

1-30-2014

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, January 30, 2014

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee

Follow this and additional works at: http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_ec



Part of the [Educational Administration and Supervision Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee, "Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, January 30, 2014" (2014). *Executive Committee Minutes*. Paper 10.
http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_ec/10

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the College of Arts and Sciences Minutes at Rollins Scholarship Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in Executive Committee Minutes by an authorized administrator of Rollins Scholarship Online. For more information, please contact wzhang@rollins.edu.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2014
Agenda

Agenda for 1/30/14 EC meeting
12:30 in CSS 167
Lunch will be served

- I Call to order**
- II Approval of minutes from 1/16/14 (from Thomas Ouellette)**
- III Reports**
- V New Business**
 - International Programs Proposal (AAC)**
Giselda Beaudin (see attachment)

 - Response to RITA**



**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2014 Minutes**

Approved

PRESENT

Carol Lauer; Thomas Ouellette; Martina Vidovic (for Claire Strom, AAC); Julian Chambliss; Hoyt Edge; Yusheng Yao; Carol Bresnahan; Robert Salmeron; Bob Smither; Giselda Beaudin (from International Programs)

CALL TO ORDER

12:33PM; by Carol Lauer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 01/16/14

Unanimously approved

Lauer began the meeting with New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

International Programs Proposal (AAC)

Giselda Beaudin (see attachment)

Beaudin explained that the proposed policy change grew out of student questions and concerns about how grades received while studying abroad were recorded at Rollins. Beaudin crafted a proposal to address the concerns, working with the International Programs Faculty Advisory Committee, made up of appointed representatives from the faculties of Arts and Sciences (A&S) and College of Professional Studies (CPS). The Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) approved the new policy and AAC Chair Claire Strom asked that it be vetted by the Executive Committee (EC) and, perhaps, in front of the full A&S faculty (see Attachment 1 on pages 6-8, below).

Currently, Beaudin reported, most academic credits received abroad are “counted as special transfer credits” and “do count as fulfilling residency.” Beaudin said that AAC members and other faculty members initially expressed concern that this might encourage students to study abroad “for multiple semesters.” Beaudin pointed out that her research showed that only a fraction of students avail themselves of more than a single semester abroad.

Under the current policy, Beaudin said, grades received abroad are factored into students’ overall grade point average (GPA) but are not used to determine eligibility for the Dean’s or President’s Lists. Historically, Beaudin said, students who fare “exceeding well” in international courses do not receive appropriate recognition; the new policy looks to address this.

Hoyt Edge reported that a student of his was “concerned about going [to study] to Australia” because of the notoriously poor grades even good students receive at the University of Sydney. Beaudin said this problem has been addressed; that grades at some overseas institutions are “translated” so they are in line with Rollins’ practices.

Lauer, pointing out that some majors do support if not encourage more than one international experience, asked Beaudin about “the financial impact for the College.” Beaudin reiterated that the number of students who spend more than one semester abroad while enrolled at Rollins is “very, very low.” Beaudin suggested that faculty and International Programs “set some bars up,” that require students to specifically “articulate” why a second semester abroad “makes sense” pedagogically.

Lauer asked for a vote on the new policy; the EC voted unanimously to approve it. Lauer said that “a full faculty vote [at a subsequent A&S faculty meeting] was unnecessary” but asked that the full faculty be advised of the change in policy. Carol Bresnahan asked that Toni Holbrook be advised of the change, too, given Holbrook’s oversight of Rollins’ Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation. [Secretary Thomas Ouellette will forward a copy of these minutes to Holbrook.]

Edge, Chair of Finance and Services Committee (F&S), asked if the EC felt F&S should pursue the cost to Rollins for each student who studies internationally. Lauer responded that she would very much like to have this information and would make a decision regarding further action once she had the figures in hand. Lauer pointed out that “it may be complicated [to determine the exact cost to Rollins, per student, for international study] but worth it [to arrive at a base figure].” Concurring that pinning down even an approximate figure would be challenging, Beaudin urged the College to examine not just this per student expense. Beaudin advocated for a “systematic” look at the relative strengths and weaknesses of International Programs at Rollins.

Lauer closed the discussion: “It seems that the only thing we [EC] can do is turn to Hoyt [Edge, Chair of F&S]” to gather more data. Lauer suggested forming a subcommittee of F&S to investigate the financial impact of International Programs at Rollins.

REPORTS

F&S

Edge reported that the “idling policy has gone to the policy subcommittee” but that “the President’s cabinet” does not meet again until late-March and will take up the matter at that time. Edge said that he and Lauer had discussed suggestions to proactively involve F&S to develop specific strategies to “deal with the [next year’s projected budget] shortfall.” Edge said he would convene a faculty colloquium to gather input.

PSC

Julian Chambliss reported that PSC has completed the process of vetting faculty research grant proposals. “I want the Administration to know,” Chambliss said, “that you [faculty, particularly junior faculty] can’t conduct research with such small amounts [of funds from the College]”. Dean Bob Smither said that he was surprised to hear that the allotted budget for faculty research “fluctuated from year to year.” He suggested that Karla Knight be consulted regarding

year-to-year comparisons, particularly for the Critchfield and Individual Development grants (IDG).

AAC

Martina Vidovic (attending for Claire Strom) reported that AAC had just completed work on the Recommendation for Processing of Grades/Credits from Approved Semester Programs (see Attachment 1 on pages 6-8, below.) Next up: AAC will look at a proposal from Associate Dean of Faculty Jennifer Cavanaugh regarding a proposed change to the Credit/No Credit policy.

SGA

Salmeron reported that President Duncan will meet with the SGA on March 19; and that Ken Miller from Campus Safety had met with the SGA to discuss the smoking policy at Rollins and the spike in reported on-campus sexual assaults.

Ouellette asked Salmeron for his take on student support for the existing smoking policy and Salmeron said “most students support maintaining the current policy as-is rather than [implementing] a full-out ban.” Salmeron said that Miller was clear that Campus Safety officers are not and will not be in the business of policing smoking, and that Miller conceded that enforcement of the current policy is problematic because “no one owns it [enforcement].” Miller told the SGA that a further impediment to making Rollins a smoke-free campus is the fact that Holt Avenue—a public street, though Rollins maintains it—runs through the heart of campus.

Lauer asked if Salmeron had followed up on the President’s [Duncan’s] inquiry regarding the “top ten hassles” that students confront at Rollins. Salmeron said the list is being compiled and that he will bring it to the EC for discussion.

Salmeron described as “productive” a meeting with Scott Bitikofer to discuss a reconfiguration of the Dave’s Down Under space in the Cornell Campus Center.

Bresnahan asked if Salmeron had been made aware of any concerns about a recent safety drill on campus during Intersession. Salmeron reported that he’d only heard that the drill was “really cool” and that students seemed pleased that it took place.

SLC

Yusheng Yao reported that because of additional funding from the President’s and Provost’s offices, the SLC increased the cap for Scholarship for High-Impact Practices (SHIP) grants to \$400.00 for domestic travel (only) and to \$1000.00 for international travel (only). Salmeron asked if the increases were retroactive and Yao said that they were not.

Returning to the question of enforcement of the current smoking policy at Rollins, Yao characterized student attitudes as “ambivalent.” Yao said that Maria Martinez reported “that no school has Campus Safety [officers police smoking infractions]”. Yao said “a thousand schools” have smoking policies similar to Rollins’. Yao said that Tulane University has a policy of issuing \$25.00 “tickets, but this is not enforced.” Yao said that NYU [New York University] has a stringent policy and that, technically, at the University of Florida “a faculty member can be fired” for a smoking infraction but that none of these policies are enforced. A lighthearted

discussion ensued about enlisting students as bounty hunters to help with enforcement of the smoking policy.

PRESIDENT OF A&S

Lauer said that she and Strom, in her capacity as AAC Chair, will accept Rollins Board of Trustees [BOT] President David Lord's invitation to attend the BOT's upcoming meeting of the Education Committee.

Lauer turned the discussion to a response to Dave Richard's (Dean of Holt) announced colloquium on his Rollins Institute of Technology and the Arts (RITA), scheduled for Friday, January 31 in the SunTrust Auditorium. Lauer encouraged EC members to attend. In Strom's absence, Lauer recounted some concerns about RITA that Strom had expressed to her in an email. Ouellette asked Lauer if she thought that the A&S faculty was aware that Richard's proposal called for "a [newly formed] separate school." Lauer said that she would send out an email reminder to the full A&S faculty, again urging their involvement in the discussion of the projected budget shortfall in general and the RITA proposal in particular. The meeting concluded with questions about Richard's intention regarding his upcoming presentation to the BOT: was it a "state of the union"-style holistic report about the Holt School, slated to conclude with a five-minute roll-out of the RITA idea—or was it a pointed request for funding for RITA?

ATTACHMENT 1

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS: RECOMMENDATION FOR PROCESSING OF GRADES/CREDITS FROM APPROVED SEMESTER PROGRAMS

Background: When many of the policies governing grades and credits from abroad were written, students earned Rollins credits on all of the approved semester programs. Due to SACS regulations and to the expansion of approved semester programs to include more direct partnerships with foreign institutions, this is no longer the case. In fact, students on approved semester programs now primarily earn transfer credit; however, since students are still enrolled at Rollins during the term abroad and still pay Rollins tuition, the transfer credits from approved programs are treated differently than standard transfer credits. The grades themselves transfer and are factored into the GPA, and grades below a C- also transfer. However, the grades earned abroad are not factored into decisions for the President's and Dean's List. All of this is clearly delineated in the College Catalogue in the following sections:

- http://www.rollins.edu/catalogue/educational_programs_and_opportunities.html#international-and-off-campus-study
- http://www.rollins.edu/catalogue/curriculum_and_curricular_requirements.html
- http://www.rollins.edu/catalogue/academic_regulations.html#other-college-and-university-credit
- http://www.rollins.edu/catalogue/academic_regulations.html#presidents

Recommendations:

1. Grades and credits from approved semester programs should continue to fulfill the Residency requirement for Rollins.
 - a. Changing this policy could adversely affect transfer students, particularly those who enter Rollins with the equivalent of an AA.
 - b. Between fall 2009 and spring 2014 (5 years) only 35 students of 570 (only 6%) participated in two Approved Semester Programs and only 1 participated in three Approved Semester Programs. This means the risk of students taking advantage of the Residency policy by taking multiple terms abroad is quite low.
2. Grades from Rollins approved programs should be factored into decisions for the President's List and Dean's List.
 - a. Since the grades from Approved Semester Programs are already treated differently from normal transfer credits and do factor into the Rollins GPA, it seems fair that these grades also apply to President's List and Dean's List.

Recommended Revised Catalogue Text (Changes Highlighted)

Rollins College Approved Semester Programs

Rollins Approved Semester Programs are offered in a wide variety of locations around the world, including two programs in the US. These programs are offered in cooperation with institutions and organizations overseas and in the United States and they have been carefully reviewed, selected and developed with the Rollins mission and Rollins students in mind. Students accepted into these programs may

apply their Rollins, Federal, and state financial aid (exceptions may include work study, academic department and athletic scholarships), to the program cost: a flat fee equivalent to regular Rollins tuition, room, and board. All earned grades are factored into the Rollins grade point average **and are counted towards President's List and Dean's List.** Courses are either considered Rollins courses, or may be approved as transfer credits: this varies by program; see the individual program descriptions below for further details. For any credits that are accepted as transfer credits, grades lower than a C- will still display on the Rollins transcript and be factored into the Rollins grade point average. Unless otherwise noted below in the individual program descriptions, students may participate in an Approved Semester Program for either the fall or spring semester, or for the full Academic year.

OTHER COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CREDIT

Transfer students must meet all general education curriculum and major requirements to earn a Rollins College degree. The Office of Student Records reviews and evaluates courses taken at other institutions, determines courses/credit to be accepted, and prepares a Transfer Course Evaluation. The evaluation lists all courses accepted and any general education requirements those courses fulfill. Students who enter Rollins College ready to declare their major program of study may request a major course evaluation from the Office of Student Records. The major department makes decisions regarding fulfillment of major requirements through transfer credit.

In the evaluation of transfer credit, four (4) semester hours equals one Rollins course. Transfer credit is awarded for coursework taken at regionally-accredited (Middle States, North Central, New England, Northwest, Southern, and Western Association) institutions, or the equivalent international institution. Transfer credit is not awarded for courses with a grade below "C-." All transfer courses must be officially letter-graded by the originating institution, with the exception of internships which may be graded Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit if they meet the specific criteria outlined in the Education Programs and Opportunities section of this Catalogue. No more than the equivalent of sixty-four (64) semester hours of credit are accepted from a two-year institution. Students with sixty (60) semester hours of credit enter Rollins College with junior standing, but may need additional time to fulfill the requirements of specific majors.

Rollins College participates in an articulation agreement between the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) and the Florida Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Development. Through this participation, students who enter Rollins with a completed Associate of Arts (AA) degree from a Florida community college matriculate with junior standing and are usually able to transfer a total of sixty (60) semester hours, provided that they meet the same standards and program requirements as native Rollins students.

For all transfer students accepted through the College's participation in the ICUF Articulation Agreement, transfer credit for courses completed at the community

college will only be awarded for grades of “C-” or better, as is the standard for all transfer students in Arts & Sciences and the College of Professional Studies. No more than a total of sixty-four (64) semester hours will be awarded to a student for transfer work from a two-year college. Rollins College will not transfer credits obtained from a secondary institution via online, blended, or distance learning courses, if a student simultaneously is enrolled in full-time courses at a different institution (including Rollins). Rollins College reserves the right to not award transfer credit for courses that are not considered appropriate for a pragmatic liberal arts education.

As part of the College's participation in the ICUF Articulation Agreement, General Education Curriculum Requirements are waived for students with the A.A. degree from a Florida community college as well. Upper-level writing reinforcement and oral communication requirements, both part of the College's general education curriculum, are infused into one or more upper-level courses within each major course of study.

A student's previous grade-point-average (GPA) does not carry forward; a Rollins GPA is determined only on the basis of courses completed at Rollins.

Once admitted to full-time degree-seeking status in the College of Arts & Sciences or College of Professional Studies, students must complete at least seventy (70) semester hours in the College (**including Rollins Approved Semester, Summer and Field Study programs**, and approved Hamilton Holt School courses). Moreover, students must be enrolled full-time in the College of Arts & Sciences or College of Professional Studies (including Hamilton Holt School courses) during the last two (2) consecutive semesters (excluding summer terms). Students must complete a minimum of 140 semester hours of academic work, of which at least sixty-four (64) semester hours must be outside a single departmental prefix. All students must complete a minimum of sixteen (16) semester hours that are not used to meet either a general education curriculum or major requirement. If a course taken previously is repeated at Rollins, credit for the transfer course will be removed from the student's record.