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Faculty Senate Chronicle November 3, 2022

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November 3, 2022

15 pages

SENATE ACTIONS

1. Approved a resolution from the Academic Policies Committee to recommend inclusion of a Diversity Statement in course syllabi (appendix A).
2. Approved a list of course proposals from the Curriculum Review Committee (appendix C).
3. Approved the list of graduates for Fall Commencement.

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APPENDIX A

Report of the Academic Policies Committee to Faculty Senate November 3, 2022

Diversity Statement

Whereas, “Research tells us students learn better when they are part of a supportive community of learners. When you create a positive learning environment where students feel accepted, seen, and valued, they are more likely to persist in your course, in their majors, and at the university;”¹

Whereas, The addition of this statement to faculty syllabi will indicate to students that they are in such a supportive learning environment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate encourages faculty to add the following statement to their syllabi.

This class, as well as the broader University of Akron community, respects diversity and strives for equity and inclusion of all students. Diversity includes how we as individuals identify along the lines of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, disability, status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, military status, genetic information, or status as a veteran. Inclusion and respect for diversity make the classroom and the larger community stronger and foster dialogue and democratic decision making. As part of ensuring this class is a safe space for all students, please avoid use of negative stereotypes and insensitive or hateful statements toward groups of people. Please respect your classmates’ pronouns. Each of us is responsible for creating a safer, more inclusive environment. If you feel there is something I can do to make the classroom more inclusive please let me know either in person, via email, or by placing an anonymous note in my mailbox. For support services on campus, go to www.uakron.edu/ie/lgbtq or www.uakron.edu/zipassist.

¹ <https://teaching.resources.osu.edu/teaching-topics/shaping-positive-learning#:~:text=Research%20tells%20us%20students%20learn,majors%2C%20and%20at%20the%20university.>