

ARTS AND SCIENCES CHAIRS' COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

5/1/06

Members Present: K. Alwes, M. Anderson, S. Asumah, L. Gatto, S. Gutman, N. Helsper, D. Hollenback, R. Kendrick, B. Mattingly, C. McRoberts, D. Miller, A. Mooney, M. Nagel, J. O'Callaghan, T. Pasquarello, T. Phillips, D. Wheeler, K. Zimmerman, A. Zipp, M. Prus

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Photographer Henrikson's talk is tonight.
- Clayton Alcorn passed away last week.
- Student Art Exhibit – 5/10/06, reception from 5 – 8 p.m.
- Candidates for OIP position – visits begin today.
- One Act Plays will begin this weekend.

Associate Dean's Report

- Course Substitution Forms -- Do not give these forms to students to fill out. The reason for the substitution should focus on department curricular goals.
- Please stick to deadlines for final grades.

Quick Updates

- Facilities
Old Main windows – there is a problem of timing. Replacement will start in Summer 06. They will be installing used windows rather than new ones.
- Personnel
Eight of 12 openings have been filled. One or two offers are still out.
- Curriculum
See below.
- Budget
There is surplus of over \$1 million. The savings are the result of SUNY's action regarding energy costs.
State Budget – Funds for Bowers may yet be impounded.
The Provost has asked to submit requests for additional faculty.

Issues

- Student Teaching Supervision

Chairs expressed concern that there seems to have been a change in policy. Three student teachers per supervisor appeared to be the old rule, and now it is five student teachers per semester (i.e. 10 placements per year). Five placements per quarter seem unrealistic.

Heavier loads may have a negative effect on scholarship/research. The Provost's "exceptional" cases are in fact the norm. This was first proposed three years ago and creates inequity within the departments. A critical element in this change is traveling time for supervisors. There was no communication with program coordinators prior to the Provost's change in policy. Her memo was not sent to program coordinators. The time problem is difficult for adjunct and for full-time faculty.

A motion was made and seconded asking the Provost to reconsider the decision and meet with adolescent education supervisors, affected chairs and dean to discuss the policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

- GE Restructuring (GE7)

D. Miller has stated that he cannot support the proposal to restructure the Cortland General Education Program. He specifically objects to the changes in GE 7 category. He thinks that the catalog is being distorted for expediency's sake. The rationale of the "bottleneck" is not good enough. The values element is important in GE7, but not to the extent that appears in the restructured program. There is no reason to change GE7. Values should be dedicated to a lower place in the current proposal. One debate is over how overriding the resource rationale is. The primary rationale, according to M. Prus, is curricular. Another debate takes into account substance/effect of changes.

The "Concerned Teaching Faculty" want a forum before the referendum is presented at a Faculty Senate meeting. It is not clear if the referendum will occur in May.

The Biology department is concerned about the GE 8B category. The category has been opened too far. It is not clear what the changes are.

A motion was made and seconded to request that the GE Committee do a side by side comparison of the new and existing GE programs. The motion was unanimously approved by the Council.

- EPC -- withdrawal deadline

The withdrawal from courses policy is not being revisited by the EPC. There is concern about the wasting of resources that is encouraged by the new policy. Council members were in general agreement that this is an important issue. The discussion has been postponed until the Associate Dean receives data from the Registrar's office on the volume of withdrawal slips.

- EPC Proposal -- streamlined process for deleting courses from the catalog

Some Chairs found that this isn't a problem. However, others think that the justification for retaining a rarely offered course will be minimal -- the policy needs to be clarified on that issue. The question of how other departments will know of these catalog deletions is important.

- Evaluation of Portfolios for Composition
Postponed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerome O'Callaghan