

3-1-2007

## Minutes, Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting, Thursday, March 1, 2007

Arts & Sciences Faculty

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### **3/1/7 Arts and Sciences Faculty Meeting**

**In Attendance:** Agee, S., Aggarwal, V., Anderson, M., Bernal, P., Blossey, E., Boles, B., Bommelje, R., Bouris, E., Brandon, W., Carnahan, S., Carrier, S., Carson, R., Carson, B., Casey, R., Chambliss, J., Cohen, E., Cook, T., Crozier, D., Cummings, D., D'amato, M., Davis, C., Dennis, K., Easton, S., Eck, J., Edge, H., Eng-Wilmot, L., Fetscherin, M., Foglesong, R., Friedland, E., Goj, L., Griffin, D., Hargrove, D., Harper, F., Hewit, S., James, R., Kelly, J., Kovarik, M., Kozel, P., Kypraios, H., Lauer, C., LeRoy, E., Levis, B., Mariotti, S., Mays, D., McConnell, C., Mesavage, M., Miller, J., Moe, A., Moore, B., Moore, T., Musgrave, R., Newcomb, R., Newman, M., Norsworthy, K., Ouellette, T., Ovist, R., Papay, T., Phelan, S., Provost, J., Queen, J., Rogers, D., Royce, E., Rubarth, S., Ruiz, M., Schmalstig, J., Shafe, M., Small, J., Smaw, E., Stephenson, P., Stephenson, B., Stoub, D., Sutherland, K., Svitavsky, B., Taylor, K., Tillmann, L., Valiante, G., Van Sickle, L., Vitray, R., Wellman, D., Yellen, J., Zhang, W.

**2/1/7 amended minutes:** approved

#### **Announcements:**

**I. words in remembrance of Dr. Wally Schmidt:** L. Tillmann

**II. call for governance committee nominations:** T. Cook: AAC: 5 slots (2 divisional, 3 at large); F&S (3 at large); PSC (3 divisional, 1 at large); SL (3 at large). Contact division heads for divisional seats; for at large: nominate or self-nominate to T. Cook. Contact committee chairs for more information on each committee's duties. Faculty presidency and vice presidency will be vacant as well. Vote to be 3/29/7.

**III. reminder to RSVP regarding 3/2/7 faculty party:** T. Cook: food provided, BYOB

**IV. KD fundraiser kickball tournament:** C. McConnell: 3/19-3/21; need faculty team/s

**V. Campus Movie Fest:** R. Casey: 3/1/7 at 7:30 p.m.

**VI. College budget:** R. Casey: budget approved by board for next year. Rollins moving toward 3-year budgeting model. College seeks to build budget around recruiting and retaining best students possible, rather than asking: how many students do we need to make budget?

**VII. \$50,000 gift for community engagement:** R. Casey

**VIII. personnel changes:** R. Casey: D. Lee as Dean of Students. Will be faculty involvement on all upcoming student affairs searches. A. Blumenthal resigning as director of Cornell Fine Arts Museum. Creation of new position in admissions: liaison between admissions and faculty and between admissions and alumni; meeting will be held to discuss relationships between faculty and admissions

**IX. 170 W. Fairbanks project:** R. Casey: communications faculty & career counseling to relocate

**X: plan to respond to avian flu:** H. Edge: CDC estimates 98% probability of outbreak in U.S. Rollins' plan likely will involve ~6 interdisciplinary courses that faculty could deliver on-line; faculty participating in course development would receive stipends

**XI: community engagement opportunities:** E. Smaw: students of Amnesty International launching letter writing campaign to protest infringements on freedom of press; Philosophy Club soliciting volunteers for Relay for Life dunk tank

**XII. Cornell/Dean's Scholarships:** D. Wellman: 54 of 70 Cornell invitees coming to campus; dean's scholarship (next tier): inviting 60 students 3/25-3/26/7. Will undergo 1 faculty interview and will sit in on Monday morning classes; contact D. Wellman if you'd be willing to have students visit your Monday class between 9 and 12.

**XIII: 2007 RCC:** D. Wellman: still 7 faculty short. Revised structure has reduced faculty commitment on Friday afternoons from every week to 4 throughout the semester. There also are now opportunities to teach outside the usual MWF 9-9:50 RCC time slot and to teach in the renovated Ward Hall. Contact D. Wellman or H. Edge if you are teaching a 100-level course that could be adapted to an RCC or if department demands are precluding you from teaching RCC.

## **Old Business:**

### **I. Proposed revisions to Honors Program**

B. Levis: HP supervisory board met. Based on dean's scholarship program, moves to withdraw proposal to reduce HP size from 45 to 30 students. Board still seeks to maximize interdisciplinarity. Courses preferably would be team-taught, cross-divisional; second most preferable would be team-taught, intradivisional; third most preferable would be interdisciplinary courses taught by single faculty member. Proposed model would require a course from 3 more faculty per year than current model—small investment in some of our best students.

J. Kelly (HP student who has experienced both old model and proposed model): arrived at Rollins hearing (from, e.g., L. Duncan) about the importance of interdisciplinarity; came to think of this as school's "hook" to standout students; team-taught course with L. VanSickle and J. Jones is more congruent with interdisciplinary studies

J. Yellen (member of both AAC and HP Supervisory Board): revised system gives students choice of team-taught courses (rather than a "choice" between multiple sections of same course), encourages more cross-disciplinary faculty collaboration. Must consider potential benefit to entire college, not just HP. HP courses could serve as pilots for non-honors interdisciplinary courses, each HP faculty member having become competent to teach cross-disciplinary material.

B. Carson: What happens to class sizes? B. Levis: caps raised to 22-23.

R. Casey: protocol for new dean's scholars will mean that nearly everyone admitted to the HP will have been interviewed (rather than admitted simply on numeric data).

H. Edge: need to expand our notion of interdisciplinarity beyond team-teaching.

Question called; HP revisions approved unanimously.

### **New Business:**

**I. Update from 4Cs committee:** D. Mays: need to establish common vocabulary regarding curricular reform; committee will seek feedback from faculty on preferred models.

Overviewed:

1. curricular frameworks (structures) e.g., a) distribution requirement (lacks common core knowledge v. easy to schedule); b) core requirements (e.g., "great books"); c) thematically focused (more choices, tends to involve linked classes, difficult to schedule); d) hourglass (gen. ed. in first and last years)
2. curriculum features (programs or activities tacked onto curricular framework; e.g., study abroad, HP); research suggests that only a few features can be tacked on successfully; ideal: to integrate features into curricular framework
3. potential models: e.g., Wagner College: distribution model featuring learning communities, linked courses, service learning; Evergreen College: no majors, narrative grades; students select semester "programs" taught by 2-4 professors

Faculty survey results: most in favor of curricular overhaul (v. tweaking current model); overwhelming majority willing to team-teach and to teach linked course

For more information, see documents distributed prior to meeting.

### **Decision:**

HP revisions approved.