

**Agendum
Oakland University
Board of Trustees Formal Session
April 12, 2024**

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH NAME CHANGE:
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, CREATIVE WRITING, AND FILM
A Recommendation**

1. **Division and Department:** Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences, The Department of English (Creative Writing, and Film)

2. **Introduction:** Over the past 15 years, the Department of English has grown and developed, adding major programs in Cinema Studies (now Film) in 2009, and, Creative Writing in 2013. In the late 2010s, the faculty teaching in the Film program decided to branch off and form their own department. The move gained the support of the Dean's and Provost's offices. For all intents and purposes, it looked like the move was set. Because of the upheavals brought about by the pandemic, the plan was scrapped. With the news that the film program was going to be in the department for the foreseeable future, the department decided to develop a public identity for the department that would reflect its operational reality. As a name, "Department of English" suggests that the English program is the main branch, while Creative Writing and Film are offshoots.

We wanted a name that recognizes the equal standing of all three programs. No chair of the department, for example, has ever come from Creative Writing or Film. Changing the name of the department, would not, in itself, change leadership patterns or the institutional structures that sustain the three programs. However, changing the name would at least make it clear that the programs and the faculty are equal in department structure. We are currently making internal changes to our governance procedures to reinforce this.

On December 2, 2022, the department met to consider changing the name. The discussion was brief and the decision unanimous. Every member of the department voted to adopt the new name. There was some consideration of whether to list the programs alphabetically, but we decided against that because leaving English first in the name keeps intact the name people associate with the department. We didn't include "English for ELA Educators" in the department name because "English" already encapsulates that program.

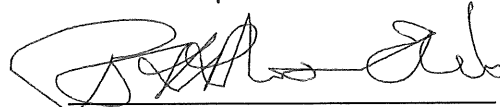
3. **Previous Board Action:** None.

4. **Budget Implications:** The financial implications to the change of department name will involve updating letterhead and brochures to reflect the new name.

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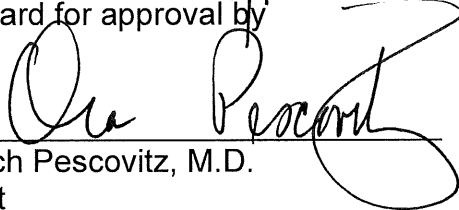
5. **Educational Implications:** There will be minimal educational implications.
6. **Personnel Implications:** The change in the name of the department will not affect staffing for the office.
7. **University Reviews/Approvals:** Approved by English Department faculty, December 2, 2022. It was presented to the University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction on March 19, 2024 as an information item, and approved by Oakland University Senate on March 21, 2024.
8. **Recommendation:**
RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the change in program and degree title from the Department of English to the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film.
9. **Attachments:**
A. Approved Senate Minutes, March 21, 2024.

Submitted to the President
on 4/9, 2024 by



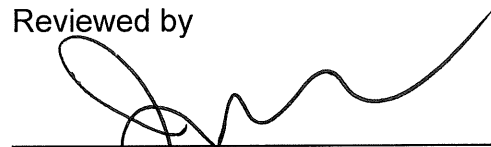
Britt Rios-Ellis, M.S., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs and Provost

Recommended on 4/10, 2024
to the Board for approval by



Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.
President

Reviewed by



Joshua D. Merchant, Ph.D.
Chief of Staff and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Senate minutes

March 21, 2024

Members present: *Al-Shabrawey, Aloi, Arnold, Ball, Barry, Battles, Baxa, Boruff-Jones, Carey, Carpenter, Craig, Daniel, Demsky, Dinda, Eis, Eldredge, Eskander, Farooqi, Ferguson, Gemechu, Glover, Goble, Golinski, Guessous, Hansen, Hartmus, Kiefer, Kies, Knox, Kondratek, Landolt, Latcha, Ligocki, McMillon, Miller, Mitton, Naus, Olawoyin, Ostergaard, Qian, Reger, Rutledge, Tiegs, Trivedi, Wadsworth, Wasserman, Wendell, Wenz, Williams*

Members absent: *Coleman, Edrisinha, Hay, Insko, Kobus, Margerum-Leys, Merchant, Pierce, Rawashdeh, Rios-Ellis, Shesko, Stanton, Tilashalski, Zhu*

Associate Provost Banes-Berceli called the Hybrid meeting to order at 3:10 P.M.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION and ACTION ITEMS

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Graduate Program Submissions

1. **Master of Organizational Leadership, modification** to add new instructional delivery methods of 100% online and Hyflex
2. **Master of Business Administration and Online Master of Business Administration, program modification to begin Fall 2024** to standardize the minimum number of credits to 36; Department of Management & Marketing, Department of Economics, School of Business Administration

2. Undergraduate Program Submissions

1. **German, B.A., Concentration in German Studies, discontinue program**
2. **German Language and Literature Minor, discontinue program**
3. **Public Health, B.S., modification** to add electives and categorize required courses into headings also added HS 2050 a corequisite lab
4. **International Management Minor, modification** Department of Management and Marketing, School of Business Administration
5. **Environmental Science Minor, modification** Environmental Science Program, College of Arts and Sciences
6. **French Language and Literature, B.A., modification** to change required and elective courses Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences
7. **German Language and Literature, B.A., modification** to change required and elective courses; Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences
8. **Latin American Language and Civilization, B.A., modification** Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences

9. **Spanish Language and Literature, B.A., modification** Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences
10. **Exercise Science, B.S., modification;** Department of Human Movement Science, School of Health Sciences
11. **Exercise Science, B.S., Specialization in Orthotists and Prosthetists Assistant Studies modification;** Department of Human Movement Sciences, School of Health Sciences
12. **Orthotist and Prosthetist Assistant Studies Minor, modification** Department of Human Movement Sciences, School of Health Sciences
13. **Applied Health Sciences, B.S., Specialization in Orthotics and Prosthetics Assistant Studies, modification** to end and add courses; Department of Public and Environmental Wellness, School of Health Sciences.
14. **Computer Science, B.S. modification** Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science)
15. **Cybersecurity, B.S. modification** Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science
16. **Cybersecurity Minor, new minor** Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science
17. **Advertising Minor, modification** Department of Communication, Journalism and Public Relations, College of Arts and Sciences
18. **Public Relations and Advertising, B.A., modification** to change name of program, prefix changes, curriculum change; Department of Communication, Journalism and Public Relations, College of Arts and Sciences
19. **Music Education, Instrumental and General Music, B.M., modification** Department of Music, College of Arts and Sciences
20. **Business Administration, Accounting, B.S., modification** Department of Accounting and Finance, School of Business Administration (Liang Fu, Donna Free)
21. **Certificate in Lean, new undergraduate certificate** with a total of 14 credit hours using existing HRD courses; Department of Organizational Leadership, School of Education and Human Services
22. **Chinese Language and Civilization Minor, discontinuance of the minor;** Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, College of Arts and Sciences
23. **Graphic Design Minor, modification** Department of Art and Art History, College of Arts and Sciences (Meaghan Barry)
24. **Learning and Development Minor, modification** to rename the minor, Department of Organizational Leadership, School of Education and Human Services
25. **Computer Engineering Minor, new minor** for engineering and computer science majors; Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, School of Engineering and Computer Science
26. **Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences, B.S., Specialization in Pre-clinical professions for medicine, dentistry, optometry, and veterinary medicine, modification** to make a required course an elective course; Clinical and Diagnostic Sciences Department, School of Health Sciences
27. **Wellness and Health Promotion Minor, modification** Department of Public and Environmental Wellness, School of Health Sciences

3. Combined Graduate School and Undergraduate Submissions

1. **Environmental Health and Safety, B.S. to Safety Management, M.S.S.M., Combined B.S./M.S.S.M. modification;** Department of Public & Environmental wellness, School of Health Sciences

2. **Oakland University Policy on Official Oakland University Academic Digital Badges, policy revision** to revise our policy definition of levels to conform to the nomenclature used by Credly. Academic departments will need to use this nomenclature when creating badges; University Committee on Undergraduate Instruction (UCUI) and The Graduate School
3. **Exercise Science, Combined B.S./M.S., modification** Department of Human Movement Science, School of Health Sciences

4. University Portal Update - Bhavani Koneru

5. Mental Health Committee Update - - Susan McCarty)

OUSC and Student Mental Health Updates (M.Ferguson, I. Allen, C. Huff)
Faculty and Staff Lunch & Learn training at the Counseling Center (D. Schwartz)

6. University Calendar Ad Hoc Committee Update (Tricia Westergaard & Mike Latcha)

7. Provost's Updates

The Senate Steering Committee is seeking faculty volunteers to serve on committees beginning in Fall 2024. To volunteer, [click here](#) and complete the survey **by March 22, 2024** for full consideration. You can also copy and paste the link below into a new browser window:

https://oakland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_24aN4f7zAWIOCEe

The Senate Service Learning Committee, a committee of faculty and staff, has developed a new procedure to have your course formally designated as a service learning course:

[SSLC Procedure for Service Learning Coursework](#)

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Motion approved to establish a new MS in Medical Sciences to begin Fall 2024

9. NEW BUSINESS

1. Procedural motion approved to staff Senate Standing committees
2. Motion approved from the Department of English to change the name of the Department of English to the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film
3. Senate Resolution approved from the Senate community Engagement committee
4. Non-substantive motion from the University Calendar Ad Hoc Committee to make this committee a regular standing committee

A. INFORMATION ITEMS

- Associate Provost Banes-Berceli provided the opportunity for Senators to provide comments or ask questions about Information Items 1-3 above. There were none.

- University Portal Update: Bhavani Koneru was present to explain that MySail will be issued by a different vendor in the future. She said that the look and feel of the platform will be more modern, and in addition, it will be mobile friendly on any device. She noted that members will be able to personalize their profiles. It is expected that MySail will be a hub for students to track their progress and to connect with faculty and advisors, as well as to ensure that they are on track for their graduation.
- Mental Health Committee Update: Susan McCarty, Celeste Huff, Maris Ferguson and David Schwartz were present to provide and update about the Mental Health Committee. They said there is a new lunch and learn for faculty and staff the first Thursday of every month from 12:00-1:00 P.M. which will include information about how to support students and identify warning signs of mental health issues. They announced that there will be a Campus Walk for suicide Prevention on April 7 at noon, to meet in the parking lot P37, with same day registration available. In addition, the Counseling Center Emergency Fund has \$20,000 for students in financial need for counseling sessions. Other information included that there will be an OUSC Postcard to Pescovitz Campaign, OUSC Mental Health handouts are available, and Mindful Mondays involving the Student Congress and Athletes which takes place every other Monday at 12:00, for meditation.
- Ad Hoc Calendar Committee: Ms. Westergaard and Mr. Latcha were present to update the Senators about the university calendar. Ms. Westergaard thanked the committee for all that they have accomplished. She said the committee has created a perpetual calendar, they have looked at all the constraints and have come up with a set of rules that will work when creating the university calendar. Mr. Latcha said that there are some issues that will come up in the future, such as for example, whether classes should be suspended for Juneteenth, or election day, or the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. He said they will return to the Senate to show the calendar which will be good for long-range planning. Mr. Wendell asked how the calendar will be implemented. Mr. Latcha replied that a calendar is part of working conditions and so it has to be implemented by bargaining.
- Provost's Updates: Associate Provost Banes-Berceli provided the following Provost's Updates:
 - Volunteers are now being sought for Senate committees. She noted that there is a link in the agenda and this should be done by March 27
 - She announced that the Service Learning Committee is looking for course applications, for which a flyer will be available.

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of February 15, 2024

The motion was made to approve the minutes of February 15, 2024. (Latcha, Wendell).

The motion was approved (41 yes, 1 no).

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **MOTION from the Graduate Council to establish a new Master of Science in Medical Sciences to begin Fall 2024 Program** intended for students enrolled in the OUWB Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) program who have successfully completed the first two years of the four-year program, but subsequently terminate out of the M.D. program. This will have a closed admissions process. Department of Foundational Medical Studies, Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine

MOVED that the senate approve the Graduate Council recommendation for a new Master of Science (M.S.) in Medical Sciences to begin Fall 2024.

The motion was approved (36 yes, 9 no).

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Procedural Motion to staff Senate Standing Committees: Updates and Changes**

MOVED that the persons listed be appointed to the committees or positions designated. (Wendell, Guessous)

Honorary Degree Committee

Robert Del Greco (CAS) to replace Xie Zu (SBA) for Winter 2024 leave

Community Engagement Committee

Kyle Edwards (CAS) replacing Jo Reger (CAS) for the 2022-2024 term

The motion was approved (44 yes, 1 no).

2. **SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the Department of English and the College of Arts and Sciences to change the name of the Department of English to the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film; Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences (Eis, Kies)

MOVED to change the name of the Department of English to the Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film within the College of Arts and Sciences.

Mr. Anderson was present to indicate that this name change of the Department of English to Department of English, Creative Writing, and Film had been through the CAS Assembly where it was approved. He said that this will provide equal standing to all three programs within their department. Mr. Wendell asked how the Department of Writing and Rhetoric feels about another department with 'Writing' in the title. Ms. Eis responded that they were at the CAS Assembly but did not object to this.

Ms Eis then made the motion to move to second reading (Eis, Wasserman). The motion was approved (35 yes, 9 no).

The original motion was then approved (36 yes, 4 no).

3. **SENATE RESOLUTION presented by the Senate Community Engagement Committee** to support faculty in the pursuit of the University's goal of community engagement and being a steward of place, the Senate strongly requests that FRPC work with the Senate Community Engagement Committee to craft language to include in the University Standards for Re-Employment, Promotion and Tenure that recognizes community-engaged scholarship, instruction and service. (Eis, Olawoyin)

RESOLUTION: *The Oakland University Senate resolves to affirm the University Senate's support for the proposed resolution requesting that FRPC work with the Senate Community Engagement Committee to craft language to include in the University Standards for Re-Employment, Promotion and Tenure that recognizes community-engaged scholarship, instruction and service.*

Mr. Dulio (Chair of the Senate Community Engagement Committee) was present to say that this resolution is a no-brainer because it makes community engagement count in the promotion and tenure process which presently these activities do not. He observed that engagement activities are not a substitute for traditional research, but rather an addition. Mr. Wendell asked if the committee had asked the Provost if they will make the changes. Mr. Dulio replied that they will work with FRPC to make the case. Ms. Pollard said there have been informal conversations during the Carnegie designation process. Mr. Wendell pointed out that FRPC does not write criteria and so doing this would not be within their purview. Mr. Dulio said that if the Senate does not want them to work with FRPC, then they won't. Mr. Latcha said that the document belongs to Oakland. FRPC's role could be to send the message to academic units whereas it might muddy the issue if it goes to FRPC. Mr. Wendell suggested that this should start with the department because criteria for promotion and tenure vary from unit to unit, but he added that if Oakland wants the change, they can always do it. Mr. Dulio clarified that engagement is a growing field around the country and a growing field of research. The committee is making this resolution because they want to be inclusive, and he does not think it should start with the units. He said if it changes at the university level, departments will notice and then make changes to their criteria. Mr. Wendell replied that he does not like the way this is being proposed. He said this should not come from Carnegie but should come from university support. Mr. Dulio said that he agrees, and added that it is not being driven by Carnegie. He said it has been discussed for ten years at Oakland University, and it is time that community engagement be recognized. Ms. Pollard noted that the Strategic Planning process does incorporate community engagement activities. Ms. Miller said that she has empathy for the complexity of the problem, but Appendix D of the contract does not specifically talk about community engagement. She noted that it does not,

however, preclude units from including it in their department criteria which is different from the previous idea of what service is.

Mr. Latcha made the motion to amend the resolution to remove the reference to FRPC. He said the reasoning for this is that essentially we want Oakland to include this language in the standards. (Rutledge, Guessous). The amendment was approved (41 yes, 4 no).

The motion was then approved (28 yes, 6 no).

4. **NON-SUBSTANTIVE MOTION** from the University Calendar Ad Hoc Committee to move this committee to a regular standing committee in the Oakland University Senate, create and update its charge, and rename it to Academic Calendar Development Committee (ACDC). (Latcha, Rutledge)

***MOVED** to change the Calendar Ad Hoc Committee to a standing university committee, create and update its charge, and rename it to the Academic Calendar Development Committee (ACDC).*

Non-Substantive Motion: Amendable, debatable and eligible for vote at this meeting

Ms. Westergaard said that the committee had looked at other universities to find out the best practices. She noted that as an AdHoc committee, the committee is temporary but the committee thinks it needs to be permanent. The name of the committee will be Academic Calendar Development Committee. The committee would primarily make recommendations and then other bodies at the university would implement the calendar. Mr. Latcha said that the committee could be a frustrating one because, for example, if it is decided that we want to observe Juneteenth, would classes be suspended? Would the university be closed? Would the OUPD be affected? Would people lose their shifts on campus?

Mr. Wendell then moved that this should become a Substantive Motion instead of a Non-Substantive motion. (Wendell, Latcha).

The motion was approved (35 yes, 4 no).

Ms. Miller then asked why we need this to be a permanent committee. She said she thinks the language could be improved to make sure the committee has a good possibility of being able to do something. Ms. Pollard said the contract needs to be considered because the calendar is bargained. Mr. Carpenter pointed out that a Medical School program has been held up because of calendar issues which shows that this is a complex issue.

E. GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Latcha opined that the way things went today at the Senate is the way things used to go. He said it felt refreshing. Ms. Eis seconded that notion. Mr. Baxa said that there will be a Student Research Conference on Friday April 5, 12:00-5:00.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven (Senate secretary)