

Arts and Sciences Chairs' Council Meeting Minutes March 28, 2011

Present: Bruce Mattingly, Scott Anderson, Seth Asumah, Peter Ducey, Lori Ellis, Christopher Gascon, Isa Jubran, Matthew Lessig, David Neal, Jerome O'Callaghan, Judith Ouellette, Kathryn Russell, William Skipper, Brice Smith, Sharon Steadman, Randi Storch, Paul van der Veur, German Zarate.

Absent: Robert Darling, Gregory Phelan

Associate Dean's Report:

DDP opportunities - our dual diploma program partners at Anadolu University (and at Izmir University) are interested in developing the relationship. Getting U.S. students or faculty to Turkey is important. Contact Jerry O'Callaghan or Mary Schlarb.

Personnel:

PWR: the search is complete.

AEN: one offer declined, all others have a job.

MAT: the tenure track search was successful. The forty-seven applications for the full time lecturer position is now reduced to twelve.

BIO: one hire is in place.

HIS: African History and Medievalist are both hired.

GRY: one hire is in place.

MDL: Second Language Educator was hired: Codruta Temple. Miriam Benincore was hired as a full time lecturer.

CHE: an offer was made.

So far, 10/12 searches in Arts and Sciences are successful.

Facilities:

Bowers and Dowd

FMPOC meeting estimated nine trailers would be needed in Fall 2012.

A rough estimate is since eighteen classes were at 8:00 a.m. on M,W, F in fall 2010; there would be twenty-seven classes at 8:00 a.m. on M, W, F for fall 2011.

Judith Ouellette: M,W,F classes in Education and Professional Studies are fewer than you expect. The flattening problem is a campus problem, not Arts & Sciences.

Are there more Monday, Wednesday seventy-five minute classes in the morning in Education?

Budget:

Progress has been made in the state budget. The SUNY budget is not yet clear.

Curriculum:

Amy Berg request regarding SLN (SUNY Learning Network) listing of summer. Opt out mechanism, default to listing our courses in SLN. Instructions are in place for de-listing. The deadline has passed, but the connection to SUNY won't happen until later this week.

Classes opting out of SLN listing may be an issue needing attention.

Remember the guaranteed summer offerings policy. Not well promoted on campus. Please share this with advisors and get the word out.

SUNY Course Redesign Initiative never caught on here. See the handout regarding the meeting at Buffalo State on Course Redesign. Note: this is about reducing instructional costs. There is lots of pressure on us to do that.

Note the interest in increasing class size and improving student performance.

- What does that really mean? It's worth investigating. Deans and two chairs or two faculty should attend. The Provost will support travel cost.

Scott Anderson: will the student to faculty ratio worsen? The quality of the experience matters.

Randi Storch: this was proposed before under Provost Sharp. It's not clear that ULA's will be good for student writing.

Peter Ducey: There is a lot of literature in Biology on teaching Introduction to Biology classes. I need to see that first.

Robert Spitzer: Political Science has some interest in developing a Undergraduate Learning Assistantship model; freshmen and GE focus.

By the way, Arts & Sciences will have four graduate assistantships this year.

Kathy Russell: I wish we could collaborate with the union and administration to resist these pressures.

Scott Anderson: our current ratio keeps us special.

Bruce Mattingly: don't forget Provost EDR had pushed for smaller intro sections.

Seth: that's all tied to the budget and the budget process. Who controls the process?

Assessment and Accreditation:

- a) NCATE: delighted to learn that the NCATE oral report was good. We passed all six standards in undergraduate and advanced programs. There will be, per usual, areas of improvement identified.

The final notification by NCATE will be in the fall.

Don't expect any changes to the annual report.

- b) Middle States Self Study Document: drafts are being written now. Summer editing. Open for last review in the fall. Submit to M.S. in December 2011. Seth Asumah: looking for any input on diversity.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements:

- a) Advising during summer orientation; the volunteers' deadline is March 28th. Abby wants to have more advisors on hand with transfer students; reducing the ratio.
- b) Scholar's Day Committee: open meetings coming up soon. March 31 at 3:00 p.m. and April 1 at 1:00 p.m. General discussion about options. If you can't attend, email Bruce.
- c) Graduate Assistant requirement deadline is now.
April 8, the Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee nomination is due to the dean.
May 2, Conflict Resolution Workshop 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Summer Institute – Infusing Diversity, May 23-25th, 2011.