

ARTS AND SCIENCES CHAIRS' MEETING MINUTES

3/5/07

Members Present: M. Prus, K. Alwes, S. Asumah, C. Cirimo, L. Ellis, L. Gatto, S. Gutman, N. Helsper, R. Kendrick, M. King, B. Mattingly, D. Miller, J. O'Callaghan, T. Pasquarello, T. Phillips, K. Russell, S. Steadman, H. Steck, P. van der Veur, R. Wheeler, K. Zimmerman, A. Zipp

Announcements

There are three requests in place for graduate assistants. The deadline is Friday, March 9, 2007. Typically four are awarded to Arts and Sciences. This year, a total of five are expected.

Special final exam requests are due on March 12, 2007.

Mid-semester estimates are due soon -- deadline during Spring Break.

Women's History Month schedule is now out. Contact K. Russell or the MGS office for more information.

Laurie Goodstein, a New York Times reporter, will speak on Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 7:30 pm on the topic of Religion as a part of the Fundamentally Speaking series.

A delegation from the Ukraine is coming to campus soon. They are interested in our special education programs. See H. Steck for details.

Ghana Independence Day today – a new exchange program with the University of Ghana is in place. See Seth Asumah for details.

Scholars' Day program draft has been sent out.

Associate Dean's Report

Concentration Definition

A memo sent by the Provost in 2004 defined a concentration, among other program elements. There has been some confusion about the application of that definition -- recently in the College Curriculum committee. EPC will be meeting on March 20, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. to discuss/clarify what the policy means. Chairs council volunteers are needed to attend the meeting. Clarity needed regarding programs that match (or not) the criteria, e.g. GRY has a 9 hour concentration and thought it had been "grandfathered" in.

Facilities

Sperry – Plan on it being open for fall 07.

Construction on the Education Building is scheduled to begin this summer, including the demolition of the "A" wing. Some steam line work needs to be completed first. The ASAP office will relocate to four classrooms on the third floor of Van Hoesen. The new building should be ready for occupancy in January 2009.

Moffett planning is at a stand still. The program study has not been completed. A design team has not been chosen yet and won't be for at least two months.

Still waiting on word re Call For Alterations list: \$173,000 in projects under review by President's Cabinet -- approval likely for all.

Curriculum

The college is proceeding with the implementation of the new GE program – if advisors see problems, let Associate Dean O'Callaghan know.

Budget

The recent report indicating that \$15 million will be available for Studio West renovation is inaccurate. The Studio West renovation will be funded by \$12 million and \$3 million will be available for other projects.

Full-time Lectureships

There were eight requests made to Dean Prus -- he approved seven of the eight. Approving all eight would have put the school over the 20% cap on full-time lecturers. None of the seven requests were approved by President's Council -- they await more action by the legislature on the budget.

Personnel

Searches

Two offers have been made in the Math Department.

Three candidates have been interviewed in the Economics Department.

Two candidates have been interviewed in the Geography Department and a decision is expected by Wednesday.

The search conducted by the History Department has failed. The Department voted not to make an offer.

One candidate for a position in the Communication Studies Department is on campus today and a decision is expected by the Department on Tuesday.

There were two candidates for a position in the English Department. However, the search was cancelled when one withdrew, procedural difficulties were apparent too.

It is important that departments follow established procedures in conducting a search.

Strategic Plan

Highlights of the Provost's Strategic Plan -- distributed by Dean Prus

Discussion of the plan included many comments about where the priorities should be.

Regarding Goal 6 – sub goals one and seven are in doubt.

Goal of Enhancing Academic Excellence is the central area regarding hiring more faculty. Widespread agreement that more full-time faculty are needed and that priority should be more evident in the Strategic Plan. To be serious about strategic planning– we need to be strategic, not opportunistic, and mesh with the President's list of goals.

“Homework assignment” for the chairs – Rewrite the sub-goals so that there are three or four per goal and then rank order them. In the meantime Dean Prus will distribute an abbreviated Academic Affairs Strategic Plan and a copy of the President's key priorities list.

Deadline for Department Strategic Plans – ASAP to Dean Prus.

Topic: Resolution regarding external review

Dean Prus thinks it is not in the best interest of the Arts and Sciences Chairs to send the resolution proposed by R. Kendrick. Discussion continued on various pros and cons of approaching the issue via the Kendrick resolution. One possible option is to invite the President to a meeting to discuss this topic. Union issue is lurking in this too.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerome O'Callaghan
Associate Dean