

Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

March 27, 2007

Present:

Susan Colgate
Meg Cooper
Muriel Cormican
Ros Duplechain
Charles Hodges

Perry Kirk
Scot Lingrell
Debra MacComb
Katherine Moffeit

Mary Jane Rootes
Bonnie Stevens
Julie Talbot
Julie Wieczkowski

Others: Denise Overfield, Academic Affairs; Lynne Gaskin, College of Education

Agenda Item # 1 – Call to order of and approval of minutes: Kathy Moffeit opened the AP & P meeting and asked for approval of the February 20, 2007 minutes. Debra MacComb made a motion to approve, Scot Lingrell seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Agenda Item #2 – Information about the First Year Program: A revised proposal was distributed, with the major change being encouragement of students to participate (as opposed to setting up a requirement). We are sending forward our previous approval of the concept of the first year program.

Agenda Item #3 – Student Evaluation Forms – Report from members: Several committee members shared information coming out of their discussions with faculty concerning the set of draft questions. Some specific comments were provided to Denise Overfield who collected those to take to Michael Aldrich and Micheal Crafton; a revision of the current draft will be brought back to AP&P. There was some discussion of how the self-assessment section should or could be used. That set of items might be used to yield a single score that could be correlated with other cells. Departments also might use this section to obtain useful information. Several AP&P members reported that faculty liked the idea of having students complete the evaluation on line and have to do so before accessing their grades.

Agenda Item #4 – Proposed 2008-2009 calendar (Bonnie Stevens):

Fall, 2008: The SGA had proposed an alternative schedule and the committee considered an “SGA option” and an “AP&P option.” The “SGA option” was approved (M-Hodges, S-Wieczkowski; 10 for, 1 against, 1 abstention).

Spring and Summer, 2009: There was some discussion of the fact that a committee addressing summer concerns won't meet until Fall, 2007; the calendar that has to be submitted next month will be published, although there may be an option to modify it later. The calendars presented for these two terms were approved (M-Duplechain, S-Cormican; 11 for, 0 against, 1 abstention).

Agenda Item # 5 – Wording of policy on class absences while “officially representing the University”: A copy of this section of the undergraduate Catalog was distributed. A number of issues were brought up concerning problematic wording of this policy, as well as the nature of the policy itself and some concerns about other aspects of catalog information on absences. For example: “should not” versus “will not,” the need to expect students who will miss class

regularly for activities to register for classes fitting their schedule (reserving this policy for last minute activities), who or what activities are covered, expectations by students that faculty should drop them, There also was discussion of some of the options for rewording. A subcommittee was formed (Duplechain, Hodges, MacComb) to address these issues; they will contact the SGA to seek student representation and maybe ask Jeff King in Athletics, who is familiar with some of the ramifications, to participate.

Next meeting – April 10th at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Cooper