Minutes, Arts and Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, November 11, 2010

Arts and Sciences Executive Committee

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Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

11 November 2010

Members Present: Rick Foglesong, Nicholas Horsmon, Bill Boles, Deb Wellman, Laurie Joyner, Barry Levis, Sue Easton, Claire Strom, Lewis Duncan

Guests: Sam Sanabria, Bob Moore, Ilan Alon, Lisa Tillmann

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:40. The minutes from the Executive Committee meeting on October 21, 2010 were unanimously approved.

2. Committee Updates

Sue Easton from Finance and Service presented a rough draft of a document containing questions and answers in regard to the budget presentation made by Laurie Joyner and Jeff Eisenbarth on November 2nd. Finance and Service will work through the data and questions and circulate a final draft to faculty in the near future.

Joyner noted that the presentation will be made available via Foxlink for those persons unable to attend the original presentation.

The issue was raised about the amount of misinformation circulating around the finances of the college.

Lewis Duncan remarked that there is a disconnect occurring at the college between people being informed citizens and engaged citizens. Currently, we have some citizens who are engaged but not well informed. The issue needs to be addressed to make sure the correct information is being disseminated.

Easton acknowledged Duncan’s concerns and cited the need to get information out to the Rollins public, whether through colloquia, staff meetings, and/or tables outside the Student Center. In addition, communication can be disrupted/misrepresented because of issues of morale. She also noted that only 15 percent of the faculty attended the presentation. It is worth finding out why people didn’t come, especially since there is a misunderstanding by some people about the budget.

It was suggested that one reason so few persons attended the presentation was because it was held on Election Day.

Duncan encouraged conversations about all things budgetary but at the same time the conversation should be kept at strategic levels rather than delving into specifics, like how much a guest speaker cost.
Easton remarked that it appears that folks at Rollins are not as much concerned with their pay on a national level but rather if they are being paid fairly compared to the person next to them doing the same job.

Foglesong thanked Finance and Services, Joyner and Eisenbarth for the work done so far. The question becomes: what is the next step?

Easton stated that Joyner and Eisenbarth will look over the draft to see what was not answered and what was not addressed.

Joyner explained that they chose not to answer specific questions about how much visitors cost when they came to Rollins. In addition, they ignored questions about how often the grass is cut and how much such an activity costs.

Duncan said he would be glad to discuss the cost of the Winter Park Institute in a comprehensive nature but did not feel it was necessary to delve into the details of each individual guest.

Easton reiterated that a final draft would be released to faculty soon.

Barry Levis from Academic Affairs announced that they approved minor changes to the theatre major.

Bill Boles from Student Life announced that at the last Student Life meeting the issues raised by the Dean of Students at the last faculty meeting were discussed. It was decided that a forum for the campus would be held early in the spring term. Details of the forum would be released later.

3. Old Business

a. Asian Studies Major (See Attachments 1, 2 and 3)

Levis brought to the Executive Committee the proposal for an Asian Studies Major, which had been tabled at the last meeting of the 2009-2010 academic year. He reported that the faculty in support of the Asian Studies Major met, made changes as recommended by the faculty at that last faculty meeting and held a colloquium. They brought the revised major back to Academic Affairs. The major added a capstone and an Asian Religions course to the core.

Academic Affairs was most concerned about whether this major would require additional faculty. Bob Moore demonstrated how no new faculty will be needed to staff the major (See Attachment 1).

Foglesong read Joan Davison’s e-mail (as she was unable to attend the meeting). In it she wrote:

I am most concerned about the drain of module courses on faculty members. The demand will be greatest for Social Science Division faculty who already are stretched. I am interested to know how we can allow a faculty member to leave his/her Winter Park classes for four weeks to teach in China. Who will assume the burden of those classes? Of course the faculty member also will leave behind advising and potentially service
assignments. Some members of the political science department already advise 40 students. How will the advisees of a China bound member be handled?

Levis admitted that Academic Affairs did not address that question. No module idea was approved or discussed by AAC.

Moore said that the module program was not essential to the major.

Levis noted that such an addition to the major will have to come to AAC to be approved. Joyner remarked that the month long courses in China are directed toward folks on sabbatical.

Foglesong queried: can we approve the major and not deal with the module?

Ilan Alon and Moore answered yes.

Duncan asked: What majors will be affected by the new major?

Moore noted that there are currently 10-20 students in the Asian Studies Minor. There is an anticipation there would be 10-20 majors.

Alon stated that with the major we hope to attract students to come to Rollins who are currently not making us their first option.

Easton announced being in favor of the major and noted how cohesive the proposal is in regard to building upon already independently taught courses at Rollins.

Levis remarked that at first there might be an issue with the capstone not being fully enrolled. Alon said such issues would be dealt with as independent studies.

Boles noted that the catalogue copy does not reflect the major map in regard to what courses are required.

Levis revealed that the only hidden course in the major is that students must take ECO 202 in order to take the core course ECO 203.

Foglesong asked what do we do next?

A discussion then ensued about the proper procedural action in regard to the major as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order.

Eventually, the Executive Committee sustained the vote of Academic Affairs and will submit it to the faculty at the December faculty meeting (since a number of folks involved with the major will be away at a conference when the next faculty meeting is held).

4. New Business

The following proposal was brought to the Executive Committee by Lisa Tillmann:

"Resolved: the faculty of the Arts and Sciences at Rollins College support a Human Rights Ordinance for Orange County, Florida that protects citizens and visitors against discrimination in housing, employment, and provision of services on the bases of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, sexual orientation, and gender identity."
(E-mails sent to members of the Executive Committee supporting this motion are included as Attachments 4-6. A letter sent to the Interim dean of the Faculty not in favor of the motion is included as Attachment 7.)

Foglesong reiterated what occurred at the last faculty meeting in regard to this motion. He ruled it out of order as he believed it to be contrary to the practices of the governance body as defined by Robert’s Rules of Order. He then informed the faculty that a two-thirds vote of the body could overrule his ruling. Before any action was taken a quorum call occurred and upon seeing that a quorum was absent, the meeting was adjourned.

Foglesong remarked that the Executive Committee can decide to forward the motion to the faculty. It does not need to go to a governance committee, since it does not seem to fit the purview of any of our standing committees. The question under consideration is whether to submit it to the faculty or not.

Foglesong explained that he believes motions of this kind to be outside the scope of our governance system. The purpose of faculty meetings is to govern issues of curriculum and student life and not to address issues that are political in nature. He shared that he received comments from other faculty members who thought it was inappropriate for the faculty as a whole to weigh in on a public policy issue. In addition, they thought that a faculty meeting should not be a place to talk about political issues.

Levis acknowledged that in his time at Rollins the faculty has considered motions like the one proposed. So by bringing it to the faculty, it will not be unprecedented. However, he wonders if a vote from the faculty might be redundant since a petition has already been signed.

Claire Strom shared that as co-chair of the Diversity Council she is concerned about the motion. She too has heard from faculty who do not support it for various reasons. If we, the faculty, pass the resolution, then it assumes an anonymous face for the entire group of faculty. By stating “Rollins College faculty believe ‘x,’” then we make those who don’t believe ‘x’ invisible.” The petition that was signed at the last faculty meeting is a much more appropriate way to address the issue.

Levis noted that a secret ballot could be used for a vote.

Foglesong admitted that for the last faculty meeting he had paper ballots prepared if the faculty voted to overrule his ruling. He then raised the concern about what it means for someone to be judged by colleagues in terms of one’s position on a political issue and then find that those same colleagues are now sitting in judgment in terms of tenure or promotion or grants. The second issue about which he is concerned is what it means when a body goes on record about a certain issue. What about members who strongly disagree with where the majority stands? He understands that the Student Government Association did support this resolution, but they are not academic intellectuals and have not taken a vow to be independent thinkers. There are minorities here who feel strongly about this issue and feel uncomfortable about being represented as part of a larger body that supports the proposal.
Strom remarked that she has heard from faculty who are gay and have remained in the closet and feel that such a vote will force them out of the closet.

Easton asked if we have a precedent of having such resolutions brought to the faculty in the past, then why question this motion now?

Debra Wellman said that just because it was done in the past and, according to Robert’s Rules, was not a correct thing to do does not mean we have to continue making the same mistake.

Foglesong noted that if we approve this proposal, then he can see a situation where we will be asked to take a stance on numerous political positions. How will we distinguish one from the other?

Strom expressed frustration at our history of having faculty meetings where nothing gets done. Committees put in all kinds of time working on proposals and then have to rework them with the faculty body. We are not getting things done. If we begin adding external items, then how will we ever get anything done?

Lewis Duncan replied that a consent agenda at meetings is a possibility and might solve the issue raised by Strom. However, he noted that such a system may not work here, but consent agendas are how functional institutions work.

Levis remarked that in her e-mail Kathryn Norsworthy (Attachment 4) makes a good point about how important it would be for Rollins in terms of attracting and keeping faculty and staff who would be affected by this ordnance.

Duncan built upon this point noting that communities that pass Human Rights Initiatives are seen as preferable in terms of where businesses locate. He cited Colorado as an example.

Foglesong noted that whether we adopt this resolution or not, it will have no consequence of this ordnance passing.

Duncan noted that it is important that Rollins’ voice be heard on this issue.

Strom asked if the appropriate place for that voice to be heard was the floor of a faculty meeting.

Boles noted that he has been trying to address the issue by divorcing the emotions and content of the motion. Instead, the question is whether political issues should be on the floor of the faculty. He says no. In addition, he agreed with the letter sent to the Interim Dean of the Faculty (Attachment 7) that the using of the All Faculty feature of the e-mail system is concerning. If IT is deciding on the best use of our e-mail system for our students, perhaps the presence of politics in the sending of e-mail should also be under discussion.

Tillmann appreciated the openness of the Executive Committee to have her at the meeting. In 2002 she “asked for and was given permission by the faculty president to bring a resolution before the A&S faculty. The resolution expressed support for the addition of sexual orientation to the classes protected by the Orlando anti-discrimination policy. The faculty resolution passed overwhelmingly. We also collected over 120 signatures for a petition. Students and faculty brought petitions and the student and faculty resolutions before the Orlando City Council. Students, staff, and faculty testified at the public hearings. At two different hearings,
then-mayor Glenda Hood singled out Rollins for its leadership on the issue.\footnote{As a means of clarification, the corresponding secretary asked Tillmann to clarify the history surrounding the 2002 proposal about which she spoke at the meeting. The quoted passage is from an e-mail she sent which covers the same material she discussed at the meeting.} The motion is not just a political view, it is the Board of Trustee-approved policy of Rollins College and an expression of Rollins’ values. In searches for positions at Rollins we want the deepest, broadest pool possible. 21st century students, staff, and faculty will not be attracted to a community that operates by 19th century policy and prejudice. There are no federal protections based on sexual orientation or gender identity. There are no state protections on these bases in Florida. Indeed the ordinance is a political issue in the sense that it pertains to who has the power to decide who will be privileged and who will be marginalized. But more than a political issue, it is a human rights issue. Employment and shelter are basic human rights. Tillmann said, “If Rollins does not stand for basic human rights, then we stand for nothing. I did not become an academic to stand for nothing. I am not interested in being part of a faculty body that stands for nothing.” Regarding cultural and religious minorities, Tillmann argued, their rights already are protected at the federal and state levels. She said, “Some perspectives ought to be marginalized in an institution of higher learning. We do not view racism as an acceptable ideology.” Tillmann called on members of EC to ask themselves: “If we were talking about Black people instead of sexual and gender minorities, would we even be having this conversation?”

In response to a question, Tillmann reiterated that this ordinance will go beyond federal and state law.

Foglesong confirmed that this would set a standard higher than federal law.

Wellman noted that Rollins already is a leader in these kind of issues. For her that defines what Rollins is all about. We have already taken a step ahead of other institutions and businesses. She is proud of being at an institution that does these things and wonders why she and Tillmann are not thinking the same way about the issue.

Tillmann acknowledged that what Foglesong said was true. A faculty resolution may not alter the Board of Commissioners’ vote. She cited that in the past Glenda Hood recognized Rollins College for its leadership in 2002 and then voted against it.

Foglesong admitted that the proposal is a dangerous one in that if we do not approve it, then we are making a statement, which is precisely why it is dangerous addressing morally and politically fraught issues.

Tillmann said that if she had been an academic in the 80s, then she would have welcomed a discussion about divesting in the apartheid regime in South Africa or in later years talking about the Patriot Act or the Iraq war. (Actually, she still welcomes a conversation about both of the latter issues.) It is fundamental to what we do as a college that we use institutional resources in service of human rights.

Strom agreed, but also stated those discussion should not take place at a faculty meeting. It would be like having such discussions at a department meeting. If Tillmann wants to convene a discussion concerning the issue, then she is welcome to do so.
Tillmann said that in 2002 she did not hear complaints.
Foglesong remarked that even if she did not hear complaints it does not mean that everyone agreed with the motion then. There is a factor of intimidation and coercion for those who do not have tenure.

Tillmann offered the option of an electronic ballot for faculty to vote.
Strom said that such a vote could be done out of the faculty meeting.

Sam Sanabria said that he has been here for three months and he is housed in a department that promotes social justice issues. He appreciates the fact that we are having this discussion and believes that electronic voting is appropriate. However, he noted that he thought part of our job was to be examples to our students. In approving this motion we would be taking a stance that our policies at the college already state.

Easton noted that she thought she began to hear some agreement between the different sides and a compromise on the issue of voting.

Duncan noted that it is disturbing that we have an atmosphere at the college where people feel they would be penalized for disagreeing with the motion.

Foglesong clarified that the situation is actually an issue of perception and reality. He has never seen someone punished for views in terms of grants and tenure. However, people perceive that it is true. And yet, how does one convince new faculty differently and, in turn, how could they be certain that it would not happen to them?

Duncan noted that junior faculty he approached about the provost search were told by their department members to not do it because of an issue precisely like that.

Easton suggested we move forward with the idea of a forum on the issue raised by Tillmann. In addition, there should be a process to decide about future issues.

Foglesong asked how to deal with the issue of a vote.

Strom noted the problem of uniformity can be solved if a statement is made that “x” number of A&S Rollins faculty support the ordnance out of “y” number of voters.

Foglesong asked for a clarification on the resolution.

Strom moved: The Executive Committee supports an open forum on the human rights ordnance to be led by Lisa Tillmann. If at the forum the persons attending decide that a vote is in order, then an electronic ballot will be sent to all faculty and the revealed results of the vote will reflect an aggregate of the opinion of the individuals rather than the thinking of the whole.

Easton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Duncan noted that it is important that the results are presented as they truly are. For example, 62 votes out of 72 in favor of the motion.

Levis asked that at the next faculty meeting Tillmann is given time to announce the forum.

2. A position opened up on the Faculty Appeals Committee. Jennifer Queen has been asked and she has accepted the position.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m.
Asian Studies Courses to be taught Fall 2011 to Spring 2014

This list sets out offerings based on instructors’ current plans, but other courses will be added in the future. For example, Marc Fetscherin and Ilan Alon plan to teach Asian Studies Topics courses that are not listed here as they are not part of the established curriculum. Also, field studies, offered occasionally, are not listed here. No new faculty will be needed for this major.

### Fall 2011

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>ANT 254</td>
<td>Cultures of Japan</td>
<td>Moore</td>
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<td>CHN 101</td>
<td>Elementary Chinese I</td>
<td>Wei</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIS 260</td>
<td>History of Chinese Civilization</td>
<td>Yao</td>
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<td>REL 113</td>
<td>Asian Religions</td>
<td>D’Amato</td>
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<td>REL 241</td>
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### Spring 2012

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**Spring 2013**

- **ANT 452** Cinema and Society in China  
  *Moore*
- **ASA 400** Senior Seminar  
  *Moore*
- **CHN 102** Elementary Chinese II  
  *Wei*
- **CHN 202** Intermediate Chinese II  
  *Wei*
- **CHN 302** Advanced Chinese II  
  *Wei*
- **ECO 203** Principles of Micro- and Macro-economics  
  (taught every semester by various faculty)
- **HIS 263** East Asia in Modern Times  
  *Yao*
- **HIS 350** U.S. and China Relations  
  *Yao*
- **INB 300** Introduction to International Business  
  (taught every sem. usually by Fetscherin)
- **POL 130** Introduction to International Politics  
  (every sem. by Chong, J. Davison or Gunter)
- **POL 334** Political Economy of Japan  
  *Lairson*
- **REL 113** Asian Religions  
  *D’Amato*
- **REL 340** Zen Buddhism  
  *D’Amato*

**Fall 2013**

- **ANT 252** Cultures of China  
  *Moore*
- **CHN 101** Elementary Chinese I  
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- **CHN 201** Intermediate Chinese I  
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- **ECO 351** Economic Development  
  *Warnecke*
- **INB 300** Introduction to International Business  
  (taught every sem. usually by Fetscherin)
- **POL 130** Introduction to International Politics  
  (every sem. by Chong, J. Davison or Gunter)
- **POL 384** East Asian Politics  
  *Lairson*
- **REL 113** Asian Religions  
  *D’Amato*

**Spring 2014**

- **ASA 400** Senior Seminar  
  *Moore*
- **CHN 102** Elementary Chinese II  
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  *Yao*
- **INB 300** Introduction to International Business  
  (taught every sem. usually by Fetscherin)
- **INB 311** Asian Business Environments  
  *Lairson*
- **POL 130** Introduction to International Politics  
  (every sem. by Chong, J. Davison or Gunter)
- **POL 385** Politics in China  
  *Lairson*
- **REL 113** Asian Religions  
  *D’Amato*
The Asian Studies Major provides students the opportunity to study in depth one of the most important regions in the world. The importance of Asia derives from its large population, long history, complex and diverse societies and cultures, and rising economic significance. Courses are grouped together into three categories: History & Culture, Politics & Business, and Languages. Twelve (12) courses are required for the major. Students are required to take five (5) courses from those designated in History & Culture, five (5) course from Politics & Business, and two (2) courses in an Asian Language beyond the 100 level. At least six (6) courses must be taken at the upper division (300-400) level and no more than three (3) courses from any department. One of these courses will be the Senior Seminar which can count toward either the History & Culture or the Politics and Business area. Students are also required to participate in one (1) academically-based study trip to Asia. Those counting toward such a requirement include Rollins courses with a seminar followed by a minimum 2 weeks study tour or an approved study tour to Asia of 1 month or longer. Students are highly encouraged to meet this requirement with a semester-long stay in one of the Asian Studies approved programs or universities where a maximum of four (4) pre-approved courses can be counted towards the major.

### History & Culture

Five (5) courses required from the list below to attain knowledge of Asian history and culture. One 300 or 400 level language course might count as a history and cultural course.

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HIS 212/212F Journey to the Middle Kingdom (Field Trip)

HIS 250 Modern Japan

HIS 260 History of Chinese Civilization

HIS 261 Modern China

HIS 262 East Asia in Pre-Modern Times

HIS 349 The Chinese Revolutions

HIS 350 U.S. and China Relations

PHI 211/211F Religion and Culture in Bali (Field Trip)

HIS 361 Contemporary China

### Politics & Economics & Business

Five (5) courses are required from the list below for an understanding of comparative politics & business. Only one (1) of the three courses listed in bold (POL 130, INB 300, ECO 203) needs to be taken; the remaining four (4) need to be taken from the list below.

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### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Asian Studies majors are required to take two (2) courses beyond the 100 level, either in Chinese or Japanese. This two-course foreign language requirement at the upper level is an essential component of the Asian Studies Major. Students are encouraged to take these foreign language courses in the host-country. Students receiving a foreign language waiver are required to take two (2) additional courses in either the History and Culture or the Politics and Business categories.

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**SENIOR SEMINAR**

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Name: ____________________________
Date: ____________________________
ASIAN STUDIES MAJOR

Ilan Alon, Mario D’Amato, Mark Fetscherin, Yudit Greenberg, Tom Lairson, Robert Moore, Tonia Warnecke, Li Wei, Yusheng Yao, Wenxian Zhang

The Asian Studies major provides students the opportunity to study in depth one of the most important regions in the world. The importance of Asia derives from its large population, long history, complex and diverse societies and cultures, and rising economic significance. As the peoples and nations of the world become increasingly interconnected, successful leaders will benefit from a mastery of this key region.

The Asian Studies major combines courses in history, culture and politics with those from modern languages and an array of electives from other disciplines. Students are expected to do the following:

- develop an understanding of the historical, cultural, political and economic forces that have shaped modern Asia
- master the rudiments of an Asian language
- experience cultural immersion through study abroad in at least one Asian country

Students will complete an international experience in Asia. Currently Rollins offers such experiences in Shanghai, Hong Kong and Osaka.

The Asian Studies major is designed to educate Rollins students for active citizenship and ethical leadership in a global society, and to prepare graduates for productive careers. The major spans a variety of academic departments and students are required to incorporate courses from different departments.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS
Requirements for the Asian Studies major are: twelve (12) courses, including five (5) from the History and Culture category, five (5) from Politics, Economics and Business, and two (2) courses in an Asian Language beyond the 100 level. At least six (6) courses must be taken at the upper division (300-400) level and no more than three (3) courses can be in any single department. The required upper division seminar (ASA 400) can be taken only after both of the required lower division courses (REL 113 and HIS 263) have been completed.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE
Students are also required to participate in one (1) academically-based study trip to Asia. Those counting toward such a requirement include Rollins courses with a seminar followed by a minimum 2 weeks study tour, or an approved study tour to Asia of 1 month or longer. Students are highly encouraged to meet this requirement with a semester-long stay in one of the Asian Studies approved programs or universities where a maximum of 4 pre approved courses can be counted towards the major.
RESIDENCY AND DISTRIBUTION
Asian Studies majors must take all core courses at Rollins (except for courses taken by transfer students prior to admission to Rollins), at least one-half of all courses for the major at Rollins (no exemption for transfer students), and at least one-half of all courses for the major at the 300-400 level.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT
To accommodate students with different learning styles and abilities, the foreign language study requirement may be satisfied in one of three ways.

- First, students may take and successfully complete two (2) college-level courses (8 semester hours) or the equivalent in a single Asian language at the intermediate (200) level or beyond.
- Second, the two-course requirement may be waived by demonstrating 'native proficiency' in a modern Asian language, as determined by the Rollins College Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. If the language is not taught at Rollins, the two-course (200-level) requirement may be waived by demonstrating a proficiency in a modern foreign language at the 'advanced' level by passing a standardized test administered by the ACTFL Testing Office. Information and application forms for these tests can be obtained from the Rollins College Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

Receiving a foreign language waiver does not reduce the total number of courses required for the Asian Studies major (12). Students receiving such a waiver are required to take two (2) additional courses in either the History and Culture or the Politics, Economics and Business categories.

ASIAN STUDIES COURSES

REQUIRED COURSES
All Asian Studies majors must take the following course:

- HIS 263 East Asia in Modern Times
- REL 113 Asian Religions
- ASA 400 Senior Seminar

HISTORY AND CULTURE COURSES

- ANT 252 Cultures of China
- ANT 254 Cultures of Japan
- ANT 305 Topic: Cinema and Society in China
- ANT 305 Topic: Sufi-Buddhist Mysticism
- HIS 212/212F Journey to the Middle Kingdom (Field Trip)
- HIS 250 Modern Japan
• HIS 261 Modern China
• HIS 349 The Chinese Revolutions
• HIS 350 U.S. and China Relations
• HIS 361 Contemporary China
• PHI 211/211F Religion and Culture in Bali (Field Trip)
• REL 230 Buddhism: Theory & Practice
• REL 240 Buddhist Philosophy
• REL 241 Buddhist Ethics
• REL 270F India and the Infinite
• REL 340 Zen Buddhism

POLITICS, ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS COURSES

• POL 130 Introduction to International Politics
• INB 300 Introduction to International Business
• ECO 203 Principles of Micro and Macro-economics*
• ECO 327 Comparative Economic Systems*
• ECO 351 Economic Development*
• POL 302 Politics in the Third World
• POL 325 Sustainable Dev. in Southeast Asia
• POL 331 International Political Economy
• POL 334 Political Economy of Japan
• POL 384 East Asian Politics
• POL 393 Vietnam Experience Online
• INB 311 Asian Business Environment

* Note that ECO 202 is a prerequisite for ECO 203, and both ECO 202 and 203 are prerequisites for ECO 327 and ECO 351.
I agree that the faculty should be given the opportunity to support a resolution supporting the Orange County HRO.

As Kathryn mentions, Rollins has an anti-discrimination policy that includes sexual orientation and gender expression which reflects our institutional commitment to diversity and human rights issues. But our policy is not enough to protect and support Rollins employees who are members of the GLBT community from discrimination in other areas of their lives. Our institutional policy advocates non-discrimination in all areas, including LGBT and gender expression, and supporting the Orange County HRO is consistent with our non-discrimination policy, and the institutional values behind it.

________________________________________
Margaret A. McLaren, Ph. D.
Harriet W. and George D. Cornell Professor of Philosophy
Co-ordinator of Women's Studies

mmclaren@rollins.edu
407-646-1508

From: Dr. Kathryn Norsworthy
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2010 11:46 PM
To: Lisa Tillmann; Dr. Joan D. Davison; William Boles; Barry Levis; Claire Strom; Dr. Richard E. Foglesong; Sue Easton
Cc: Mahjabeen Rafiuddin; Gregory Cavanaugh; Margaret McLaren; Kimberly Dennis; Rhonda Singer Ovist; Susan Libby; Alicia Homrich; Samuel Sanabria; Derrick Paladino; Dr. Scott J. Hewit; Wendy Brandon; Scott Rubarth; Brent Turner; Ray Rogers; Thomas Ouellette; Thomas Moore; Sharon Carnahan; Robert Smithet; Hoyt Edge; Ryan Musgrave; Eric Smaw; Jill Jones; Carol Lauer; Barbara Carson; Julian Chambliss; Daniel Chong; Susan Libby; Rachel Simmons; Rachel Newcomb; Mae Fitchett; Marc Sardy; Dr. Joe Siry; Lee Lines; ksutherland@rollins.edu; Thomas Cook; Maurice O'Sullivan; Eileen Gregory; John Sinclair; GValliente@rollins.edu
Subject: Re: HRO Faculty Resolution

Dear EC members:
I am writing to request that you support the request to move forward the faculty resolution to support the Orange County Human Right Ordinance to be discussed and voted on during the November 23rd meeting of the Orange County Commission on November 23, 2010. The Human Rights Ordinance (HRO) provides anti-discrimination protections consistent with our own Rollins Anti-discrimination Policy covering national origin, race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, etc. I want to point out that supporting the HRO is a crucial aspect of our recruitment and retention efforts at Rollins. Consistent with the information provided during our Recruitment and Retention of Faculty of Color workshop three years ago, the literature on recruitment and retention is very clear that the Community conditions and atmosphere are critical in recruiting and retaining colleagues who themselves, and their
family members, hold minority identities. It is NOT simply a matter of the environment of the institution, which is already an issue that we need to constantly attend to.

Finally, I appeal to the EC to recognize that a portion of the Rollins faculty and their family members - partners, children, and others - are currently in a position - without the passage of this ordinance - to be fired from their jobs, refused service in a restaurant, or denied housing without any recourse - because of homophobia and transphobia in Orange County - in other words, a gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered Rollins employee or their family member who lives in Orange County can be, without any other cause, discriminated again in the areas previously mentioned, simply because of their identities as glb or t, until this ordinance is enacted. To me, this is an issue for our institution. I would hope that we would take a stand here - just as I hope we would take a stand if people of color or women were denied these rights - as we have done in the past, by taking a stand against apartheid, and in supporting the addition of sexual orientation to the HRO for Orlando City. I would hope that we as a faculty would recognize that there are times when we need to take a public stand on human rights issues such as these. Why would we NOT publicly stand up against this kind of discrimination that would not be acceptable for people of color, women, people with disabilities, people holding diverse religious beliefs, and other minority groups?

I have to admit that this is personal for me and I don't apologize for that. It is very real that my partner, Deena, who is very identifiable as a lesbian, and I, as individuals and as a couple (along with other Rollins faculty, staff, and students and their family members), are always at risk for discrimination in Orange County in relation to housing, services, and employment (except at Rollins where we thankfully have anti-discrimination protections) without any recourse unless this ordinance passes. And this is also true for every glbtq member of our Rollins community and their family members. It is hard to imagine that we, as a faculty, would not resolutely and publicly support a resolution to protect people of color and women from this kind of discrimination. What would keep us from doing the same for our GLBTQ community members? And now, given the outcome of the recent election, where regardless of your political affiliation and views in other areas, it is clear that we have now elected the most expressly anti-gay state level elected officials in years who have vowed to do everything possible to strip the glbtq community of all protections and rights possible. So, local ordinances are even more important than ever in protecting our GLBTQ community members from discrimination.

Human rights issues are Rollins business and Rollins "issues". Please support bringing this resolution forward to the faculty for discussion and for a vote. This is not an intellectual debate. This is about the real, everyday lives of our colleagues and their families - this is about creating a welcoming and inclusive environment in central Florida that increases the likelihood that we can recruit and retain a diverse, talented Rollins faculty, staff, and student community.

Thank you.
Kathryn Norsworthy
Chair, Recruitment and Retention Committee, Rollins Diversity Council

Kathryn L. Norsworthy, Ph.D.
Professor/Licensed Psychologist
Rollins College Graduate Studies in Counseling
1000 Holt Ave. - 2726
Attachment 5

On behalf of ALL of my colleagues and coworkers at Rollins College, I would like to urge the EC to support Kathryn’s request.

Although I consider myself an ally of the sexual minority community and would like to support the ordinance for this reason alone, the HRO is a benefit to all citizens of Orange County (which is the location of residence for most Rollins’ employees), not just the groups specified in the ordinance. When we, as a populace, encourage and support all people in our county, we all become the beneficiaries of the diversity that a protection such as the HRO brings to our community (as well as at our College).

Thank you, Alicia

Alicia M. Homrich, Ph.D., NCC, Licensed Psychologist, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
Associate Professor - Rollins College Graduate Studies in Counseling

Hello, all...

I write to inform you that the Student Government Association voted unanimously in favor of the resolution in support of this ordinance last evening in their Senate meeting. I am proud that our students fully support this human rights issue and encourage the faculty to formally support as well. The SGA resolution will be presented at the November 23rd meeting of the Orange County Commission.

Best,
Brent
Dear Dean Wellman,

I am writing to express concern over the manner in which Professor Lisa Tillmann has been using Rollins College as a platform to promote a political agenda. Over the past several weeks, Professor Tillmann has been using the “all faculty” email feature (on several occasions) to enlist support for an Orange County ordinance which she is supporting.

I find this troubling on several levels. That Professor Tillmann is using the workplace as a means to forward her political opinions is bad enough, but she is now standing outside of faculty meetings requesting signatures, and asking for people to publicly stand and resolve to support her political cause.

I fear the implications of this type of behavior if it is allowed to continue. Do we really want to establish the practice of bringing political ideology into the workplace and putting faculty in a position where they are forced to take public stances on political issues? As a junior faculty member, my concerns are more than academic. What if Professor Tillmann were to sit on my tenure committee, or some other committee which evaluates my professional credentials? Could there be some consequence of my support (or lack thereof) of Professor Tillmann’s political causes? Might my reputation amongst the faculty be affected by being forced to come out in favor of or against some piece of legislation?

The particular political issue is irrelevant, but in this case, it involves the Orange County Human Rights Ordinance, for which Professor Tillmann wishes to garner support. This might appear a worthy initiative to support; after all, who does not support human rights? On the other hand, one might have a rational and moral reason to oppose such legislation (i.e. the belief in the sanctity of private property, or an unwillingness to allow government to regulate private associations among individuals). Unfortunately, if one was forced to publicly object to this sort of ordinance, they would run the risk of being unfairly labeled as a racist, sexist,
homophobe, or worse. History is replete with this type of demagogy where a figure appeals to the prejudices, fears, emotions, and expectations of a group using religious, nationalistic, and populist themes.

[I can’t help but recall the few brave politicians who risked their political careers by publicly denouncing the so called “Patriot Act,” only to be vindicated when the numerous affronts to civil liberties in the act were revealed].

Ultimately, I believe treating the faculty meetings as some sort of political action committee is grossly inappropriate. It distracts from the proper business of these meetings and consumes the faculty’s valuable time. We should not have political pressures, however subtle, denigrating the atmosphere of intellectual freedom that is essential to the continued success of the academy and of Rollins College.

Cordially,