

Arts & Sciences Council Meeting Minutes 10.26.11

Present: Elizabeth Robertson (chair), Joe Lenz (Dean), Colin Cairns (Curriculum Chair), Matthew Esposito, Olga Lazareva, Brad Crowell, Mahmoud Hamad, Michael Chiang, Curt Cardwell, Eric Manley, Leslie Marrs

Elizabeth Robertson called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Hamad motioned to approve the September 28, 2011 meeting minutes, Crowell seconded. September minutes were approved unanimously.

Report from the Dean

Joe Lenz has pulled together notes to follow up on some of the issues raised at the Faculty Workshop at the start of the fall semester. A number of people have expressed interest in putting together an Asian Studies concentration at Drake. Look for an e-mail soon to invite faculty to participate in such a group.

Joe met a couple of weeks ago with the Arts & Sciences Student Advisory committee. This group had lapsed for a number of reasons and not met for the past few years, and Joe is pleased to now have regular contact with students.

Joe announced that the Provost and Vice President for Business and Finance searches are both on target to get candidates here by the end of this semester.

Joe noted that he has sent out a message alerting faculty to the next stage of the strategic planning process: University Planning Council. If you are interested in securing the future of the university, this is the place to do it. Joe asks that you encourage colleagues to participate, and send names of those interested to him.

Joe extended thanks to faculty for submitting midterm grades: with the grade data collected, A&S identified 50 students more than last year with a grade of D or F in at least one course (even with a smaller entering class, and a better student academic profile). The midterm report identified 61 students with 2 or more D or F grades, 38 of these 61 students are EFRs. Keith, Dana, and Mary Beth are calling or meeting individually with all of these students in the next week.

Course approval

PSY 126, Comparative Psychology

Esposito motioned to approve, Hamad seconded. Marrs noted one typo in the syllabus. Olga Lazareva will be teaching this course, and upper-level lab course. **Approved unanimously.**

REL 130 The Global Bible

Matthew motioned to approve, Hamad seconded. This course has been approved as an AOI. **Approved unanimously.**

ART 104 Mapping Experience

Marrs motioned to approve, Esposito seconded. Manley asked why Business students were excluded,

can imagine that perhaps the instructors meant to open the course to those studying in the humanities, but surely it could be a valuable experience for those in Business, as it's open to Pharmacy students. Perhaps they meant to exclude graduate students? Cairns noted that the version of this proposal submitted to Curriculum committee did not have Business excluded. **The Council decided to ask for clarification re: Business students enrolling in the course. The motion is tabled.**

FREN 152 and GERM 152 Language & Culture through Film

Crowell motioned to approve both courses, Manley seconded. Hamad asked who will teach the French course, since currently French courses are taught by adjunct instructors. Esposito asked if the format will be similar to SPAN 152, but noted that there is not a detailed syllabus for the GERM and FREN classes. Hamad would prefer to see a syllabus or something more developed, and Lazareva noted that since it has been taught under FREN 150 special topics, there should be a syllabus available somewhere. Esposito asked if the Council should take the SPAN 152 course and trust the department to carry out the development of the other two syllabi? Cardwell proposed that since Marc Cadd resubmitted to the curriculum committee several times last year, and since these two passed the Curriculum Committee, the Council should pass.

The group agreed that the Spanish 152 course is great. Svetlana Dembovskev is currently slotted to teach FREN 150, this course for the Spring 2012 semester. **6 members approve, 2 abstain: the motion to approve both FREN 152 and GERM 152 passes.**

There used to be a question on the new course proposal form about who will teach the course and the frequency with which the course will be taught. Amy will find an old course form and pass along to Colin Cairns.

SCSA 055, SCSA 065, SCSA 155, SCSA 165 & SCS 055, SCSA 065, SCSA 155, SCSA 165

Methods and Theory courses

Manley motioned to approve, Esposito seconded. Marrs asked why no information about the courses was provided. Manley suggested that perhaps there are specifications within the curriculum: SCS students need two methods and two theory courses. Colin noted that these courses were approved by Curriculum Committee as placeholders for special topics courses, which may be repeated by students from time to time. Robertson suggested that one might describe methods & theory courses, even for the purposes of the course catalogue: these proposals are uninformative.

Manley noted that there are two special topics courses in Anthropology and Sociology. Chiang moved to table the motion, Esposito seconded. **The Council unanimously agreed to ask for descriptions and details in these eight courses. The motion is tabled.**

SCSS 060 Media, Culture, and Communication

SCSS 178 Gender, Technology and Embodiment

SCSS 181 Death & Society

Esposito motioned to approve all three SCS courses, Crowell seconded. Stacey Treat will teach the Media, Culture and Communication. Robertson asked if the Curriculum committee requires that someone proposing a course show that it does not overlap with something already taught in the department; Colin said this is not a qualification for which Curriculum asks. **These three courses were unanimously approved. Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:35