A&S Council minutes
October 2, 2013 – Medbury Honors Lounge

Present: Dave Courard-Hauri, Leah Kalmanson, Marc Busch, Steven Lancaster, Karen Leroux, Karla Kash, Tom Sletto, Michael Haedicke, Chinh Dao, Amy O’Shaughnessy, Ben Lambrecht, Martin Roth, Joseph Schneider, Tim Knepper, Joe Lenz, Jeff Karnicky

Dave called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed new members.

Minutes from Council meeting 4/24/13 are approved.

Dean’s Report:
This year Drake had 855 first-year students; next year’s first-year student enrollment aim is 900. If nothing changes (revenue or student numbers), Drake will be operating at a loss by FY16-17. The financial impact of 40 students is a little under a million dollars. This increase in numbers is not likely to impact plans to go to a 2-3 load.

Searches underway: math, English, graphic design (2), politics

The college has submitted budget requests for the next fiscal year—previously done in February or March. By January, the budget will be approved by the Board of Trustees.

Joe will be scheduling open office hours around the college in the coming weeks.

Two weeks ago Joe met with the national advisory council. Members were acquainted with experiential learning opportunities in the college, and discussed building connections between students and alumni (internships, career development, mock interviews, resume critiquing etc.)

The Board of Trustees is on campus this Thursday-Friday; Joe will presentation re: science building renovation.

Chair’s Report:
Change in meeting from end to beginning of month will accommodate Faculty Senate schedule.

Printed agendas will not be provided—please bring for yourself if necessary.

Curriculum:
Like last year, the council chair will assign courses to small groups of faculty so members need not review all proposals. The Council is looking at these proposals with the knowledge that the curriculum committee has vetted the courses and recommends approval.

New Courses Approved:
ASL 070  Deaf Culture
BIO 21/PHY 21  Intro to BioPhysics
BIO 111  Evolved Foodways
REL 114  Religions of Des Moines
SCSR 055  Environmental Communication / Service-Learning 1-hour lab with community partner

Course Changes Approved:
CS 160  Operating Systems
POL 184  Philosophical Foundations of Marxism
SCSS/ENSP 071  Environmental Movements
SCSR 128  Argumentation & Advocacy

Approval of A&S Strategic Plan
- 1.3·a clarification: meant to recognize and reward adjuncts who teach on a consistent basis, instead of by credit hour, compensate based upon, say, 1/3 of a full-time load and match that to 1/3 of an instructor’s salary. Opens possibilities for benefits; likely more for continuing appointments, teaching important course for a program, helps to retain that individual.
- 1.3·b clarification: some summer salaries are higher than the j-term cap, some j-term scenarios are more advantageous. In May, some faculty take no salary so their travel seminar can run; we want to find a way to allow faculty to take compensation without bumping up the cost of the trips. May travel is suffering in this situation; Int’l programs has put in a request next year to allow faculty doing May term to be paid similarly to J-Term. Right now, May term classes operate as “break-evens”—so equalizing pay means that they would operate at a loss.

The strategic plan is unanimously approved with two friendly amendments:
I.3.c. — change “the problem of” to “achieve.”

I.4.a. — “maximize” sounds a little ‘muscle-y;’ replace with optimize.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.