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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, March 4, 2004

Arts & Sciences Executive Committee

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Minutes of the Meeting
Executive Committee of the Arts and Sciences
March 4, 2004

Members attending: Y. Greenberg, R. Bornstein, P. Lancaster, R. Casey, S. Klemann, J. Schmalstig, L. Eng-Wilmot, P. Bernal, S. Lackman, S. Ho

I. Call to Order: Yudit Greenberg called the meeting to order at 12:43.

II. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of February 5 and February 19 are approved as amended.

III. AAC (S. Klemann) – AAC has not had a chance to meet on the revision of the language of the General Education requirements. The concern is with “rubric-based” language. The language of the document will be revised to take to the faculty at the next A&S faculty meeting. Several models of assessment in various disciplines will be presented to assist the faculty in creating their own assessment mechanisms. If we can articulate and report how we assess our ways of assessment, that will satisfy SACS; SACS is not the driving force. The issue is to record what we may do casually. There appear to be some concern among the faculty that this process is a way to get the college to the next level.

Should we, the Executive Committee, consider how we respond to concerns about going to “the next level”? People seem to be wondering what this phrase means, and perhaps we should have a more formal discussion on this. The issues that have come before the faculty lately truly do not imply a plan for going to “the next level.” The faculty does not have a consensus of what the phrase means.

IV. “First Tuesdays” – an opportunity to get the faculty together for free discussion. This would mean that no committees or departments would meet. People are trying to find some way to get free time. The initiative should be postponed until the 2004-5 academic year.

V. Student Life (P. Bernal) – The latest version of the Honors Code is before the committee right now. Given the emphasis on synergy, it is important to point out that the work has been done only by A&S committees for the A&S students only. Should there be some broader policy? Holt may adopt the A&S code, after student input, if the code seems applicable. Places that have traditional honor codes (simpler) tend to be college-wide; there are those that seem unit-specific. Bornstein reminded the committee to circulate the code through the parents’ committees. Bernal will also examine the Crummer code. There will be a discussion among the wider community later.

VI. Finance and Service (Eng-Wilmot): The committee has had conversations and presentations with Human Resources re health care; with Les Lloyd re IT; the budget; with Brad McKown re security on campus safety and security (after spring break). The committee continues to work on the issues of salary, and have been examining this difficult issue; a report to the entire faculty may not be forthcoming until next year. One other issue for examination will be adjunct and overload pay.

VII. Lancaster thanked all involved for their efforts with the QEP.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 1:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cohn Lackman, Secretary