

Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Council Meeting Minutes 10-18-10

In Attendance:

Robert Martin, College of Agriculture and Life Science
Lee Burras, Chair, Academic Standards and Admissions
Vlastislav Bracha – College of Veterinary Medicine
Michael Clough – College of Human Science
Sanjeev Agarwal – College of Business
Brad Dell – College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Suzanne Hendrich – Council Chair
Greg Luecke - College of Engineering

- I. Minutes from October 11 were reviewed. Martin moved to approve them. Clough seconded. They were unanimously approved.
- II. Curriculum Committee Report.
 - a. Kinesiology has proposed 3 minors (Minor in Kinesiology, Minor in Health Promotion, Minor in Exercise Science). Hendrich reminded the council that minors with the same name as existing majors do not need approval beyond the department. Thus, the minor in kinesiology does not need to be approved by this council or any further groups. The minors in Exercise Science and Health Promotion are new names and thus, need to be approved by the Faculty Senate. Hendrich assumed that there is support from the College of Human Sciences for the Health Promotion Minor. Dell suggested that written documentation from the College of Human Sciences for the Health Promotion minor should be included in the proposal. Clough raised concerns, but not objections, to the rationale for all three minors. Burras assured that approval of these minors was not immediately time sensitive. Hendrich suggested that this would be tabled until the next meeting. Hendrich said she will ask the Department of Kinesiology for documentation of approval at all levels, as well as clearer reasoning for the creation of these minors. Burras indicated that he would bring up at the next FSCC meeting our request that program proposals include written documentation of all previous levels of approval.
- III. Academic Standards and Admissions
 - a. Hendrich alerted the council of the minutes from the last Academic Standards and Admissions meeting, which states the mission of that group.
 - b. Hendrich will present to the Exec. Board that we propose having a presentation to the faculty senate about the RAI.
- IV. Old Business
 - a. Agarwal proposed making a change in the faculty handbook stating that faculty “must” accommodate students who miss class for officially sanctioned ISU conferences, athletic events or other functions. Dell, Martin, Martin, Luecke, Bracha, and Hendrich questioned why we should

make the change if there have been no problems with the current policy. Agarwal indicated that this concern was brought to him by the Athletic Department's rep to the Faculty Senate. Hendrich suggested that we not pursue this change at this time. A majority of the council agreed.

- b. Agarwal proposed that students should not be required to get the professor's signature to drop a class. Discussion ensued about this. Hendrich indicated that the broader issue was the elimination of the paper process for adding/dropping of courses, so that it was all electronic. This will be discussed further.
- c. All other proposed items will be considered further at the next meeting.

V. New Business

- a. Agarwal raised concerns about faculty conduct policy in the classroom. He gave some examples, like instructors canceling classes without proper cause and discussing strong political views when it is not related to the course. Discussions ensued. Agarwal clarified that he meant a clearer adherence to "professional behavior" that does not make fun of anyone or utilize derogatory language. Hendrich asked Agarwal to look into the current policy to see if it needs to be changed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58

Submitted by Brad Dell