

Curricular Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes for April 27, 2016, 1-2:00 pm

Present: Ken Abramowicz, Casey Byrne, Jennie Carroll, Alex Fitts, Claire Gelvin-Smith; Doug Goering, Cathy Hanks; Cindy Hardy, Eileen Harney, Jayne Harvie, Joan Hornig, Rainer Newberry, Patrick Plattet, Holly Sherouse

Absent: Mike Earnest, Ginny Kinne, Jenny Liu, Lisa Lunn, Caty Oehring

1. Approval/Amendment of Agenda

The agenda was adopted with the addition of a new business item (b. – math requirement for the BS degree) which Holly S. brought before the committee with a handout; and, an old business item (c. – Athletics item from Ken A.).

2. Approval of minutes

- a. Draft minutes for 03/30/2016 were approved as submitted.
- b. Draft minutes for 04/13/2016 were approved as submitted.

3. Old Business

- a. Motion to approve new Minor in Sustainable Agriculture

Rainer explained the need to put the motion through Faculty Senate in order to have it go into effect in the fall of 2016. Holly noted the Registrar's Office could accommodate this need on a one-time-only basis since this particular year the Catalog is still under construction. (Normally it would be too late for the Catalog.) The motion language was revised slightly and then approved by the committee for forwarding to the Senate. Ken A. abstained from the vote to approve the motion.

- b. Motion to approve change to Grade Appeals Policy

Jennie reported that the Administrative Committee had approved the motion. With extensive discussion, language of the motion was further revised by the committee simply for clarity at III.B.; III.B.1.d.; III.B.4.d.; III.B.5.c. The committee approved the motion (as revised) to go forward to Senate with the language clarifications. It was also agreed to have Dean Paul Layer, Amber Cagwin, and Orion Lawlor review it one last time before adding to the Senate agenda.

- c. Handout and comment from Ken A. regarding Athletics.

Ken shared a Sept. 3, 2015 memo by the hockey coach which documented the week-long section of classes missed by students from Oct. 26th - 30th for a Friday / Saturday game schedule, followed shortly after by another 11-day absence in November (the 11th – 20th). The memo date documented that the lengthy absences were planned well in advance, contradicting what he had heard last week from the Athletics guests. Ken will follow up and share this information with Director Gray and Dani Sheppard.

Jennie will make a request for electronic communications to be used by Athletics, since faculty sign these paper forms for students and then do not see them again – having no chance to make copies for their records. Electronic distribution would aid faculty in keeping records of what

they've signed for the student athletes and help them remain aware of potentially lengthy absences from class.

4. New Business

a. Draft annual report

Jennie shared a first-draft of the committee's year-end report, listing motions the CAC formulated, reviewed and passed along with important discussion items that were addressed. Issues continuing to the next academic year were included. She planned to add more detail about the extra subcommittee work that took place on the GERS and the grade appeals policy.

Rainer made a motion to authorize Jennie C. as committee chair to act on behalf of the committee over the summer break. He expects there will be a significant possibility of interesting administrative actions taking place this summer concerning the budget crisis. The motion was seconded and approved by the committee. Ken noted he would like to see opportunities for feedback from the committee members to be provided, however, when possible.

b. Baccalaureate Core – Math requirements for BS degree

Holly proposed editorial language clarifications for the Catalog concerning the mathematics requirements for the baccalaureate core and the BS degree. Current language is confusing because it's not clear about the difference between what is required by the baccalaureate core vs. the BS degree requirements (which are in addition to the core) concerning mathematics. CAC agreed the proposed catalog language changes were an improvement and would aid the students and their advisors in understanding the Math requirements for BS degrees.

The meeting was adjourned at approx. 2:15 PM.