# UNIVERSITY SENATE Meeting Minutes May 05, 2025

The University Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m., in 111 Harrison Hall on Monday, May 05, 2025. Members absent: Kenya Ash, Will Brinley, John Day, Amie Earls, Brad Goldie, Michael Gowins, Nya Hodge, Patrick Houlihan, Andrew Jones, Haim Kassa, Jeffrey Kuznekoff, Peter Mkhatshwa, David Motta, Carla Myers, Nelchi Prashai, Andrea Ridilla, Cheryl Young

- 1. <u>Call to Order and Announcements and Remarks</u> Rosemary Pennington, Chair of University Senate Executive Committee
  - a. It has been an honor to lead the body this year. I deeply believe in shared governance and it is more important than ever. I hope that all of you will be unafraid to share your opinions, to send ideas to the Senate Executive Committee as we want this body to be a functioning shared governance body with all of you. We try to make space for everyone's work, but sometimes timing has caused us to push things back.
  - b. I am happy to turn it over to the new chair Nathan French
  - c. Nathan French, I want to recognize Tracy Haynes, Rosemary, Provost Mullenix, and Brad Goldie for their work this year on the Senate Executive Committee
  - d. I also want to recognize and congratulate Aimee Earls, who has won excellence in teaching awards at the Regionals.
  - e. We are working on a faster method of voting. We are working with General Counsel on a possible new electronic voting system.
  - f. You should expect to receive a survey via Google Form regarding our availability to serve over the summer. You can say you can not serve, but we want to make sure we know who is available if called, as we want to be prepared.
  - g. You have received the agenda for today's meeting. Are there any additions, amendments, or issues before we proceed?
    - i. Senator: (A) I motion to reorder the agenda to add a Resolution to the agenda
      - 1. Motion to reorder the agenda (Results 40-Yes, 0-No, 4-abstain)
      - Motion to add Resolution to Establish a Mutual Defense Compact for the Universities of the Mid-American Conference, Council of Presidents in Defense of Academic Freedom, Institutional Integrity, and the Research Enterprise to the Agenda. (Result 35-Yes, 2-No, 7-Abstain)

### 2. Approval of University Senate Minutes

- a. University Senate Full Meeting Minutes\_04.28.2025 (Results: 42-Yes, 00-No, 02-Abstain)
- 3. Consent Calendar: The following items were received and accepted on the Consent Calendar:
  - a. Curricular Items 04.30.2025
  - b. Graduate Council Minutes 04.29.2025

# 4. Old Business

- a. SR 25-xx Dissolution of Council on Diversity and Inclusion, Rosemary Pennington, Chair and Professor of Media, Journalism, and Film *Discussion and Anticipated Vote on May 05, 2025* (Vote to Table Until Fall Results: 41-Yes, 01-No, 02-Abstain)
  - i. Questions that we received from Senators
    - 1. I would like to hear some concrete pros/cons of dissolving CODI from the perspective of the Executive Committee, including plans for what is next to make sure our values are maintained. What is the best strategy to maintain our values and be compliant with the law over the next few years?
    - 2. How do we ensure that a community from a diverse population would get adequate support, especially in these challenging times, where some international students and researchers around the States are being treated like they are criminals? Do not these types of councils and organizations (in diversity and inclusion) support many diverse groups in our community?
    - 3. Given that there appears to be widespread support for a Senate Council that has a mission to make Miami University a welcoming community, would it be better to wait to dissolve the council until we have a new council ready to go? I am somewhat concerned about the message we are sending to the students if we dissolve this council without any seeming alternative (the new Council on Community and Belonging!). Given the current council might already be "frozen" (not sure I heard that correctly), the Board of Trustees might not be in a hurry either.

# ii. From SB 1, a university must:

 "Declare that it will not endorse or oppose, as an institution, any controversial belief or policy, except on matters that directly impact the institution's finding or mission of discovery, improvement, and dissemination of knowledge."

### iii. Vision

1. Cultivate a campus community that inspires acceptance, inclusion, and mutual respect.

#### iv. Mission

1. The Council on Diversity & Inclusion (CODI) advocates and champions diversity and inclusion efforts that prioritize our commitment to the core values of love and honor, respect, and inclusion. CODI will promote a college community that is welcoming, empowering, and safe.

#### v. Function

 The function of the Council on Diversity and Inclusion is to advise the Vice President of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion and the Provost on matters of diversity and to facilitate long-term planning for and to engage in the following:

- a. Connect offices and departments of the university to various diversity and inclusion initiatives,
- Disseminate information to members of the University community regarding "best practices" which encourage diversity, equity, and inclusion,
- Facilitate open dialogue and difficult conversations across differences to promote understanding and constructive exchange of views on matters of diversity,
- d. Develop diversity-related competencies to increase recruitment and retention of diverse faculty, staff, and students
- e. Use metrics to assess and identify trends, progress, and problems pertaining to campus diversity and climate,
- f. Build an intellectual community that recognizes that diverse experiences create a rich educational experience for members of the greater University community.
- g. See slide in presentation for Representative information
- vi. Standing Sub-Committees The Council on Diversity and Inclusion will have five standing sub-committees:
  - Curriculum Development seeks to assist and educate faculty in their efforts to embed Diversity and Inclusion in the curriculum and co-curriculum.
  - 2. Multicultural Programming seeks to offer a broad base of cultural experiences within the institution.
  - 3. Recruitment and Retention supports the institution in its efforts to recruit, hire, and develop the best possible faculty and staff; examines student recruitment and retention practices and how they affect the overall commitment to Diversity and Inclusion.
  - Data will keep CODI abreast of relevant institutional Diversity, Equity & Inclusion data, national data trends and lead the faculty, staff, and student diversity climate survey.
  - DEI Recognition will create and implement recognition for excellence in DEI teaching, advocacy and leadership. It will also lead the planning of the Week of Inclusive Excellence.
- vii. From Ohio University President Lori Stewart Gonzalez
  - 1. "I want to be clear that the task ahead for all of us is not to look for ways to recreate the same approaches under a different name. Rather, the charge is to invent something new that meets the moment and delivers results for our students."
- viii. Proposed: Senate Committee on Civic Belonging and Community Pluralism (CBCP)
  - 1. Two co-chairs: one staff, one faculty
  - 2. One representative from each division: CAS, CCA, CEC, CLAAS, EHS, FSB

- 3. One librarian
- 4. One CPAC representative
- 5. One UPAC representative
- 6. One graduate student representative
- 7. One undergraduate student representative

#### ix. Senator Question and Comments

- 1. Senator: I don't see Regionals on your list?(A) That has been added under CLAAS.
- 2. Senator: I really think this strengthens this proposal, by coming up with a potential solution. I really like that aspect.
- 3. Senator: I really like this and I feel like I put this out this information out for my constituents that we didn't know all of this. I really appreciate the modification of the resolution.
- 4. Senator: I had constituents ask me to vote no on this and I wonder if we could vote no on that resolution and then move forward on this one?
- 5. Senator: Could the parliamentarian advise on the wisdom of tabling and/or the procedure?(A) We can't vote down one measure and then immediately vote on one that covers similar ground.
- 6. Senator: So you are saying that this situation presents double jeopardy? (A) Voting the previous motion down, you would then need to vote to add to the agenda the motion, and then go through that whole process. You can vote to table this until the fall, and we would take no action on this until we reconvene in the fall or it could be sunsetted by the administration without our advice which could occur.
- 7. Senator: Thank you so much for thinking carefully about this and coming back with this. Also, are you wanting to table it because your people told you to vote no?(A) If we table it and don't take action. We can vote for the added resolve line to add a new committee as the motion. So we would take positive action instead of killing the committee.
- 8. Senator: I am happy to vote for a resolution of Civic Belonging and Community Pluralism. I am not going to vote to dissolve the Council on Diversity and Inclusion. We need to break it apart.
- 9. Senator: Move to motion to amend the resolution as written to include only the introduction material with a new title, with the Resolve that in fall of 2025 work to create a new committee with civic belonging and community pluralism which will report to the Senate and Provost Office.
- 10. Motion to Table this until the Fall of Senate 2025
- 11. Vote to Table Until Fall Results: 41-Yes, 01-No, 02-Abstain

#### 5. New Business

- a. SR 25- 22 Artificial Intelligence, Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence, Liran Ma, Naus Family Faculty Scholar and Chair and Professor The curriculum document can be accessed at <a href="https://nextbulletin.miamioh.edu/programadmin/">https://nextbulletin.miamioh.edu/programadmin/</a> click on 'title' and type 'Artificial Intelligence\*' in the Search section. Click on 'Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence'.
  - Discussion and Anticipated Vote on May 05, 2025 (Results: 38-Yes, 02-No, 04-Abstain)
    - i. Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence (AI)
    - ii. Program Design Principle
      - 1. Connecting the Dots Between AI and Real-World Applications
        - a. Prepare students to apply AI responsibly, creatively, and effectively across disciplines
    - iii. Curriculum overview
      - 1. Core Courses: 47 credits
      - 2. Electives: 9 credits
      - 3. Mathematics: 17-19 credits
      - 4. Application Area: 12 credits
      - 5. Miami Plan: 36 credits
      - 6. Free Electives: 3 credits
      - 7. Total: 124 credits
    - iv. Application Areas
      - 1. Choose one of the following (could be more in the future):
        - a. ETBD
        - b. EHS
        - c. Statistics
        - d. Philosophy
        - e. Quantum Computing
        - f. Cybersecurity
        - g. Systems
        - h. Software Engineering
    - v. Core Course Highlights
      - 1. Programming Foundations: CSE 174, CSE 271, CSE 274, CSE 374
      - 2. Software Engineering Principles: CSE 201
      - 3. Ethics and Society: CSE 262
      - 4. Al Specializations:
        - a. Machine Learning (CSE 432)
        - b. Deep Learning (CSE 433)
        - c. Generative AI (CSE 434)
        - d. Introduction to AI (CSE 486)
      - 5. Senior Design Project (CSE 448/449)
    - vi. Mathematics Foundation
      - 1. Calculus I & II (MTH 151, MTH 251)
      - 2. Linear Algebra (MTH 222 or MTH 246)
      - 3. Discrete Mathematics (MTH 231)

- 4. Statistics (STA 261 or STA 301)
- vii. ETBD Courses
  - 1. IMS 254 Design Thinking & Design Principles Applied 3 credits
  - 2. IMS 259 Art and Digital Tools I 3 credits
  - 3. IMS 354 Intermed Interaction Design 3 credits
  - 4. IMS 413 User Experience Research 3 credits
- viii. Statistics Course Selections
  - 1. Select Four
    - a. STA 363 Introduction to Statistical Modeling 3 credits
    - b. STA 401 Probability 3 credits
    - c. STA 463 Regression Analysis 4 credits
    - d. STA 467 Statistical Learning 3 credits
    - e. STA 427 Introduction to Bayesian Statistics 3 credits
    - f. STA 483 Analysis of Forecasting Systems 3 credits
- ix. Philosophy Course Selections
  - 1. Select Four
    - a. PHL 105 Theories of Human Nature (includes modules on non-human nature, such as Al or robots) 3 credits
    - b. PHL 205 Science and Culture 3 credits
    - c. PHL 273 Formal Logic 3 credits
    - d. PHL 321 Being and Knowing 3 credits
    - e. PHL 373 Symbolic Logic 3 credits
- x. EHS Course Selections
  - 1. Select Four
    - a. EDP 279: Technology in Education- 3 credits
    - b. EDP 446: Educational Interactive Design 3 credits
    - c. EDP 479: Data-Driven Decision 3 credits
    - d. TCE 188: Creativity and Innovation in STEM Education 3 credits
    - e. TCE 288: Intermediate STEM Education 3 credits
    - f. TCE 488: Advanced STEM Education 3 credits
    - g. SLM 275: Introduction to Sport Analytics 3 credits
- xi. Quantum Computing Courses
  - 1. QTM 161 Quantum Computing Basics 3 credits
  - 2. QTM 261 Quantum Information Processing 3 credits
  - 3. QTM 361 Quantum Algorithms 3 credits
  - 4. QTM 461 Quantum Security Standards: FIPS 203 and FIPS 204 3 credits
- xii. Estimated Enrollment
  - 1. Based off a 72.2% average retention rate in Ohio based on the National Student Clearing House plus a new cohort of 20 students annually.
    - a. Estimated number of full-time OH resident
      - i. Year 1 = 15
      - ii. Year 2 = 26
      - iii. Year 3 = 34
      - iv. Year 4 = 40

- v. Year 5 = 44
- b. Estimated number of non-resident and International
  - i. Year 1 = 5
  - ii. Year 2 = 9
  - iii. Year 3 = 11
  - iv. Year 4 = 13
  - v. Year 5 = 15
- c. Total number of students (assuming 20 net new students p)
  - i. Year 1 = 20
  - ii. Year 2 = 35
  - iii. Year 3 = 45
  - iv. Year 4 = 53
  - v. Year 5 = 58
- xiii. Fiscal Impact = Please see graph provided in slides
- xiv. Senator Question and Comments
  - 1. Senator: I love the approach you took for this. We voted on a new degree in Quantum Computing in AI. How do these two degrees align?(A) It is merging, AI is broad and Quantum is an application. But that is not a quantum degree it is separate.
  - 2. Senator: What is the potential for job placement for students at Miami who graduate with this degree?(A) According to a lot of magazines there will be more jobs in different areas for AI. To me I believe that AI will be in a broad span of areas, so there will be jobs in many, many application areas.
  - 3. Senator: I hope you engage with some social sciences in the future on creating focuses, because half my graduates went off to work at Facebook and Google. How will this apply with the new budget model, given that it relies on a lot of courses outside the department and the focus on primary majors?(A) We reach out to all the divisions on campus. For the budget model, I am not familiar with. When we designed the cours,e we wanted to include everyone. These would be students who won't normally get into those courses. We are trying to send some of our students your way as we think it is beneficial for them to broaden their application areas.
  - 4. Senator: I was reviewing and I do not see anything regarding health science. Have you thought about it?(A) We tried to reach out to all areas. Please send me those courses as we are open to it. If it is minor, it would be included. We did reach out to every dean and asked for MAPPI.. There is a possibility of adding these tracks in the future as this is just the beginning.
  - 5. Senator: I notice that this degree is similar to the degree in process. What are the merits to having it a full degree or minor? (A) This

- morning, Bowling Green just announced that they are the first in the nation to add BSNAI with trucks. The perception in Computer Science is coding and programming, so we catered to the need of that demand, and that is why we are now wanting to shift direction some, it is more of a focus change for this need and demand.
- 6. Senator: Unless enrollment grows, you are substituting one major for another major. From my perspective, this is widely optimistic regarding generating a net 1.7 million dollars?(A) To me it does have the appeal to attract new students. In my department, we have been losing students and we believe that this will help us to get a healthy number.
- 7. Senator: I wonder if we are approaching AI in the right way. This is a tool and AI needs to be integrated into every field now as best as you can do it. As I feel, in a few years this will even be a term as it is a tool that we will be using every single day.
- 8. Senator: I am supportive of this program and this will attract net new students. It is a Computer Science degree, but is a Liberal Arts Computer Science degree for potential broad training, so it is different from what some of our peers may put out. It is really what is best for students in this field of Computer Science. Some of the best possibilities to attract new net students.
- Passed Motion to waive the 10 day waiting period (Results: passes with
   03 nay, and 00 abstain)
- SR 25-23 Appointment to Standing and Advisory Committee of University Senate, Elise Radina, Secretary, University Senate *Discussion and Anticipated Vote on May 05, 2025* (Results: 44-Yes, 00-No, 00-Abstain)
  - i. Committee Selection Process 2025
    - 1. Staff membership is considered and selected by representatives from CPAC and UPAC, assisted and coordinated by Staff-At-Large members of SEC. These seats are often filled over the summer.
    - 2. Student membership is considered and selected by ASG, RSG, and GSA. These seats are not filled until fall 2025
    - 3. Faculty membership is considered and selected by the Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary of Senate.
    - 4. Staff Presidential Appointments have been determined for 2025
  - ii. Faculty Selection Process 2025
    - Secretary of Senate identifies positions that need filling using the roster and bylaws ✓
    - 2. Chair, Chair-Elect, and Secretary consider the list of self-nominees and identify candidates
    - 3. Senate Liaison needs are identified <a></a>
    - 4. If volunteers are not available, we ask the chair of the committee to weigh in with additional information or nominees. Whenever possible, we select from those who indicated interest ✓
    - 5. For councils, we MUST consult with administrators. (i.e. LEC)

- 6. Invitations to serve are emailed
- 7. We will support each committee in selecting new leadership when invited, but leave these decisions to the committee ✓
- 8. Website is updated to reflect the new membership by August 2025.
- 9. We'll contact the new chair and inform them of the membership list for 2025-2026 when all are complete

# iii. Senator Question and Comments

- Senator: Since we don't have a chair-elect who would vote? (A) The
   Chair Ex-Officio would assist with this so it would be Rosemary Nathan
   and Elise. Next year we need to make an amendment since Nathan is
   also the Past Chair
- 2. Passed Motion to waive the 10 day waiting period (Results: passes with 00 nay, and 00 abstain)
- c. Ad Hoc Athletic Attendance Policy Report, Co-Chairs Adam Beissel and Carol Fabby, *Presentation Only on May 05, 2025* 
  - i. Committee Description & Charge
    - 1. The University Senate convenes this *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Athletic Attendance Policy to review the drafted policy as voted by the Athletic Policy Committee in Spring 2024 and make recommendations on:
      - Any recommended adjustments to the policy as voted and advanced by the Athletic Policy Committee in Spring 2024.
         Specific attention should be paid to language involving varsity sport student-athletes.
      - b. Any necessary adjustments to the extant University attendance policy, on matters related to student-athlete absence and accommodation
      - c. Best practices for Miami University to adopt in terms of policy, institutional matters, or other strategies for academic success following review of other universities in the Mid-American Conference and other near-peers deemed appropriate by the Ad Hoc committee

# ii. Context and Issue

- 1. Student-athletes' complaints about instructors not providing reasonable accommodations for athletics. The Athletic Department:
  - a. Has no formal reporting structure
  - b. Does not capture any data on the frequency and consistency of issues.
  - c. Receives a varied number of reports each semester
  - d. Encourages Student Athletes to schedule classes that will have the fewest interruptions form their athletic responsibilities and with the most flexibility for course assignments.
- 2. Current policy for reviewing complaints is for student-athletes to resolve the issue directly with the instructor.

- a. Miami's NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative will act as a mediator to ensure the student/instructor discussions are successful in reaching a resolution.
- b. If no resolution is met, the student athlete has the option of submitting a formal complaint with the Dean of Students.

# iii. Collected Data/ Information

- First meeting held Oct 7. Last meeting held Dec 9 The committee
  reviewed information from a survey conducted by the Mid-American
  Conference of their current membership (12 schools) regarding travel
  letters and excused absences for athletic events.
  - a. **Half of the schools** require instructors to work with students, and provide basic protections and reasonable accommodations to complete missed assignments for students who miss class for required participation in university-sponsored activities.
  - b. **Four schools** strongly encourage faculty to work with students; indicating reasonable attempts should be made by faculty members to allow the student to make up the missed work
  - c. Two schools have no policy indicating students are automatically excused from class (Miami University being one).

### iv. Meeting Discussions Summary

- 1. We as a committee, determined there was a need to revise the "Class Attendance Policy" (for UG students):
  - To provide guidelines for students engaged in
     University-sponsored events, which includes athletic events.
  - b. No separate attendance policy, solely for athletic events, was necessary.
  - c. There are additional reasons for students missing class for university-sponsored activities (e.g., musical and artistic performances, academic field trips, Career Treks, R.O.T.C. activities).
  - d. Separate "Attendance and Absence of Students Policy" (for instructional staff and students) <u>not reviewed</u> concurrently, even though it incorporates similar language.

### 2. Outcomes to address:

- a. What aspects of the policy required modifications?
- b. What portion of the student population may receive an excused absence for university-sponsored events, as it relates to this policy?

#### v. Outcomes

#### 1. Outcomes included:

a. Revising and updating the 'Class Attendance Policy: General Attendance Policy' to include information regarding

- university-sponsored activities and remove aspects of the policy that are no longer applicable.
- b. Reformatting, editing, and condensing the policy by incorporating external site hyperlinks.
- c. Creating a supplemental document to the policy, entitled "Best Practices for Accommodating Students Missing Class for University-Sponsored Activities."
- d. Developed a list of attendance-related Suggestions for the Athletic Department.
- e. A list of 'Future Recommendations'
- vi. Future Recommendations related the Attendance Policies
  - 1. Further develop the best practices for accommodating students missing class for university-sponsored activities' supplemental policy document. Consult with CTE, SDS, the Rinella Learning Center, and others on campus to develop this supplemental document and webpage.
  - 2. Develop an implementation and communication plan for informing the university community about these changes in policy.
  - 3. Explore and implement (where appropriate) the Suggestions for the Athletic Department. These include:
    - a. Automating the travel letter system;
    - b. Providing more information in travel letter notifications;
    - c. Developing a system for student-athletes to register complaints about travel-related issues;
    - d. And explore an online system for communicating student attendance.
  - 4. Update the Attendance and Absence of Students Policy (for instructional staff and students) to mirror the "Class Attendance Policy"
- vii. Senator Question and Comments
  - 1. Senator: No Question or Comment from Senators
- d. SR 25-24 Sense of the Senate Resolution: Support for AAC&U Constructive Engagement Statement, Kevin Reuning, Associate Professor *Disc;ussion and Anticipated Vote on May 05, 2025* (Results: 34-Yes, 00-No, 10-Abstain)
  - i. AAC&U Letter
    - 1. "As leaders of America's colleges, universities, and scholarly societies, we speak with one voice against the unprecedented government overreach and political interference now endangering American higher education. We are open to constructive reform and do not oppose legitimate government oversight. However, we must oppose undue government intrusion in the lives of those who learn, live, and work on our campuses. We will always seek effective and fair financial practices, but we must reject the coercive use of public research funding.
    - 2. The price of abridging the defining freedoms of American higher education will be paid by our students and our society. On behalf of our

current and future students, and all who work at and benefit from our institutions, we call for constructive engagement that improves our institutions and serves our republic."

# ii. Resolution Language

- Whereas we are currently in the midst of unprecedented change to the governance and administration of higher education institutions, led in part by the federal government, including the revocation of federal grants and visas for students and faculty, and
- Whereas in response to these changes the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) has issued a statement (available at <a href="https://www.aacu.org/newsroom/a-call-for-constructive-engagement">https://www.aacu.org/newsroom/a-call-for-constructive-engagement</a>)
   calling for "constructive engagement that improves our institutions and serves our republic," and
- 3. Whereas Miami University is an institutional member of the American Association of Colleges and Universities, and
- 4. Whereas the presidents of over 300 institutions have already signed the statement, including peer institutions such as Birmingham University; University of California, Santa Cruz; University of Rhode Island and University at Buffalo, SUNY; and
- 5. Whereas the University Senate is aware of the revocation of federal research grants awarded to Miami University faculty, and
- 6. Whereas the recently exactly enacted Ohio Senate Bill 1 allows for university statements "on matters that directly impact the institution's funding or mission of discovery, improvement, and dissemination of knowledge."
- 7. Resolved: The Miami University Senate affirms its support for the "Call for Constructive Engagement" issued by the AAC&U. The University Senate encourages President Gregory P. Crawford, in his position of leadership of this AAC&U member institution, to join his colleagues in signing the statement.

### iii. Senator Question and Comments

- Senator: I think it is an important statement. As a matter of context, if
  you read the list, it is blue states that their Presidents have signed at
  public and private universities largely. Presidents in Red states are under
  a lot of state pressure that is tied to their funding. Not to say that is
  good or bad, but to say that is probably why you don't see their names
  there.
- Senator: Is Miami going to be on the list too?(A) That depends on if the President signs off, to my knowledge this by itself will not add us to the list.
- 3. Passed Motion to waive the 10 day waiting period (Results: passes with 00 nay, and 00 abstain)

- e. SR 25-25 Resolution to Establish a Mutual Defense Compact for the Universities of the Mid-American Conference, Council of Presidents in Defense of Academic Freedom, Institutional Integrity, and the Research Enterprise, Rodney Coates, Professor of Global and Intercultural Studies *Motion from the Floor, Discussion and Anticipated Vote on May 05, 2025* (Results: 30-Yes, 00-No, 14-Abstain)
  - i. Resolution Proposed:
    - Whereas, recent and escalating politically motivated actions by governmental bodies pose a significant threat to the foundational principles of American higher education, including the autonomy of university governance, the integrity of scientific research, and the protection of free speech;
    - Whereas, the Trump administration and aligned political actors have signaled a willingness to target individual institutions with legal, financial, and political incursion designed to undermine their public mission, silence dissenting voices, and/or exert improper control over academic inquiry;
    - Whereas, the Mid-American Conference represents not only athletic competition but also a longstanding tradition of academic collaboration, research excellence, and commitment to democratic values and shared governance;
    - 4. Whereas, the MAC includes 12 universities with over a thousand instructors serving over 300,000 students;
    - 5. Whereas, in accordance with the May 31, 2020 Statement from the Mid-American Conference[i] signed by all members of the Council of Presidents affirmed that "Among the core values of the Mid-American Conference is a commitment to diversity, inclusion and equity";
    - 6. **Whereas,** the preservation of one institution's integrity is the concern of all, and an infringement against one member university of the MAC shall be considered an infringement against all;
    - 7. **Be it resolved that**, the Miami University Senate urges the President of Miami University to formally propose and help establish a Mutual Academic Defense Compact (MADC) among all members of the Mid-American Conference, Council of Presidents;
    - 8. **Be it further resolved that**, under these compacts, participating institutions shall commit meaningful support-financial, legal, organizational, and/or strategic-to a shared or distributed defense infrastructure designed to respond immediately and collectively to attacks by the governmental actors on any member institution;
    - 9. **Be it further resolved that**, these compacts shall facilitate the mobilization of institutional resources-including legal counsel, governance experts, public affairs professionals, faculty governance

leaders, research capacity, and media relations-to coordinate a unified and robust response, include but not limited to:

- a. Legal representation and, where appropriate, countersuit actions;
- b. Public communication strategies to counter misinformation and defend academic principles;
- c. Filing of amicus briefs, publication of expert testimony, and other legal interventions;
- d. Legislative advocacy and coordinated policy engagement at the state and federal levels;
- e. The development of collaborative strategies and frameworks to diversify funding streams beyond the federal government; and
- f. Rapid-response research and public-education initiatives;
- 10. Be it finally resolved that, this resolution be transmitted to the leadership of all Mid-American Conference universities and their respective governing boards and shared governance bodies, and that the President of Miami University take a leading role in convening a summit of MAC academic and legal leadership to initiate the implementation of this Compact.
- ii. We are under attack, you attack one you attack us all.
- iii. Senator Question and Comments
  - 1. Senator: Is this in process of happening or is this your proposal?(A) This is my proposal, but this is happening at the big 10. We are following lead at our level for something that is already happening at the major institutions around the country. This is our playing field for this.
  - 2. Senator: In the Big Ten around half of them have signed on, mostly blue states but the University of Nebraska is on that list as well.
  - 3. Passed Motion to waive the 10 day waiting period (Results: passes with 00 nay, and 01-abstain)

#### 6. **Provost Updates**

- a. It has been an honor to serve you as Provost and to get to know so many of you. I am delighted to return to the faculty and spend my last five years back in a classroom with the young people.
- b. It is also a great honor to be able to pass this gift gavel onto Rosemary Pennington who has done an outstanding job with the Senate this year.

### 7. Adjournment

8. Reconvene and Approval of Abbreviated University Senate Minutes - (Results: passes with 00 nay, and 01 abstain)

a. University Senate Abbreviated Meeting Minutes 05.05.2025 (Results: Passes with 00- yay, 00-nay, and 00- abstains)

# 9. Adjournment