

12-2-2014

## Minutes, Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee Meeting, Thursday, December 2, 2014

Arts & Sciences Academic Affairs Committee

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**Academic Affairs Committee  
Minutes - December 2, 2014**

**Attendance:**

Jill Jones, Vidhu Aggarwal, Greg Cavanaugh, Jennifer Cavanaugh, Gloria Cook, Phil Deaver, Phillip Denizaro, Emmanuel Kodzi, Chris McManus, Holly Pohlig, Steven St. John, Lexi Tomkunas, Anca Voicu, Jonathan Walz

Call to order (12:34pm)

I Approval of Minutes from Nov 18, 2014:  
Motion - Kodzi; 2<sup>nd</sup> - G. Cavanaugh (unanimous approval)

II Sub-Committee Announcements and Reports:  
None

III Old Business:  
**INB/BSE - All Faculty Committee Update**  
Jones reported that she passed along the request to have the All Faculty Curriculum Committee convened. It was not convened. Jones then attempted to put a vote on the EC agenda to request that the All Faculty Curriculum Committee be convened. The issue was not put on the EC Agenda. Jones believes that the issue will not be put on the EC Agenda and that the All Faculty Committee will not be convened.

IV. New Business:  
1. **Proposed Changes to the Professional Writing Minor and to the Creative Writing Minor** (English)  
Aggarwal: Described the proposed changes to the Professional Writing Minor and to the Creative Writing Minor. With support from English faculty, the Department proposes that, for the Creative Writing Minor, the required colloquium course (ENG 475) be dropped and a developmental course (ENG 267) replace it. With support from English faculty, the Department further proposes that, for the Professional Writing Minor, the required ENG 276 course be dropped as a requirement and that a non-course, portfolio requirement be introduced as a requirement. The loss of a key faculty member (T. Papay) to retirement makes it difficult for the English Department to teach the required courses as they stand.

Kodzi: Is the rationale for the changes a result of the loss of faculty only?

Aggarwal/Deaver/Jones: No. It is a factor, but the primary rationale is that the proposed changes meet students' developmental needs better than the established minor maps.

McManus: Will the students receive guidance from the Department about assembling their portfolios, given that this is a non-course requirement?

Deaver: Yes. The Department communicates with students about this and educates them on portfolio content and assembly.

Motion to endorse the proposal for changes to the noted Psychology courses with labs: Motion - G. Cavanaugh; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Deaver (unanimous approval).

## **2. Proposed Changes to Psychology Courses with Labs**

St. John: Described the proposed changes to Psychology courses with lab components (PSY 250, PSY 255, PSY 314, PSY 322, PSY 326, and PSY 341). With unanimous support from Psychology faculty, the Department proposes to reformat these 6-hour courses (combined lecture and lab) to mimic PSY 328/PSY 238L. For PSY 328, students register for a 4-credit lecture course and a separate 2-credit lab (PSY 328L). The proposed option offers more scheduling flexibility for lecture and labs. It further offers students the option to retake only the lecture or lab, if they should fail one. Moreover, a transfer student – who might not have taken a lab with their base Psychology course at the previous home institution (as required by Rollins) – also would now have the option to take labs (as separate from their previous institution's lectures) to fulfill the Department's course transfer requirements.

Walz: Is there a concern that students may take the lecture and lab in different semesters and, thus, may disconnect the content or lack preparedness (since the courses might not be taken simultaneously)?

St. John: The Department expects that a minority of students would do this and we do not expect a substantial impact. Students would be advised to be alert to the disconnection. Furthermore, students would be advised to enroll in the lecture first and lab second if the courses were taken in different semesters.

G. Cavanaugh / McManus: Will the lecture and lab be taught by different instructors (for the same student), and is this a concern? Will this arrangement disrupt the dynamic of students who usually work together in the same lecture and lab?

St. John: This is a possibility, but unlikely. The Department does not expect this to be a substantial concern.

Cook: The Music Department employs this same arrangement of lecture and tutorial and it works wonderfully.

Motion to endorse the proposal for changes to the noted Psychology courses with labs: Motion - Cook; 2<sup>nd</sup> - Kodzi (unanimous approval).

Adjourn (12:57pm)