

9-13-2007

Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Thursday, September 13, 2007

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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AAC meeting: Friday 9/13

Minutes

Attending: Thom Moore, Laurie Joyner, Ben Balak, Shannon Mariotti, Scott Rubarth, Dick James, Eric Zivot, Tina Bucci

1. Approval of minutes from 9/6 meeting
2. Approval of the requested English department catalog revision new catalog statement:

Final Copy

Students majoring in English are required to complete the following program of courses. A minimum of twelve (12) courses is required and must include six (6) core courses and six (6) electives. Majors must also submit a representative senior portfolio on or before April 23 for May graduation, October 31 for December graduation (the Friday before if the date falls on a weekend) and participate in a graduation conversation with faculty. Students majoring in English are encouraged to develop their majors in close consultation with an English Department faculty advisor.

3. Curriculum review Steering Committee proposal

Issues of concern in proposal:

1. lack of staff
2. lack of students on committee

BB: need for students; one or two students should be a full and equal member – should have a vote. Need to give students a vote. Two students, one vote perhaps? Need for collaborative working together of faculty and students; crucial social element missing is a strong alliance between students and faculty.

TM: But students have a different perspective, concerned with particular issues, not long term perspective. Need for broader perspective. Plus, the by laws given exclusive responsibility to the faculty alone in developing the curriculum.

SR: We might benefit from the generational perspective of the students, but do they need to be on the committee to do this? There are many ways to gain student involvement outside of placing them strictly on the committee.

EZ, SM: How bounded are we by faculty bylaws?

SR: Are the students we might possibly choose going to be representative of the larger student body?

Tina Bucci: Student representative for Academic Affairs: During a meeting last spring, about 30 people who would be interested in the curriculum review process attended and seemed interested.

SR: What about a compromise? An SGA student-elected faculty member representative whose job it is to consult and represent the student perspective?

LJ: Plan to contact president of SGA and work with them to select a faculty representative for the students.

TM: The executive cttee can nominate a faculty member.

BB: I volunteer.

EZ: I volunteer.

Unanimous agreement for compromise: “The Student Government Association will be given the opportunity to endorse one faculty member that will stand for election as one of the two faculty voted on at-large.”

4. Composition of membership of Steering Committee:

EZ: it’s not going to be the curriculum owned by the more senior faculty. Someone who has been here for 3-4 years. Who do we want in control? How far away from retirement?

LJ: but at the same time the curriculum reform process is a political process and may need senior people to usher process through, gain support.

BB: transparency concerns.

LJ: We need to be careful not to alienate the senior faculty members, the people who have made Rollins what it is.

What about if we charge endowed chairs with coming up with a representative?

All: Task force will create an intentional process to include perspective of endowed chairs.