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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011

Arts & Sciences Faculty
Rollins College

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Approved Minutes
Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting
Thursday, Nov 17, 2011
12:30 – 1:50 pm

Members present: Barry Allen, Joshua Almond, Mark Anderson, Pedro Bernal, William Boles, Wendy Brandon, Carol Bresnahan, Jennifer Cavanaugh, David Charles, Martha Cheng, Daniel Chong, Edward Cohen, Gloria Cook, J. Thomas Cook, Daniel Crozier, Mario D’Amato, Joan Davison, Hoyt Edge, Richard Foglesong, Julia Foster, Christopher Fuse, Laurel Goj, Kevin Griffin, Michael Gunter, Dana Hargrove, Fiona Harper, Paul Harris, Elizabeth Hunt, Jill Jones, Stephen Klemann, James Klepek, Philip Kozel, Harry Kypraios, R. Barry Levis, Susan Libby, Luis Martinez, Jana Mathews, Dorothy Mays, Ruth Mesavage, Jonathan Miller, Susan Montgomery, Thomas Moore, Anne Murdaugh, Ryan Musgrave-Bonomo, David Noe, Alan Nordstrom, Kathryn Norsworthy, Maurice O’Sullivan, Derrick Paladino, Kenneth Pestka, Jennifer Queen, Paul Reich, Dawn Roe, Edward Royce, Emily Russell, Judy Schmalstig, Eric Schutz, John Sinclair, Joseph Siry, Robert Smither, Cynthia Snyder, Michelle Stecker, Claire Strom, Zeynep Teymuroglu, Patricia Tome, Richard Vitray, Anca Voicu, Susan Walsh, Jonathan Walz, Jay Yellen, Wenxian Zhang.

Guests: Sharon Carrier, Lewis Duncan

- I. Call to Order—Jill Jones called the meeting as called to order at 12:36 pm
- II. Approval of the minutes from the 9/22/11 and 10/27/11 A & S meetings—the minutes were approved as circulated.
- III. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee—Jones reported that a search committee has been put together to search for dean of A&S. The members include Tom Cook, Jenny Queen, Rick Vitray, Martha Chang, Karen Hater, Alexandria Mozzicato, and Robert Vander-Poppen. O’Sullivan introduced motion, to endorse the slate; the motion was seconded. Jill also announced that President Duncan has agree to make his presentation about his visions for the college’s future at this faculty meeting and then the divisional meetings will take the form of a conversation.
 - b. Academic Affairs Committee—Gloria Cook announced that the committee had passed three items which do not need further faculty action: (1) curricular changes for marine biology, increasing the diversity of courses that student can take; (2) a protocol for faculty grading of peer mentors

grading because of a concern that part of grade was assigned by a staff person in violation of the restriction on staff grading. She explained that the faculty member will submit the grade to the RCC chair and the staff person will propose a recommended grade. Any discrepancy will be solved by the RCC Director who will call the parties together to reach consensus; (3) the assessment of the RP has been completed by an outside consultant who will give report next week. AAC wants to hold colloquia with students before making a final recommendation to the faculty.

- c. Professional Standards—Joan Davison reported that as a result of the new All-college Bylaws, the A&S bylaws will also need revision. PSC wants to have a discussion of the changes at the next faculty meeting as a committee of the whole to discuss what the A&S faculty wants to do. She also announced that all grant requests must be submitted by Friday, January 20th, which is a firm deadline. All previous grant reports since 2005 must be on file in the dean's office. Also the current FSAR must also be on file. She indicated that the process will be incredibly competitive because of very limited funds. Applicants need to consider the regulations very carefully in preparing their applications. The requests also need to be very specific.
- d. Finance and Service—Joe Siry reported that the committee had discussed student concerns about the increase of health insurance. The Board of Trustees has approved a 2-4% increase in tuition. But the Pay and Benefits discussion will occur on Feb 14th. He also reported that the committee might hold a blind survey on merit pay.
- e. Student Life—Jenny Queen stated that the posthumous degree proposal would be considered later in the meeting. She reported that the renovation of Cornell Student Center was on schedule. Evaluation of student residential organizations will take place beginning in December. If openings occur, then the committee will consider new organizations. The committee has also begun a discussion of Mapworks. O'Sullivan asked for a report on why there are so many student organizations on probation. Queen said that the regulations have been tightened but they planned to have further discussions about the problems with the organizations.

IV. Old Business

- a. *Shall we approve the proposal issued from SLC, "Posthumous Degree Policy"?* (See appendix I). Jenny Queen introduced the proposal from the Student Life Committee. Joan Davison expressed concerns that there were no standards set for granting the degree. Queen said that the policy does not have stated standards because they want to depend on the student's major department and the dean or provost. Siry moved to approve; the motion was seconded. Claire Strom

expressed concern that that CPS did not have the same policy. Queen replied that since CPS had no student life committee than what A&S passes covers all undergraduates. Mike Gunter expressed concern about other students who had fully completed their degrees; he did not think the policy was fair to them. Paul Harris countered that he doubted that students would resent this policy. He also recommended that posthumous not be indicated on the degree itself since each time the parents look at the degree they would be reminded of their loss. Josh Almond wondered how this policy would be implemented in the case of a student who has committed a violent crime if they had completed a sufficient number of credits. He recommended that the statement “a posthumous degree will be awarded” be changed to “a posthumous degree *may* be awarded.” Queen accepted the suggestion as a friendly amendment. The motion passed.

- b. Dean of A & S Search—Jill Jones asked if anyone had questions about the search process. There were no questions.
- c. Forums to be held on Liberal Arts in the 21st Century (Bob Smither)—Dean Smither understood the concerns faculty had about the future of liberal arts. For that reason he has set aside an afternoon to consider the question in depth. It will replace the faculty day of scholarship. Moreover he will host more Tuesday lunches for faculty to make presentations about scholarship to replace the Faculty Day of Scholarship. He wanted to have discussions rather than presentations on the future of the liberal arts. He asked for suggestions for the Friday, January 13th, meeting. He also asked for suggestions about new programs for the college that can be investigated.

V. New Business:

President Duncan on his vision for the College, the new College, and the conversations that he would like to have at the Divisional Meetings. The main points that President Duncan raised in the presentation included: affirming mission, values, principles and goals; Rollins model of applied liberal learning; spectrum of liberal education philosophies; guiding influences and restrains; what students and employers are seeking; failures of science education; internationalization; competitive distinctions; transformative educational revolution; imperatives and obstacles to change; campaign planning; immediate and long-term need for change.

VI. Announcements—none

VII. Adjournment—the meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm

Respectfully submitted.

R. Barry Levis, Ph.D.

Guest Secretary

Appendix I

Posthumous Degree Policy to be considered by A&S Faculty Bestowing of a Posthumous Degree

In the case of the event of a student dying before finishing coursework at the college, a posthumous degree will be awarded if the student had completed a substantial amount of the coursework required for the major and degree.

Procedure:

A posthumous degree can be requested by either the student's family or the department in which the student was a major. The request must first be approved by the major department and then forwarded to the appropriate program Dean (either the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences or the Dean of the College of Professional Studies). Upon approval of the program Dean and Provost, the Board of Trustees will be asked for final approval. If the request for the posthumous degree comes from the student's major, the Provost will first confer with the student's family to see if the request is acceptable before the approval process begins. Upon approval of the Board of Trustees, the degree will either be mailed to the family or presented to them in a private ceremony. The student's name will be included in the Commencement list of graduates. The degree will be posted on the student's permanent record as follows (example):

Degree Awarded Artium Baccalaureus 8-MAY-2011
Primary Degree
Major: English
Minor: Writing