

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
February 5, 2007

Jorge Nobo, chair, convened the Academic Affairs Committee at 3:30 pm in the Boswell Room of the Memorial Union. Members present were: Pat Munzer, David Pownell, Bill Roach, Steven Elisha, Patricia Renn-Scanlan, Shaun Schmidt, and Loran Smith.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 4, 2006 meeting were previously approved by e-mail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jane Carpenter announced that because of a conflict she would be unable to attend AAC or Faculty Senate meetings this semester.

AGENDA 1 - Institutional Research Data about PE 198

Dr. Nobo distributed information regarding the distribution of grades in PE 198. For the 2005-2006 academic year, 1656 students enrolled in the course. About 1.1% enrolled in the course on an A-P/F basis and 21% of those students earned an "A" grade. The withdrawal/drop rate for students taking the course A-P/F was higher than the rate for those taking the course for a grade (37% to 25%) The failure rate was also higher for those who took the course A-P/F (16% to 8%). The statistics are somewhat misleading because of the 1656 students, only 19 took the course A-P/F.

The committee had an informal discussion about what feedback we had heard or learned so far about the proposals that we sent out to the constituent units.

AGENDA 2 - Proposed Policy Statement: Course Numbering, Prerequisites, and Intended Audience.

Dr. Nobo distributed this document which he had received from the VPAA's Office. It was approved by the College Faculty Council on December 6, 2006. Items 1-4 of the document were proposed as University standards while item 5 only applied to CAS.

Smith moved to send the document to the schools for their review, comments, suggestions, and possible changes before

taking up the matter in the Committee. The motion was passed.

AGENDA 3 - Visit of Dan Royer - February 19, 2007

Dr. Dan Royer will visit Washburn on February 19th. The schedule has him giving a presentation to faculty at 1:30 on the directed self-placement idea and then a second session with faculty on writing in English classes.

At 3:30 pm, he will meet with the Academic Affairs Committee.

There was consensus that publicity about his visit was essential. Dr. Nobo would see if information fliers could be produced and distributed to faculty. It was also urged that Dr. Royer's presentations be videotaped (with his permission) by Washburn staff so those faculty unable to attend the presentations could see the tapes in the library.

AGENDA 4 - Housekeeping Items

- A. Committee may have incorrectly interpreted the Nursing comments about the math preparation of its students.
- B. Briefly discussed the Math University Requirements. No suggestions were made at this point. The Committee would prefer to deal with all three University Requirements at the same time.
- C. Briefly discussed the need to insure that quality adjuncts be hired and then mentored to provide uniformity in presenting our courses.
- D. Committee was alerted to the possibility that a technology requirement (essentially computer competence) is being proposed as another University Requirement.

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 2007 at 3:30 pm in Boswell Room.
Dr. Dan Royer will be visit with Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: 4:40 pm