations, academic program reviews, and NEASC/accreditation. Data will be obtained from Institutional Research & Assessment.

The provost said that an imposter issue has arisen on with individuals requesting access to our classrooms under false pretenses. She said that there was a recent incident in the Education department, where the instructor managed the situation well. The provost urged the senators to be

aware and cautious of individuals who might attempt to come into our classrooms and create a situation which could be turned against our faculty for allowing inappropriate advocacy in our classrooms.

Nancy noted that concerns have been expressed regarding the number of snow days we have experienced on campus. She said that sometime in March, the administration will review the total number of snow days so far this year with the registrar, Senate leadership, and others, to determine if steps need to be taken to make up any lost class time.

A senator asked about the plan to move the Honors Program into Conant Hall, expressing concern that the condition of the building does not send a positive message about the value of the Honors Program to the university. The provost said that the intent was to move the Honors Program into Conant Hall after the building had been renovated.

III. Report by the Graduate Student Senate Representative – Jovan Milosavljevic, a graduate student and graduate assistant in the dean’s office, shared information about the graduate school’s writing program. The program includes a J-Term Writing Boot Camp, a Graduate Writing Group, and a Summer Writing to be Published Workshop, and is supported by the faculty, the Writing Academy, the Writing Center, and the Library. Funding for the program comes from the UNH Foundation, the Research Office, and the Provost’s Office. The program has seen a dramatic increase in participants since 2015.

Jovana also shared data about the Graduate School and the opportunities it provides to students for travel grants, professional development, and venues such as the annual Graduate Research Conference. She handed out a flyer for the Graduate Writing Group, sponsored by the Graduate School, which meets from 10 a.m. – noon on Mondays this semester, and from 3-6 p.m. on Wednesdays in the MUB, room 158. She added that food is served for those who attend for a two-hour minimum. Jovana encouraged the senators to distribute this information to their students so they can take advantage of these programs. A senator asked that the flyer be distributed electronically for easy access, and Jovana agreed to send it to the Senate admin for distribution.

IV. Remarks by and questions to the Senate chair - Chair Dante Scala reminded the group that today’s meeting is a make-up for last week’s meeting which was cancelled due to curtailed operations, and noted that we will meet again one week from today as regularly scheduled. He apologized to the Senate committee chairs for any disruption of their scheduled meetings.

At our last meeting, a senator raised concerns about the weather emergency reporting system being used at UNH. Dante has spoken with Chief Dean and Chris Clement about the concerns. He has noted that during the recent three curtailments, the text and email alerts seem to be reasonably coordinated, and that WMUR has also been synched with announcements from campus sources. Chief Dean reports that UNH Media Relations does not plan to post updates on the UNH website. Dante has sent a communication to Media Relations to learn why this might be so; he feels it would be important for the website to post updated information. Dante also suggested that part of the problem may be with the number of community members who have not yet successfully bridged from the previous alert system to Everbridge, and he has asked Chief Dean to investigate how many faculty and staff are actually receiving the text alerts provided.

A senator asked about the university's policy about parking during curtailed operations. Recently, a curtailment ended at 9:30 a.m., and faculty with classes at 9:40 a.m. have reported that students were told they could not park in the lots until the curtailment ended, creating problems with getting to class on time. Another senator noted that the busses don't start running until the curtailment ends, meaning that students who use the busses have no means of transportation until that time. Dante said he will look into this.

The chair said that the new software for course evaluations, announced by the provost, will be a needed improvement over the last system. He said that both the administration and Faculty Senate leadership were unhappy that the vendor was unable to provide the mean for Q1-13. He said that Alberto Manalo, past chair of the TEVC, sat on the working group to review software options, along with members of the Senate ITC, and himself. Dante said he was grateful for the Senate to have seats at that table.

V. Minutes – It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2017 meeting. A senator from Nursing said that there are concerns in her department regarding Dean Kirkpatrick's announcement in the last meeting that the Counseling Center will soon be re-named, and asked how she might follow up on those concerns. Dante suggested that she or her department chair might send an email to Dean Kirkpatrick.

Two corrections were suggested to the minutes, in Items IV and V. Thus adjusted, the minutes were approved unanimously, with 5 abstentions.

VI. Conversation with Mica Stark, Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs – The chair turned the time over to Mica Stark for a discussion regarding the NH Legislature and the ongoing negotiations over the UNH budget. Mica noted that this is a budget year, and that we have a new governor as well as a lot of turnover in the State House, all of which have an effect on the university's budget.

From the NH State operating budget, the University System of New Hampshire currently receives \$81 million, which is the same level of state funding as in 2003. Our high point of funding was \$100 million in 2010, which was cut by 49% in 2011. The Board of Trustees for the university system is responsible for formulating the budget requests to the state. Their request for the two-year budget was \$88.5 million for FY18, and \$93.5 million for FY19. They made two requests: that resident tuition be frozen for two years, and that we propose some new scholarships for valedictorians/salutatorians, as well as some targeted scholarship programs. The governor's budget, presented two weeks ago, proposes flat funding (maintaining the \$81 million). Mica called this surprising and disappointing, saying that there have been positive conversations in recent months. He noted that in the governor's speech, there was no mention of USNH. Mica also noted that the state has fully restored the previously cut funding for the Community College. The governor did propose a new scholarship program in his budget, proposing \$5 million over the two year, which funding is intended to be given directly to 1,000 prospective students to use as they will at NH institutions, rather than giving the funding to the institutions to distribute to matriculating students. It is unclear whether the scholarships would be merit- or need-based. Mica said that while we are glad to see more discussion of scholarships in Concord, we are concerned with the absence of support for the state's two public institutions.

The governor's budget will go to the House, voting in late March or early April, and then will go on to the State Senate.

The Board of Trustees submitted a single request to the state capital budget, to renovate and expand Spaulding Hall for biological sciences in order to meet the demand of a growth industry. The request was for \$30 million from the state, with UNH contributing \$15 million, for a total of \$45 million for phase one of the project. Mica noted that BIA and other companies in the state have expressed their support for this project. The governor's budget, for the first time in the 53 years that USNH has been in existence, included zero dollars for capital projects. Mica said that the Speaker of the House is trying to offer support, and there is a move to remind legislators of the success of the KEEP plan for Kingsbury.

Four other bills affecting higher education in the state include

- Pending legislation on guns on campus, which seems to have reduced momentum at this moment. It is likely that the legislature may revisit this next year.
- Academic research in K12 schools (SB 43), which was vetoed last year by Governor Hassan after being passed by the House and Senate. This bill impacts research done by social scientists in our public schools and requires active parental consent to conduct such research. An amendment to this bill has been brought forward proposing that if the research passed IRB, it would be exempt from this ruling. Mica noted that Senator Innis has been very helpful in communicating with his State Senate colleagues in the navigation of this bill.
- A bill was passed last year to allow the printing of more specialty plates in NH. This year, any non-profit wanting to market specialty plates will need to bring forward their own bill, and we have a bill (SB 31) in the works. If this bill is passed, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of UNH specialty plates would come back to fund NH student scholarships.
- Three USNH oversight bills, one of which would be the first step in transferring budget oversight for USNH from the Board of Trustees to the legislature. He says that there is a group of legislators who would like to have more line item review over spending at the university. Mica said that such bills would be detrimental, and reported that his office is working with the Speaker of the House. His hope is that the three bills will be combined into a single bill, with a compromise on what areas the legislature might oversee, perhaps limiting their scope to the \$81 million which comes from the state.

For those who would like to help, Mica had several suggestions. The UNH Works Advocacy Program provides a network for parents, students, alumni, and employees for information and advocacy about what is going on in Concord. You can learn more by going to unh.edu/works and signing up to receive information. Mica suggested that our personal associations with state senators and representatives can also help us to share information make a difference. Ultimately, he said, sharing our stories is the best way to engage and make an impact in declaring what it means to be a public research university. He invited those with questions to contact him at mica.stark@unh.edu or by phone at 862-0306.

A senator asked if he could put the \$81 million into perspective against the total USNH budget. He said that the total USNH budget is about \$850-900 million, and that UNH-Durham's share of the state's \$81 million works out to about \$51 million. He noted that, on a per-capita basis, New

Hampshire is far and away the state with the least state funding for higher education. The senator asked if SB 43 (on academic research in K12 schools) passes, would it be retroactive to research already conducted. Mica said he would check and share that information.

A senator asked if the \$5 million earmarked for scholarships for NH students is part of the \$81 million in state funding, or if it would be on top of that amount. Mica said that it is in addition to the state's funding, but that the money would not go to the institutions, but directly to the students. Mica noted that the state budget is in particularly good shape right now, with the rainy day fund filled, and that the state has \$50-80 million available to invest. The scholarship monies would come from those funds.

Another senator asked how optimistic Mica is that USNH will get to keep all of the offered \$81 million after the budget goes through the House and the Senate. Mica said he is optimistic that we will not fall below the \$81 million, and that it's possible the State Senate might offer more.

A senator asked if Mica is aware of any institutions of higher learning in New Hampshire who are actually advocating for guns on campus, or if an outside entity is promoting those bills. Mica said he is not aware of any public university who is in favor of allowing guns on campus, and that he suspects these bills originate with lawmakers who hear about restrictions on firearms, rather than any organization. A senator suggested the Chief Paul Dean testify before the House and Senate regarding safety on campus. Mica said that Chief Dean is our point person, testifying articulately on this topic. He said that most police in the state are against laws that would allow guns on campus.

Another senator asked if the proposed state scholarships would be the most effective way to support students, and wondered if they will see the full benefit of those funds. Mica replied that the Trustees have conversed with the governor on these topics, and said there seems to be some acknowledgment of the expertise of the university to address this issue. He said that it appears that the governor's intent is to reach more students with a free-market approach. The graduate student senate representative asked if any of these scholarship dollars might be for graduate students. Mica said the funds will likely be for undergraduates.

A senator asked if some of the recent UNH spending controversies have impacted the governor's decision. Mica responded that some lawmakers believe that the university system spends its money unwisely. He said that we certainly need to be accountable for the mistakes that we make, but he said that it is important to make sure that our success stories are told so that the public is aware of the good that we do here.

The Senate chair asked what Mica's initial impression of the new governor, and his ideological flexibility or rigidity. Mica said that the governor seems to understand that a place like UNH is vital to state growth. He said the new governor is young, smart, and from a family who cares about education. He noted that the governor has attended and participated in all of the Board of Trustee meetings, which is a positive sign.

VII. AAC report and motion on fall breaks – Scott Smith, chair of the Senate Academic Affairs Committee, said that his committee has been reviewing the calendar for next year, which is still part of the current 5-year calendar that was approved by the Senate. His committee was asked to

consider whether the university should continue with the fall break (usually in October), or eliminate the fall break in favor of having the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off, as we did last year. He reported that about 85-90% of faculty polled reported their preference to keep the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as a day off of classes. In order to do that, the fall break currently in place in the 5-year calendar needs to be removed. With the current 5-year calendar, it is not possible to have both breaks. His committee offered the following motion:

Rationale: Last year (Motion #XX-M8, continuing a motion from the year before, #XIX-M8) the Faculty Senate voted to cancel classes on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (hereafter WbT) for one year, but mandated that a review be carried out by the Academic Affairs Committee to determine whether this change should be continued beyond the current year. Because of rules governing the number of classes that must be offered in the semester, the cancellation of classes on WbT necessitates the elimination of Fall Break. If the motion below is passed, we will again not have a Fall Break in AY 2017–18. Furthermore, if we are to cancel classes on WbT, this will necessitate a further change to the calendar. Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017 is, according to the current calendar voted on by the faculty senate, to follow a Monday schedule (to accommodate Fall Break). This day must revert back to a Tuesday schedule to balance out the schedule.

The AAC solicited feedback from Faculty Senators concerning the week before Thanksgiving. The committee received over twenty responses, and the prevailing opinion (over 90%) was in favor of cancelling classes on WBT for a number of reasons, including the safety of students. There were, however, some unfortunate outcomes this past year that gave us pause. First, the Tuesday before Thanksgiving followed a Friday schedule—thus giving the student body less reason to stay on campus on the Monday before Thanksgiving and creating a ten-day break between classes that meet T or TR. To forestall such problems, we propose that Tuesday September 26, 2017 follow a Friday schedule so that the Tuesday before Thanksgiving may remain a Tuesday schedule. Second, the university decided to close dorms on Tuesday *afternoon*, again with the effect of encouraging students to leave for break early.

Thus, we put forward the following motion with two provisions: 1) that the Tuesday before Thanksgiving remain a Tuesday schedule, and 2) that residence life leave dorms open until Wednesday morning, or at the very least 10:00 pm on Tuesday, especially since there are many classes and labs scheduled on Tuesday night.

The Academic Affairs Committee is reviewing the next five-year calendar (AY 2018–22) and will be exploring the possibility of offering a Fall Break while also allowing for classes to be cancelled on WbT.

Motion: The Senate Academic Affairs Committee moves that the Faculty Senate adjust the calendar for AY 2017-18 as follows: 1) that classes be cancelled on Nov. 22, 2017 (the Wednesday before Thanksgiving); 2) that Fall Break, currently scheduled for Oct. 9, 2017, be eliminated; 3) that Tuesday, October 10, revert to a Tuesday schedule; and 4) that Tuesday, Sept. 26 follow a Friday schedule.

He noted that there did not seem to be any good Tuesday to convert to a Friday schedule (to accommodate for the two Fridays lost to Veteran's Day and the Thanksgiving break), and so he and the registrar selected September 26 as a date early enough in the semester to cause minimal problems.

A senator reminded the group about the additional problem of the dorms closing last year on Tuesday, leaving students stranded who had evening classes or labs. Scott said that the rationale of the motion addresses this point. Dante said that the provost's and dean's office are aware of this issues.

Another senator noted that with the reversion back to the previous common exam times on Tuesday and Thursday, eliminating the Tuesday schedule during the fourth week of classes could be problematic. Scott said the choice of Tuesday is negotiable. After some discussion, a friendly amendment was made to change the Tuesday with a Friday schedule to November 7, the Tuesday before Veteran's Day. The AAC accepted that amendment. A senator offered another friendly amendment that wording about not closing the dorms be included in the motion itself, rather than just in the rationale, and the AAC also accepted that friendly amendment. A senator urged that the dorms remain open until Wednesday morning so that no students are compelled to leave campus and drive late at night, and the AAC also accepted that recommendation as a friendly amendment, resulting in the following amended motion:

Motion: the Senate Academic Affairs Committee moves that the Faculty Senate adjust the calendar for AY 2017-18 as follows: 1) that classes be cancelled on Nov. 22, 2017 (the Wednesday before Thanksgiving), providing that the dorms remain open until 10 a.m. on that Wednesday; 2) that Fall Break, currently scheduled for Oct. 9, 2017, be eliminated; 3) that Tuesday, October 10 revert to a Tuesday schedule; and 4) that Tuesday, Nov. 7 follow a Friday schedule.

A senator asked about the possibility of having both the fall break and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off. Scott said that, ultimately, his committee's goal is to find a way to provide both. As they review the next five-year calendar, they will propose three options; one with a fall break and no break before Thanksgiving, one with the Wednesday before Thanksgiving off and no fall break, and a third with both breaks.

The amended motion will lay over until the next Senate meeting.

VIII. Motion from the Agenda Committee on the university's policy on right-to-know requests – The chair asked vice-chair Dan Innis to preside over the presentation of the following motion related to right-to-know requests, prepared by the Senate Agenda Committee:

Rationale: Judicial Watch's right-to-know request challenges the rights to free speech and scientific inquiry at the core of the university's mission. Scientific inquiry, a form of free speech, thrives in an environment in which ideas are nurtured and tested. Personal political expression by students and faculty in the marketplace of ideas thrives within the university. The protection of free speech has its constitutional basis in the First Amendment. The release of faculty e-mails has a potentially chilling effect on all these rights.

The Faculty Senate does recognize that right-to-know laws rest on the principle that transparency and openness in the operation of public agencies is a societal good. State and federal right-to-know laws facilitate the ability of citizens to request appropriate information from public agencies, including a state university. The New Hampshire state constitution, in particular, enshrines the principle of open and transparent government.

These two principles – the right to free speech and scientific inquiry, and the desire for openness and transparency in public agencies – sometimes can be in tension. Recognizing this tension, the Faculty Senate moves as follows:

Motion:

- 1) While some e-mails sent by university employees are demonstrably reflective of the conduct of the university's business, some are demonstrably not and some fall in between. **The Senate encourages the narrowest possible release of information based on the university's paramount concern to protect free speech and scientific inquiry.**
- 2) The Senate encourages faculty leadership and administrators to work together to educate the UNH community about the potential for public disclosure of electronic communications transmitted via the university's network. Academic departments and programs, in particular, must be cognizant that the use of university resources to advocate a partisan political position is one circumstance that makes public disclosure a more likely outcome.

Dante said that the rationale acknowledges that right-to-know laws exist for transparency of government. The first part of the motion offers instruction to the administration about how they should interpret the right-to-know requests. The second part of the motion is an encouragement to ensure that our colleagues are adequately informed about the possibility of public disclosure of electronic communications, whether through emails or the use of departmental or program websites or social media platforms. He said that departments and programs need to be cognizant that the use of UNH resources for purposes that might be interpreted as partisan can be a trigger for public disclosure requests.

A senator asked for clarification of "partisan." Dante said the wording reflects state law. He said that partisan speech or behavior would advocate for a specific party or candidate. The senator suggested that any advocacy for principles supported by one party or the other could be interpreted as partisan. She suggested that the motion might need to be reworded in the last sentence thus:

Academic departments and programs, in particular, must be cognizant *aware* that the use of university resources *on behalf of a political party or particular candidate* to ~~advocate a partisan political position~~ is one circumstance that makes public disclosure a more likely outcome.

Dante said he would be willing to accept this wording as a friendly amendment. Another member of the Agenda Committee said that he believes it is important to keep the word “partisan” in the motion, in reference to the state law.

A senator asked how “electronic communications transmitted via the university’s network” should be interpreted. Dante replied that it would mean emails with a UNH address. A senator pointed out that a previous conversation with the provost suggested that even using a private email server on the UNH network or Wi-Fi could be an issue. She asked if we have had clarification on that matter yet. Dante said that this would be a question for UNH Counsel Ron Rodgers, who will be addressing the Senate later this spring.

Another senator said that the right-to-know request applies to computers owned by UNH, and not private ones. A senator asked how far back the investigation into such a request could go into archived emails. Dante said it depends on the request, saying that some are broad and vague, and others are very specific. He said the university receives such requests often, and that the requests don’t actually require a specific trigger. He said the administration tries to narrow the focus of any such inquiry. A senator asked if emails that have been archived by an individual and then deleted from their computer would be held in UNH archives longer, and for how long. A senator who has been the target of such a request said he is unsure how long such emails remain in the archive, but said that deleted emails can only be retrieved for a criminal investigation.

A senator expressed concern that this discussion will cause faculty to leave this meeting afraid of political speech. A senator said that the motion’s phrase about using the “narrowest possible release of information” implies a refusal to comply, or at least that something is being hidden. Dante said that he is reluctant for the representative body of the faculty to say nothing about this, while we’re already in an adversarial relationship.

A senator recalled that the provost said that legal counsel will have the final word in these cases, and asked if this motion is an effort to instruct our legal counsel. Dante said that it is, in an effort to bolster the interpretation.

The graduate student senate representative asked if these requests apply to graduate students as well. If they are employed by the university, or funded under federal or state grants, they are.

This motion will lay over until the next Senate meeting.

IX. Senate vice chair report on motions from the last Senate session – Vice chair Dan Innis presented his report on actions taken on motions passed during Senate Session XX.

STATUS REPORT ON MOTIONS PASSED DURING
THE 2015-16 SESSION OF THE FACULTY SENATE (XX)

1. Formed an ad-hoc committee to investigate alternatives to UNH semester system. (XX-M1)
Implemented, reported to the Senate during the spring semester
2. Changed the online wording for Honors Convocation attendance. (Motion XX-M2)

The online wording was at variance with practice. The language was changed to “currently enrolled and matriculated students, or those who have graduate in the previous September and December terms.” The September and December graduates were not included previously. Implemented.

3. Changes to the wording of questions 4, 6, and 10 to the UNH online evaluations of teaching because the questions, as asked, were not applicable to online courses. (XX-M3)
Previous questions were designed for traditional courses and concerned class preparation, class discussion, and availability outside of class. The changes altered the questions to address content, sharing of ideas, and availability by phone or electronic communication. Implemented.
4. Approved eTerm Calendar for AY '17. (XX-M4)
Implemented.
5. The Senate approved UCAPC as the approval body for courses that do not have a college level or department home (e.g., interdisciplinary courses). (XX-M5)
Implemented.
6. Due to the elimination of the University Central Budget Committee, the Senate voted to reinstate the committee. (XX-M6)
The University has established a new budget committee to replace the CBC. Initial meetings have taken place.
7. Delay to the decision on approving a policy on start-ups. (XX-M7)
Implemented. The University's policy revision proposal added changes for faculty management of start-ups, changes regarding equity in the start-up, and conflicts of interest. The committee concluded that more time was needed due to a lack of specific goals as well as collective bargaining implications. Recommended gathering more information. Current status of information acquisition unknown.
8. Authorized the cancellation of classes on Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day and eliminated Fall Break Day. (XX-M8)
Implemented for one year. Academic Affairs is to monitor the impact.
9. Revised the Student Rights, Responsibilities Handbook, Sect 06.1.1, to clarify that PAT may be advisors. (XX-M9)
Implemented.
10. Established an ad hoc Committee on Teaching Evaluation Standards. (XX-M10)
Implemented.
11. Passed a motion to stop level funding of the Library Acquisitions Budget. The motion is in response to flat funding amidst rapidly increasing journal costs (nearly 4X the CPI). (XX-M11)
There was some movement in the Library budget this year: 1) 5% increase in the collections budget; 2) \$150,000 to realize the staff classification review project, and 3)

\$50,000 to offset reductions in funding from other sources. Contractually mandated salary and benefits increases will also be added to the budget, there is no increase in the rest of the budget for inflation.

12. Approved full implementation of online student evaluations by Fall 2016. (XX-M12)
Implemented. The Senate will continue to analyze the distribution and means, compare them to past paper evaluations, and provide deans and department chairs with appropriate adjustments.
13. Passed a motion to shorten the course add period by one week. (XX-M13)
Implemented without difficulty.
14. The Senate approved the establishment of permanent committees of the Senate. (XX-M14)
Implemented. The committees include Professional Standards, the University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee (UCAPC), the Discovery Committee. The motion also allows the Senate to establish any other permanent committees by charter.
15. Senate passes motion to amend UCAPC charter to include all senate-eligible faculty to vote for committee members. The goal was to include CCLEAR faculty. (XX-M15)
Implemented
16. Approved a motion to allow creation of subcommittees of senate standing committees. (XX-16)
Implemented. The purpose of the motion is to allow the Agenda Committee to appoint a larger number of members to one or more standing committees in the expectation that these larger committees form sub-committees. Action will only be taken when there is an expectation of a large anticipated workload.
17. Approved a motion that requires that Agenda Committee members must be tenured. (XX-M17)
Implemented.
18. Passed a motion amend the constitution. The Agenda Committee may charge committees, act in summer. (XX-18)
Implemented.
19. Approved a motion to protect university lands. (XX-19)
In process, ongoing. This motion asks that UNH protect its farms and woodlands in Durham, Lee, and Madbury in perpetuity.
20. Approved a motion to add campus lactation rooms. (XX-20)
In process. There are two lactation rooms presently, both central to campus. They are located in the library and the MUB. SAARC has allocated \$70,000 to create two additional facilities.

21. The Senate passed a motion to retain Discovery writing and quantitative reasoning skills. (XX-21)
No action necessary.
22. The Senate approved a motion to discontinue Discover Dialogue. (XX-22)
Implemented. The rationale was that the program was unknown to most and underutilized.
23. Approved a motion to leave Discovery categories unchanged. (XX-23)
Implemented. No action required.
24. Passed a motion on double counting of Discovery courses. (XX-24)
Implemented. This was a statement from the Senate that insures that a course listed as fulfilling a Discovery requirement does so regardless of whether it is used as a major requirement. Departments are able to set their own restrictions.
25. Approved a motion regarding oversight authority of the Discovery Committee. (XX-25)
This motion empowers the Discovery committee with limited powers to track and review Discovery courses and communicate with departments about standards. It also charges them to review the category descriptions. Implementation is through the Discovery Committee. The Committee should review the categories and track and review Discovery courses.
26. The Senate approved a motion to end the “decommissioning” of Discovery courses. (XX-26)
Implemented. The motion is designed to end the practice, largely in COLA, of forcing departments to yield a Discovery course to create a new one.
27. Passed a motion to encourage the even distribution of Discovery course seats.
The motion charges the faculty and administration with working together to ensure that no one course dominates the marketplace and that seats are equitably distributed. The motion also recommends a hard cap of 400 students across all sections of a single course. Status unknown.
28. Passed a motion for positive advocacy of Discovery. (XX-M28)
One of the biggest complaints about Discovery is that students are not aware of the rationale behind the courses; the Academic Affairs Committee suggested that a more concerted effort to promote Discovery as part of an outstanding education would benefit the university. The motion also stated that syllabi from courses taught within the Discovery Program clearly state what category and/or attribute the course fulfills. Enacted.
29. Approved a motion regarding transfer credit policy for two-year schools. (XX-29)
This motion allows students to count all of their (university level) courses within an Associate Degree program, some of which require more than 64 credits (the old standard). The new policy is now the standard and it allows up to 72 hours to transfer.

30. Approved a motion to encourage the University Administration to actively support childcare. (XX-30)
In process. The motion requested that the university report back to the Senate by October 17, 2016.
31. The Senate passed a motion to suspend the revised RCM formula and reinstate the Central Budget Committee. (XX-31)
Partially implemented. The University continues to implement the new RCM formula, but has established a new budget committee to advise the Administration.
32. Passed a motion on dialogue between administration and faculty on budget actions. (XX-32)
This motion moved that the UNH Office of the Provost and the VP for Finance and Administration meet with the Faculty Senate Finance Committee no less than twice per semester to provide budgetary updates and other relevant information that may affect academic programs. Implemented.
33. Approved a motion to include student representatives on Standing Committees. (XX-33)
This motion invites the Undergraduate Student Senate and the Graduate Student Senate to annually appoint one student from each body as a non-voting representative to Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Campus Planning Committees of the Faculty Senate.
34. Approved a motion to raise the GPA for the Honors Program. (XX-34)
The motion raises the minimum GPA for University Honors Program students with University Honors from 3.4 to 3.5 for students entering in the Fall, 2017. Implemented.

Respectfully submitted by Daniel E. Innis, Vice Chair, Faculty Senate

The chair accepted the report on behalf of the Senate.

X. SAC report on Title IX/Mandatory reporting – due to time constraints, this report will be postponed until the next Senate meeting.

XI. SAC report on student mental health issues - due to time constraints, this report will be postponed until the next Senate meeting.

XII. New Business – There was no new business

IX. Adjournment - Upon a motion and second to adjourn, the group voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:28 p.m.