

Arts and Sciences Council
March 23, 2011 Meeting Minutes
Olmsted – Drake Room

In attendance: Keith Summerville (associate dean), Dina Smith (chair), Megan Brown, Michael Chiang, Brad Crowell, William Klipec, Olga Lazareva, Mary McCarthy, Sarah Plum, Elizabeth Robertson, Eric Saylor, Mark Vitha

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 23 council meeting. Motion passed.

Peggy Steinbronn wanted solicit Council's comments regarding OIT's new means of delivering services; namely, as part of a larger consolidation and coordination of info tech areas across campus. Previous workshops have included training based on requests from faculty on particular topics, others on new technology that might be of interest. How can OIT better serve A&S faculty needs and interests? Steinbronn provided a form to fill out suggested topics, and opened the floor to suggestions from council members.

Steinbronn also announced two major forthcoming changes: first, a new e-mail system (blueSky, which starts 5/21), and a review of the course management system (Blackboard 8 won't be supported after 6/1). Once a new system is chosen, Blackboard will eventually go away (if Blackboard 9 isn't selected as the replacement). Faculty can go to bb9.drake.edu to see what the new Blackboard looks like.

Vitha asked if it would be possible to have OIT come to departments to discuss what actually *is* possible from a tech perspective, which might be helpful for those who don't know what sorts of technology is actually out there. Other suggestions included sessions on basic audio/video manipulation and editing, as well as possible sharing of subscriptions to electronic databases with the library.

Report from Keith Summerville: the university and college are in good shape in terms of projected enrollment for fall 2011. Next neuroscience candidate search has been approved; nearly done with hires throughout the college for the year. DUCURS is almost wrapped up, with a strong aim of attracting additional outside donors and/or patrons.

John Fender presented a brief overview about the changes in the Art & Design program. This will also entail significant art history changes (from survey to thematic courses), and various additions and deletions of courses on the Design side. Most of the significant course changes have to do with changes to the way media is employed within the curriculum.

Vitha moved that all new art courses and proposals for changes be approved, Brown seconded. Motion carries for ART 101, 102, 154, 021, 051, 052, 114, 115, 116, 152, and 156.

Vitha moved and Brown seconded that Art 151 and 155—present in files, but not noted on the agenda—be approved. Motion carries.

Klipic moved, Vitha seconded the approval of Math 024 and Math 025. Motion carries.

Klipic moved, Vitha seconded MUS 085, MUS 095, and MUS 105. Saylor provided some background on the rationale for the change, and responded to a few clarifying questions from Council members. Motion carries.

Klipic moved, Saylor seconded NSCI 001. Robertson asked if the course is contingent on the hire of a new faculty member in neuroscience. Klipic noted that a neuroscience concentration is still on the books; the major itself went away a few years ago after a faculty retirement. Motion carries.

Fender presented some of the A&S curriculum committee's comments about POLS 120. Vitha moved, Crowell seconded approval of that course. Question about number of credits, which was not noted on the form; Summerville noted that as there were no requests to change the number of credits, and the course was on the books under another name, it's not really a meaningful issue in this context. Motion carries.

Klipic moved, Robertson seconded approval of Neuroscience program. The program can only be implemented contingent on the hire of a new faculty member; if the search fails, the curriculum goes back on hiatus. Some issues related to the chicken/egg problem this creates were discussed. Vitha suggests that a better alternative to a "contingent to successful hire" approval would be simply to wait until the fall, or until the hire is made this semester. Motion tabled to the next meeting. Motion to table carries with one abstention.

Handbook revisions: first change (9a) regards bringing the faculty handbook language in line with P&T guidelines. Point raised by Robertson that current P&T practice is to evaluate courses during the 9 month contract period, not necessarily for summer teaching (even though this is not specified in the P&T guidelines).

Saylor moved, Klipic seconded moving 9a back to cabinet for further review and consideration.

Saylor moved, Robertson seconded 9b, regarding how faculty notify students regarding meetings if a challenge to a grade is lodged. Request to change "regular U.S." to "posted" in the proposal. Motion carries.

Saylor moved, Crowell seconded 9c, regarding the order of questions presented on student course evaluation forms. Motion carries.

No old business.

Motion to adjourn. Meeting concludes at 4:56.