

Rollins College

Rollins Scholarship Online

The College of Liberal Arts Faculty Minutes

College of Liberal Arts Minutes and Reports

5-13-1987

Minutes, College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, May 13, 1987

Arts & Sciences Faculty
Rollins College

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_fac

Recommended Citation

Arts & Sciences Faculty, "Minutes, College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, May 13, 1987" (1987). *The College of Liberal Arts Faculty Minutes*. 214.
https://scholarship.rollins.edu/as_fac/214

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

From: James W. Small, Chair of the Faculty

To: Faculty of the College, Archives

Subject: Agenda for the May 13, 1987 Faculty Meeting. The meeting will begin at 2:30 pm in the Crummer Auditorium. Note the time Change.

Agenda

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes of the April 29, 1987 meeting.

III. Old Business

a. Faculty Elections

Intercollegiate Athletics (vote for 2):

Larry Cotanche
Maurice O'Sullivan

Nominating Committee (vote for 2):

Tom Cooke
Linda Glennon
Linda De Ture

Campus Life Committee (1):

Karl Peters
Nancy Decker

Special Programs Committee:

Humanities: Ruth Mesavage, Sylvia Reynolds
Social Sciences: Marilyn Stewart

Continuing Education Committee

Expressive Arts: Steve Neilson

- b. Faculty Load Policy (continued, see last month's agenda)
- c. Finals Week Policy (April Meeting Agenda)
- d. Florida Interacademic Consortium Proposal (April Agenda):

Be it resolved that the faculty approve the establishment of a Florida Interacademic Consortium and assume responsibility (through the relevant committees and departments) for curriculum, personnel (selection of faculty and students) and programmatic oversight.

III. New Business

- a. African/Afro-American Studies Minor (from Curriculum Committee, attached).
- b. Motion on KA fraternity (from Campus Life Committee, attached).

IV. Committee Reports (as necessary)

V. Reports from Administrators

VI. Adjournment

From R A. Lima, Coordinator of Af./Af.-Am. Studies Minor Date April 28, 1987

J. Small, Chair of the Faculty

Copies To Curriculum Committee/Members of the Af./Af.-Am. Advisory Committee
Steering Committee

Subject African/Afro-American Studies Minor

Students who elect the interdisciplinary minor in African/Afro-American Studies are required to take eight (8) courses from a number of departments such as Anthropology, Economics, English, Foreign Languages, History, Music, Philosophy/Religion, Sociology and Theater/Dance/Communications. The sequence of the distribution of the eight courses is as follows:

Core Courses (3):

- 1) AN 262 (Anthropology of Africa)
- 2) H 247 (Race in America) or H *** (The Black Experience)
- 3) One Literature course that deals with African or Afro-American Literature (in the English or Foreign Languages department (This course must be approved by the Af./Af.-Am. Advisory Committee)

Electives (4):

All four (4) electives must deal with some aspect of African/Afro-American literature, culture, history, religion, politics, etc., and must be approved by the Af./Af.-Am. Advisory Committee. Moreover, three (3) of these electives must be on the 300- and/or 400-level.

Independent Study (1):

AF 399 or AF 499 (An independent study course must be taken during the student's Junior or Senior year, and the course must be approved by the Af./Af.-Am. Advisory Committee)

((NOTE: the Literature courses and the Electives that fulfill the requirement for this interdisciplinary minor will be noted in the Schedule of Classes publication each semester and Winter term.)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jim Small
Chair, Steering Committee

FROM: Rick Foglesong
Chair, Campus Life Committee

DATE: May 8, 1987

RE: Future of Kappa Alpha Fraternity

As you know, a petition signed by fifty-five colleagues requesting that the charter of Kappa Alpha fraternity be returned was sent to the Campus Life Committee (CLC). I write to report on the CLC's actions and to offer two motions for our next faculty meeting. Because I was not able to report on these matters at the last faculty meeting, it may be appropriate to include this memo along with the accompanying motions in the packet for our next meeting.

There have been several accusations against Kappa Alpha this year. One concerned the arrest of a group of KAs at Daytona Beach Speedway after they entered the grounds without paying, apparently by scaling a fence, an act that purportedly represented the continuation of a fraternity tradition. Next there were allegations--thus far unproven--that KAs were responsible for the disappearance of stacks of undistributed Sandspurs that contained a letter unflattering to the chapter. More recently, allegations were made that the fraternity engaged in hazing in having pledges shave the initials "KA" into their hair, although the Inter-Fraternity Council ruled that this head-shaving was not coerced and therefore did not constitute hazing. In addition, residents of McKean Hall have complained about excessive noise made by KAs, who are housed in the basement of McKean.

My perception is that what troubles faculty is not these particular actions--alleged and otherwise--but rather that they appear to represent the continuation of a long history of misbehavior. The sense seems to be that, especially after being allowed off suspension most recently in 1983, the fraternity was on a kind of "parole"--and that the terms of that parole have now been violated.

Acting in response to the faculty petition, the CLC met to discuss complaints against KA on April 23. At that meeting, Dean Watkins informed the committee that the KA national fraternity had tentatively agreed to suspend their Rollins chapter for at

least one year, commencing at the end of this academic year. Their tentative decision was the result of conversations between Dean Watkins and President Seymour on the one side and KA's traveling representative, who had been on campus that week, and their national president on the other. As related by Dean Watkins, KA national's own stipulations for the suspension were as follows:

1. It would take effect at the end of this academic year.
2. The local fraternity would not exist in any form for the following year. KA national would not want former chapter members to wear their pins, insignia, etc.; to live together; to have social functions; or to participate in intramurals.
3. A KA alumni committee would be formed in the summer of 1988 to oversee reinstitution of the Rollins chapter.
4. They would like to have a resident assistant, perhaps a KA alumna attending the Crummer School or UCF, to live with the chapter during 1988-89, assuming the chapter was reinstated by the national fraternity.

I believe the faculty and administration members of the CLC all regarded this as good news. Even if, as seems to be the case, the national fraternity sees the suspension as a means of ultimately retaining a chapter at Rollins, their proposed action represents a kind of moral victory in the conflict over standards of conduct between the faculty and administration on the one side and our KA chapter on the other. The CLC was concerned, however, that KA national's proposed action not undermine the integrity and autonomy of the College's own review processes. We therefore adopted the following four-part motion:

1. KA national should understand that any decision by them to reinstate the charter of their Rollins chapter would not be the same as a decision by the College to reinstate KA in college housing.
2. We would provide the national fraternity with a copy of the faculty-approved criteria used by the CLC in evaluating housing proposals.
3. We would conduct a fair and impartial review of KA's history at Rollins in October 1987 and recommend to KA national whether we believe it is in their interest and the College's interest for them to pursue an effort to reinstate the charter of their Rollins chapter.
4. If KA national decided against suspending the charter of

their Rollins chapter before the April 29 faculty meeting, the Chair of the CLC was authorized to present to the faculty a motion to withdraw recognition from KA as a recognized campus organization.

At the April 30 meeting of the CLC, Dean Watkins reported that, despite verbal assurances from KA national, we did not yet have anything in writing committing them to the proposed suspension. (Dean Watkins had sent a letter to the president of KA national on April 27 in which she offered her understanding of the terms of the suspension and asked for written confirmation, but she had not yet received a response.) Concerned about a possible delay, the CLC agreed to the following:

1. to place a motion on the agenda of the next faculty meeting (attached) withdrawing recognition from KA as a recognized campus organization; and
2. to authorize Dean Watkins to apprise KA national that we would request a faculty vote on this motion if we did not receive written confirmation, before our next faculty meeting, of their intention to suspend the charter of their Rollins chapter at the end of this academic year.

It was also agreed at our April 30 meeting that, instead of relying on KA national's stipulations, we should adopt our own guidelines regarding what the local chapter could and could not do during the period of its suspension. It was decided that because the wearing of fraternity insignia, etc. is probably a protected form of "free speech," we should not seek to enforce KA national's prohibition against such actions. We did agree, however, that members of the suspended KA chapter

1. could not live together in the same housing unit;
2. could not have group social functions; and
3. could not participate in intramurals as a group.

Further, it was agreed

4. that violation of the above guidelines would be considered in relation to any subsequent request to reinstate KA in group housing.

Attached is a motion, labelled Motion #1, calling for withdrawal of recognition from KA as a recognized campus organization. If we do not receive written confirmation from KA national before our May faculty meeting, I will submit this motion for a vote of the faculty. It should therefore be included in the agenda items distributed to faculty.

I am also attaching a second motion, labelled Motion #2, calling for a faculty vote on whether, after a period of suspension, KA should be permitted to again become a recognized campus organization. This motion, which was unanimously approved by the CLC, was drafted after numerous conversations with faculty colleagues who expressed the view that, since 55 faculty members initiated the complaint against KA, the faculty as a whole deserves a voice in the fraternity's future at Rollins. The committee would like this motion included in the agenda items distributed to faculty.

MOTION #1

N.B.: This motion was accepted by the Campus Life Committee (5-1-2) as part of a four-part motion concerned with KA national's proposed suspension of the charter of their Rollins chapter. This motion will only be offered if KA national does not provide a written confirmation of their decision to suspend their Rollins chapter for a period of at least one year, commencing at the end of this academic year.

WHEREAS there has been a long history of misbehavior by Kappa Alpha fraternity at Rollins College;

WHEREAS recent actions by the fraternity indicate that the fraternity is no longer deserving of membership in the Rollins community; and

WHEREAS KA national fraternity has not provided written confirmation before this May faculty meeting of its decision to suspend the charter of the Rollins KA chapter, commencing at the end of this 1987-88 academic year, for a period of at least one year;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The faculty wishes to withdraw recognition from Kappa Alpha fraternity as a recognized student organization.

MOTION #2

N.B.: This motion, which was unanimously accepted by the Campus Life Committee, will be introduced if KA national fraternity does agree in writing to suspend the charter of its Rollins charter.

WHEREAS there has been a long history of misbehavior by Kappa Alpha fraternity at Rollins;

WHEREAS the Kappa Alpha national fraternity has elected to suspend the charter of their Rollins chapter, effective at the end of this academic year, for a period of at least one year;

WHEREAS the Campus Life Committee has agreed to conduct a fair and impartial review, commencing in October 1987, of Kappa Alpha's history at Rollins and to make a recommendation to the Kappa Alpha national fraternity on whether it is in the College's interest and their interest for them to seek to reinstate their Rollins chapter;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Campus Life Committee, after carrying out the aforesaid review, make a report and recommendation to the faculty on whether Kappa Alpha should be permitted to again become a recognized campus organization; and

2. That Kappa Alpha not be allowed to again become a recognized campus organization without an affirmative vote of the faculty.

Memorandum

May 21, 1987

From: James W. Small, Chair of the Faculty

To: Members of the undergraduate Faculty, President Seymour,
Provost DeNicola, Deans Erdmann, Straumanis, Watkins,
Miller, Archives

Subject: Annual Report on College Governance

As required by the Bylaws, I am submitting the following report on the activities of College Governance during the 1986-1987 academic year.

The Steering Committee of the College is concerned with both governance and the setting of the agenda for Faculty meetings. The latter involves review of the work of other committees to determine if proposals are ready to be voted on by the Faculty. In regard to the former duty, several major changes were proposed in the Bylaws during this academic year. The first originated in the Steering Committee and involved a change in membership of the Curriculum Committee. Under the new arrangement the Faculty will be represented by 6 members, 2 at large and one from each division, voted on by the entire Faculty. There was also a requirement that the elected members be at least in their third year of teaching at Rollins at the time of election. A second Bylaw change gives the Steering Committee the responsibility for replacing vacancies on standing Committees. A third Bylaw change established a Master of Liberal Studies Committee to oversee that program in SCE. The Faculty later approved a governance proposal for the MLS program. A fourth Bylaw change involved a redefinition of Faculty contract lengths making a two year period standard. The final Bylaw change involved a redefinition of the Duties of the Continuing Education Committee to encompass both standards and curriculum issues in that school. Representation from the College Standards and Curriculum Committees were also added to that Committee. This Bylaw change was developed by the Continuing Education Committee after the Steering Committee noted problems with a Curriculum Committee proposal to restructure the Standards and Curriculum Committees so that SCE would be better represented. All these Bylaw changes were passed by the Faculty.

The Steering and Curriculum Committees met jointly on October 24, 1986 to consider personnel requests for the 1987-1988 academic year. It was recommended by this group that 16 positions (including replacements for retirements and sabbaticals) requested by the Foreign Language, Math, Economics, Chemistry, and Philosophy/Religion, English, and Education Departments must be funded. A single position for an Africanist was approved for either Environmental Studies, History, or Anthropology. The committees suggested that positions in Business Studies should not be funded until problems of that department could be studied. A new position in Chemistry was not approved. These recommendations were sent to Dean Straumanis for further action.

The Steering committee reviewed the problems of the Business Studies Department over the past four years and decided to recommend receivership to the administration. The administration accepted the recommendation and reported it to the Faculty on November 19, 1986. A study group of Deans, two Faculty, and a single student was established by the administration to investigate possible means of solving some of that Department's problems. The recommendations of that group were not accepted by the Faculty. The Steering Committee then reviewed the matter, held a colloquium, and recommended that a search committee be established to find a new head, the Curriculum Committee establish a task force to review the curriculum of that department, and that the Department remain in receivership until the Steering Committee determined that it could govern itself. This proposal was accepted by the Faculty.

The Steering committee established a task force to review some of the problems associated with the separation of duties for Curriculum and Standards. Twelve problem areas were determined and most have been sent to the appropriate Committees for further study. The Chair of the Faculty believes that one continuing problem area, that of exceptions to academic policies, needs to be looked at more thoroughly next year by the Steering Committee. Perhaps a more complete discussion of the types of cases that go to each committee should be placed in the appropriate handbook. The question of the structure of the Standards Committee may also need further review. Feedback from the Faculty would be helpful in this regard.

The Curriculum Committee had another busy year reporting legislation that established minors in African/Afro-American Studies and Irish Studies, required students to elect a major by the advisement period of the Sophomore year, and disallowed the use of AP credit for distribution requirements. An advisor evaluation form with guidelines for its use, and a resolution establishing a new natural Science (O and P) requirement, a revised exam policy, and a proposal for a Florida School-College Partnership were also approved by the Committee and Faculty. The Curriculum Committee also established a Business Studies curriculum task force and Jack Lane was appointed to the search committee for Business Studies. The Curriculum Committee also spent much time reviewing new courses and reviewing appeals on requirements.

The Faculty Compensation and Professional Development Committee had a banner year with a proposal for a new salary policy, a proposal for distribution of funds for 1987-88 salary increases, and a method of calculating faculty loads. All were passed but a sunset resolution on the loads policy was added by the Faculty.

The Intercollegiate Committee completed a NCAA required study of Athletic Programs at Rollins, worked on a policy on drug testing, and developed a policy on class absences by Athletes. The Chair of the Faculty has requested that the class absence policy be submitted to Steering. A proposal to commend the Men's and Women's Basketball Teams on an exceptional season was written by this committee and approved by the Faculty.

The Standards Committee has been unusually quiet this year. Although I understand that some legislation has been developed it has not reached the Chair of the Faculty at this time. As usual this Committee has put much time in reviewing standards cases.

The Nominating Committee has done its job of providing candidates for committee positions. The 1987-88 Committee roster is attached to this document. Please call any errors to my attention.

The Campus Life Committee was busy with its usual duties of regulating residential life at Rollins. In addition, a proposal on suspension of the KA fraternity was submitted and passed by the Faculty. A new alcohol related event policy was approved that essentially outlaws kegs. Rollins Hall has been designated as a special group house. Next year housing proposals will be examined more carefully. The committee also looked at the renovation plans of Mills to see how it could be made the center of campus life.

Other Committees have not reported to the Chair on their activities so it is assumed that they have performed their assigned duties.

Overall, the governance structure of the College has worked fairly well this year. As noted earlier, I still see problems of overlap between Standards and Curriculum that need to be addressed. The need for representation of the Dean of the Faculty on the Standards Committee is an open one at this moment and I would very much like Faculty recommendations on this matter. As with any system, the people involved in governance make the difference. While I encourage junior faculty to be involved there is also a real need for senior faculty on major committees, particularly in leadership roles. In many ways Rollins is unique in that the Faculty have the power to direct our future course. We do this through governance. I, for one, do not want to give that up to others.