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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, February 14, 2012

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Academic Affairs Committee

Open AAC Colloquia on The Rollins Plan
February 14, 2012

Opening:

The open meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee was called to order at 12:31 pm on February 14, 2012 in the Choral Room #119 – Tiedtke Hall by Gloria Cook.

Present:

Mark Anderson, Sarah Bishop, Gloria Cook, Nancy Decker, Fiona Harper, Jana Mathews, Sebastian Novak, Maria Ruiz, Samuel Sanabria, Wenxian Zhang

Taped meeting can be seen at

<http://mediasite.rollins.edu/mediasite/SilverlightPlayer/Default.aspx?peid=eda8bb66a3274d6ab1555b6360f15cc21d>

A. Continuing Discussion

The recommendations of the Rollins Plan Steering Committee were presented and discussed one by one.

1. Team-teaching. If team teaching occurs it should occur in the capstone courses.

We can teach in an interdisciplinary way without team-teaching. Would we lose the courses were team taught originally? No. Having taught the course once, faculty should be able to teach it the second time alone. Another way to get multiple viewpoints is to invite experts in to give a talk. Would this get out of control...people having to teach often in other people's courses? Seems that it would not. Need meetings of RP faculty to make sure they know what others are doing in the RP.

2. We should still use the LEAP learning outcomes, but narrow the list of outcomes assessed to maybe 5 outcomes.

Have we tried to use the data we've already collected? Pages 6 and 7 of the Steering Committees Report has some analysis. Part of the problem is that the data has only been collected for three semesters. Which outcomes we would use should be selected by the implementation committee next year. There was discussion over whether or not we should let different programs have learning outcomes. It was argued that it would be better to keep the five the same for all programs.

3. Maintain the developmental nature of the Rollins Plan and that capstone remains as part of the general education program.

Capstone should allow us to take student expertise from their previous general education and major courses and focus on some big idea.

4. The courses should be capped at 16 students.

This was questioned at it was decided not to include a maximum class size. This might actually decrease the flexibility of students to have a maximum class size.

5. Keep the competencies and reduce the number of courses in the program from 7 to 5.

No real discussion

6. Additional problems that need to be addressed.

We went through the list of additions problems that need to be addressed. It was brought up that we need to also deal with 3-2 students. Do we need to think through academic advising also?

What next?

Do we have enough information for faculty to be able to make a decision? Do we need more time to get all the questions we have answered? It was decided, that more time would not help us very much in making the decision. Rather, we present what we have and find out if the faculty wants us to move forward or not. Before we expend the time and resources to getting all the questions answered, we need to know whether or not the faculty wants to move forward. It was decided to present our proposal to the Executive Committee on March 1.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:47 pm by Gloria Cook.

Colloquia Notes submitted by: Mark Anderson