

Arts & Sciences Council Minutes February 27, 2008

- Call to order at 3:30 p.m. Members in attendance: Bohorquez, Brown, Cairns, DeLaet, Nelson, Roth, Saylor, Sleister, Smith, Urness, Wirth-Cauchon; Visitors: Dean Lenz, Associate Dean Summerville
- Minutes for the January 30, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.
- Council chair's report:
 - Cabinet discussed the idea of appointing a task force to revise the structure and procedures for promotion and tenure (*e.g.*, guidelines for submitting materials, process of serving on the committee, incentives for serving on the committee). Dean Lenz commented that a general discussion of this topic can start after this year's committee is finished.
- Dean's report:
 - Faculty are encouraged to participate in the A&S Dean search by attending upcoming faculty sessions.
 - Retention of first-year students is very good. 924 students began in the fall semester. Only three students left during the fall semester, and an additional 44 students left between semesters. Dean Lenz commented that this low attrition rate is, in part, due to efforts of faculty and others preparing for and working with the students.
- There was no unfinished business.
- New business:
 - Summerville explained the history of the BIO098 course and mentioned its importance in the formation of a future primatology concentration. The Curriculum Committee's recommendation to approve courses BIO098 and BIO134/134L was approved (moved by Wirth-Cauchon, seconded by Bohorquez, approved unanimously).
 - Following a brief discussion of the need for divisional representation on the Technology Planning Committee, the proposed revisions to the constitution of the Technology Planning Committee were approved unanimously.
 - Revision to the Academic Integrity hearings and appeals process was discussed. The revision would allow the Dean to appoint a special Academic Integrity Committee to consider cases during the summer under extraordinary circumstances. The composition of this committee could differ from that of the standing committee. The revisions were approved (moved by Saylor, seconded by Smith, approved unanimously).
 - Cairns questioned the status of the college strategic plan. Dean Lenz indicated the need to revisit the college plan following completion of the university strategic plan.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Heidi Sleister