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Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Thursday, October 11, 2007

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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ACADEMIC AFFAIRS MEETING MINUTES: Oct. 11th

In attendance: Sharon Carnahan, Thom Moore, Scott Rubarth, Shannon Mariotti, Dick James, Ben Balak, Laurie Joyner, Eric Zivot, Yusheng Yao, Alison Wallrapp, Tina Bucci, Kristen Trucco, Christina Grass

Agenda:

1. REVIEW OF MINUTES
2. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. CLARIFICATION OF STUDENT VOTES
 - B. COMPOSITION OF STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE CURRICULUM
 - C. OVERALL CURRICULUM REFORM AGENDA
3. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES IF NECESSARY
 - B. DEAN JOYNER
4. DISCUSS OVERALL AGENDA FOR 2007-2008
5. PENDING: COMPUTER SCIENCE

IT WAS MOVED TO STRIKE THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE FROM LAST WEEK'S MINUTES

10/4 minutes approved, with this change

Executive Committee decided that there can be 4 voting student members on AAC, but it is expected that the same 4 students will attend as full members.

The 4 students who are designated as AAC members: Alison Wallrapp, Tina Bucci, Kristen Trucco, Christina Grass

New quorum: 7 people

It is assumed that all the students and all the faculty members will attend every meeting.

BB: voices concern that the one student member on the curriculum task force is non-voting

EZ: makes motion to revisit the question of the nonvoting status of the students on the curriculum task force, in light of the Executive Committee's interpretation of the bylaws to designate 4 voting students on AAC: **passed**

Discussion ensues:

TB et al.: The students feel ambivalent about whether they should have a vote on the task force; would it make an already political process more difficult? Pragmatic concerns about time, etc.

BB, SM, SR: express concerns that the Executive Committee's interpretation of the bylaws (4 voting student members on AAC) is in contradiction with the argument **against** having a voting student member on the curriculum task force.

LJ, BB, TM: What about putting the question of whether the student member should be a voting member to the full faculty, without putting the full slate to a vote?

Given the contradiction posed by the EC interpretation of the bylaws, several people in AAC feels we need to put the question of whether the student member of the curriculum task force is a voting member to the full faculty.

EZ: makes motion to adjust the student status from non-voting to voting. But we are not changing the rest of the slate.

10 vote yea

2 vote nay

AAC collectively decides: We want the faculty to affirm the slate and affirm the student's status as voting.

LJ: asks whether AAC would like John Pellisaro (Vice-Provost of Loyola University Chicago) to come speak about curricular reform; he could be here on Nov. 2, 3rd and come talk to the curriculum task force. Wants to get the task force committee together to talk with him on Sat. morning.

LJ: budget: the Dean's office is likely to pay stipends to people on the task force, but is uncomfortable promising amounts without knowing the work-load and without spelling out what is expected; maybe this is an opportunity to try out variable work-loads? also what about staff person and student member: do they get stipends too?

How would you operationalize variable pay, etc? LJ: It might help clarify expectations.