

Minutes

Bloomington Faculty Council Minutes for April 4, 2023

1. The Bloomington Faculty Council held its regular biweekly meeting on Tuesday afternoon, April 4, 2023, in Presidents Hall. With Provost Shrivastav serving as the Presiding Officer in the chair and Professor Colin Johnson acting as secretary, the meeting convened at 2:37 p.m.
2. The [minutes from March 21, 2023](#) were approved.
3. Associate Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Judah Cohen (Music) read a memorial resolution for [Professor Arlen Brown \(1926-2020\)](#).
4. Faculty President, Professor Reck (Chemistry) began with announcing that Professor Danielle DeSawal (Education) was elected president-elect. She shared the next steps would be the election of other officers and members of elected committees. President Reck shared campus efforts surrounding the launch of [TimelyCare](#) on campus. She highlighted an intentional effort by the School of Education to create a culture of care in the classroom and that a campus session will be held the end of April to discuss how they are approaching this collaborative work. Information about how to request active shooter training was shared with the BFC. To conclude her comments, President Reck read the following proposed statement on academic freedom that will be read at the University Faculty Council (UFC) meeting on April 25, 2023.

Higher education in the United States is admired throughout the world for its pursuit of education and research as mutually reinforcing missions and for its unflagging commitment to academic freedom and shared governance as bedrock principles of universities' operations. Indiana University has a proud tradition of academic freedom and shared governance at both the campus and university levels, exemplified by the university's nurturing of excellent, path-breaking research and the free expression of a wide diversity of academic opinion—despite the popularity or unpopularity of the subjects explored or the views expressed. On rare occasions, these commitments become a cause célèbre and the university's commitments are tested against external challenges to its integrity and autonomy. On a day-to-day basis, these commitments are manifested by following the policies and practices concerning academic freedom and shared governance that have been adopted and regularly confirmed by the University Faculty, Board of Trustees, and University Administration. The University Faculty Council reaffirms its commitment to academic freedom and shared governance, and it calls upon the administrative leadership of the university to continue to follow the letter and spirit of IU's well-established policies and practices.

5. Provost Shrivastav presented the State of the Campus to the BFC. A complete transcript of the comments can be found [online](#). Provost Shrivastav began with acknowledging that IU Bloomington is truly a special place and he is honored to be part of guiding the institution forward. His comments acknowledged the dynamic and complex higher education environment in which we are all working. The body of the report focused on the strategic vision for IU. The areas covered included student success, transformative research and creativity, service to Indiana and beyond, and our collective commitments. Provost Shrivastav concluded with a call to action to work together to learn, engage and move IUB into the future.
6. Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, David Johnson and Assistant Vice Provost & Executive Director of Admissions, Sacha Thieme presented proposed changes to BL-ACA-H11: Undergraduate Admissions Policy. The proposed changes focus on expanding the math requirement to align with other BIG10 institutions and states across the country and eliminating the test-optional language. No discussion occurred. This was an action item and second reading. The changes were approved unanimously.

[Current BL-ACA-H11: Undergraduate Admissions Policy](#)

[B42-2023: Changes to BL-ACA-H11: Undergraduate Admissions Policy](#)

7. Professor Dennis Groth (Informatics, Computing, and Engineering), Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education presented the annual report on IUB General Education. A complete copy of the report can be found [here](#). The report focused on providing an overview of the 2022-2023 committee actions. Items covered included the subcommittee reports and GenEd course list maintenance information. Additionally, data associated with GenEd assessment participation and learning outcomes, as well as credit usage were presented. Finally, information about how IUB is addressing the [Indiana College Core](#) was shared with the BFC. Questions focused on GenEd proposals that were rejected and the decline of advanced placement (AP) credits. The proposals that are rejected by the committee are primarily due to a lack of alignment with the learning objectives associated with GenEd. The decline in AP credits is associated with the number of in-state and out-of-state students. Resident students bring more AP credits than non-resident students. Vice Provost Groth concluded with sharing that students do not come to IUB for general education, rather they attend for the strength of the academic major. Noting that we should not give up on the principles that frame IU's GenEd curriculum, however it may be time to think of a different way to include those principles within the curriculum.
8. Professor Dennis Groth (Informatics, Computing, and Engineering), Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education presented changes to BL-ACA-H32: Grades Given Upon Withdrawal from Courses-Undergraduates Only. The focus of the change is to remove the COVID pandemic statement. This change is to move the campus back to pre-

pandemic operations. No discussion occurred. This was an action item and second reading. The changes were approved unanimously.

[Current BL-ACA-H32: Grades Given Upon Withdrawal from Courses-Undergraduates Only](#)

[B43-2023: Proposed Changes to BL-ACA-H32: Grades Given Upon Withdrawal from Courses-Undergraduates Only](#)

9. The meeting concluded at 4:20 p.m.