

11-25-2008

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 25, 2008

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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

Recommended Citation

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee, "Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 25, 2008" (2008). *Academic Affairs Committee Minutes*. Paper 122.
http://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_aa/122

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

AAC Minutes (Nov. 25, 08)

In attendance: Wendy Brandon, Laurie Joyner, Jim Small, Steve St. John, Jennifer Cavanaugh, Scott Rubarth, Yusheng Yao, Alex Grammenos, Kory Eylmann

AAC minutes for Nov. 14 meeting was approved.

Discussion of the Physics Major's new catalogue copy. The changes made in the requirements for the major, in the courses and course descriptions reflected those that had been approved by the AAC last year. Steve St. John will look at the record to compare this new catalogue description of the Physics Major and the approved version recorded in the minutes and report to AAC at the next meeting.

Discussion of the Music Department's proposal to change a few course designations from 100 to 200 and from 200 to 300 levels, and Tony Holbrook's email response as to the procedure of such changes. With reference to the changes in both the Physics and the Music Departments, members decided to provide guidelines and instructions on AAC website for these kinds of changes. AAC new course approval subcommittee will review the form for new course proposal and make due changes.

Discussion about credits counts for off-campus field experiences. Members pointed out the differences between the contact hours in field study and regular class hours such as intercession courses. They agreed that the change in the field study credits had implications for pay and work load and should be dealt with carefully. They agreed that a better rubric was called for to clarify responsibilities and work load for field study. Laurie informed AAC members that Jennifer Campbell of the International Program was working on such a rubric to clarify responsibilities, evaluations, and academic contents, supervision for off-campus study. AAC will contact Campbell and make a link between AAC website and that of International Program once the rubric was passed.

Steve St. John reported a recent breakthrough of the Psychology Department regarding curriculum revision and inquired about the realistic timeline for AAC's approval of the revision next semester. AAC believes that it can be accomplished in the spring semester of 2009 if the department submitted the proposal in February.

Wendy reported her conversation with Tom Cook about the tasks and the staggered terms of the Curriculum Steering Committee. Members of AAC discussed and agreed that the Curriculum Steering Committee would continue to serve as the implementation committee focusing on the RP experiment. Members also believed the importance of continued curriculum reform and necessity for AAC to form the Phase Two Curriculum Renewal Committee to coordinate the effort. On December 10's faculty colloquy on graduation hour reduction, Wendy will, on behalf of AAC, make known its goal to continue and deepen the curriculum reform and suggest five or six issues for the next phase reform. Suggestions from the discussion included that we should ask first what the best curriculum was before deciding on how many

graduation hours were needed. Continued curriculum reform may also require every major to examine itself if it measured up to the agreed learning outcomes.

Wendy reported a suggestion from Don Davidson, faculty president, about AAC's decision in the last meeting to write to Roger Casey for clarifying his vision for Holt School reform. Members agreed with Don that a better alternative for AAC was to invite Roger to share his vision and to evaluate the impact and implications on the academic quality of the curriculum. Members pointed out that this re-visioning of Holt involved various important issues including academic quality control as well as the relationship between Holt and A & S, and the governing structure of the college. An open and transparent process would involve more faculty members and get more good ideas. The discussion with Roger should also include issues regarding oversight of academic quality about the internationalization effort.

Next AAC meeting is set at 5 p.m. on December 2.