

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
April 16, 2007

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

The committee used the meeting to develop and vote on recommendations to send to the faculty senate.

Motion 1, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the university-wide mathematics requirement (MA 110 or MA 116) be retained. The AAC affirms and supports the efforts of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics to teach the university mathematics requirement by providing placement exams, common texts used by faculty, common final exams, and a common grading of those exams with a common minimum standard for passing the course. These requirements represent a positive evolution of the current standards.

Motion 2, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the university-wide physical education requirement (PE 198) be retained. The AAC affirms and supports the efforts of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Exercise Science in maintaining common assignments, texts, criteria, and objectives in the course.

Motion 3, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that a grade of C or better be required to pass PE 198, thereby removing the A-Pass/Fail option.

Motion 4, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the university-wide English requirement (EN 101 or EN 300) be retained along with the reinstatement of EN 100 with guided self-placement. The AAC supports the efforts of the Department of English towards common assignments, texts, criteria, and objectives in the course.

The AAC notes that the following two motions were voted on and past in previous meetings.

1. Dr. Faulkner be requested to provide a report to the Academic Affairs Committee at its first meeting in the Fall on the progress, success, and areas of needed improvement of the Guided Self-Placement Program during its initial implementation.
2. The Academic Affairs Committee is supportive of the idea of norming the evaluation of expository writing.

Motion 5, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee highly recommends that information on general education should be part of the new faculty orientation as well as in ongoing faculty advising.

Motion 6, passed 7-0

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that adjuncts teaching university requirements be well qualified and mentored to provide uniformity in teaching and grading in those courses.

Motion 7, passed 6-1

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the 100-level university requirements be completed within the first 45 hours or students will be required to enroll in those courses before being able to continue enrolling in other courses.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40.

Respectfully submitted by David Pownell