

11-7-2006

## Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Tuesday, November 7, 2006

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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## Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes November 7, 2006

In Attendance: Sharon Carnahan (Chair), Carolyn Carpan, Jay Yellen, Hoyt Edge, Thom Moore, Ben Balak, Marie Shafe, Dana Hargrove, Ed Cohen, 4C Committee members Dorothy Mays and Erich Blossey

1. The minutes from the October 31, 2006 meeting were approved.
2. Old Business  
Sharon Carnahan reported that the Honors Proposal and the Critical Media and Cultural Studies Proposal would both be presented to the faculty at the meeting on November 9. Sharon will speak briefly about each proposal and then let the faculty members involved in the programs present their proposals.
3. New Business  
Dorothy Mays and Erich Blossey, from the 4C Committee, met with the committee. Dorothy Mays reported on the activities of the 4C, including the faculty retreat activities, meetings with departments, and brown bag lunches. Themes that reoccur in discussions include general education requirements, interdisciplinary, first year experience, globalization, information fluency, and lifelong learning. Dorothy reported there are a 4C Web site and a blog at <http://www.rollins.edu/4C>. She reported the committee is thinking about the following activities:
  - Newsletter
  - Comprehensive faculty survey
  - Bring in a nationally recognized speaker
  - More lunches and discussion groups

The committee discussed these ideas. Erich Blossey reported that President Duncan has suggested a skills-based first year experience program. Sharon Carnahan suggested AAC and 4C present curricular models to the faculty and help educate everyone on the models that we might want to use. Jay Yellen suggested we reduce models to manageable sizes in terms of reading materials. Sharon Carnahan suggested faculty training on curricula and curricular reform would be useful so we have a shared knowledge and vocabulary for our conversation. Dorothy Mays stated that 4C don't want to impose a particular model on faculty, but rather present model options for discussion. She reported her research has not found a condensed version of various models we could consider and it is a lot of work to find the information and get it into a form to present to the faculty. It was suggested we could hire someone to help us do this. It was also suggested we meet with people from different schools who have led curricular reform, have them participate in a panel, do workshops, etc. Hoyt Edge suggested we could send our faculty to meet with curricular reformers at other schools, to relevant conferences, etc. Ed Cohen asked if the Dean of the Faculty's

office could give us an idea of constraints in terms of number of semester hours, course load, number of hours to graduate, etc. that we might need to keep in mind as part of our discussion. Thom Moore wondered if we are getting ahead of ourselves and maybe we should think more about what we want before we find models. Erich Blossey suggested we think about who are students are when they come to Rollins and what product (students) do we want leaving Rollins.

The next AAC meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14 at 8:15 am in the Warden Dining Room.

Carolyn Carpan,  
Secretary