

1-26-2010

## Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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Minutes approved at the meeting of February 8, 2010

AAC Minutes – January 26, 2010

In attendance: Jim Small (Chair), Alex Boguslawski, Wendy Brandon, Chris Fuse, Annie Hilb, Laurie Joyner, Barry Levis, Tocarra Mallard, Sebastian Novak, Dawn Roe, Don Rogers, Steven St. John (Secretary), Lito Valdivia

The meeting was called to order at 12:34 p.m.

**Announcements.** Jim announced that the only times when AAC could meet this semester would be Monday morning at 7:30 a.m. or after 5:30 p.m. on certain days of the week. After a brief discussion the committee agreed to meet regularly at 7:30 a.m.

**Minutes.** The minutes of the final Fall semester meeting were approved without correction.

**Old Business.**

#### Grade Appeal Case

Jim noted that further inquiries had been made in the grade appeal case decided in Fall, 2009. The concern was whether AAC had consulted the correct syllabus in making its determination. The committee discussed and decided that it would need to verify that the 2008 syllabus had indeed been consulted. Barry located the syllabus in AAC's online documents Blackboard site. Although the syllabus was not dated, Barry was able to cross-check the days and dates and verify that those conformed to the 2008 calendar and not the 2009 calendar. Given this information, no member asked to re-open the discussion.

#### Education hours

Barry, Wendy, and Steve reported on the New Course Subcommittee meeting's discussion on the request from the education department to alter the credit hours for student teaching in light of the new requirements of the Florida Bright Futures scholarship and the requirement to credit students for the amount of time they devote to this program. Barry reported that the New Course subcommittee gave its approval pending a wording change to the request. It was determined that the matter, once finally approved by the New Course Subcommittee, would not need to come before AAC.

#### Blended Learning

Jim proposed to allow PSC to proceed with the Blended Learning grants. Laurie asked if AAC had seen the proposals themselves. Don said that AAC had seen them, and noted that none of the proposals planned even 50% of the class to meet virtually. Dawn felt that the proposals were vague and that it wasn't clear exactly what the structure of the classes would be. Steve said that he had had a long conversation with Roger Ray about his blended courses. Steve expressed some level of comfort with the idea of blended learning for certain courses, but was unsure if everyone who taught in that format could be as grounded and well-versed in the theory and practice of blended learning as was Roger Ray. Laurie said that she had attended

Roger's presentation on his blended learning teaching experiences and recommended him as a thoughtful and knowledgeable resource – in his answers to questions he was objective about the pros and cons of blended learning as one educational strategy. Don proposed that a subcommittee of AAC could be charged with interviewing various people on campus and gathering information for AAC so it could more knowledgeably assess the issue. Don, Annie, and Chris volunteered to form this subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.