

Faculty Senate Minutes
September 19, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:11 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Communication & Theatre, Counseling & Human Development, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Philosophy.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the September 5, 2017 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as revised with one abstention.

II. Proposed Courses and Programs

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ENGL: Science Writing minor. Proposal to establish the curriculum for a new minor was approved without dissent.
- (2) BS Manufacturing Engineering Technology. Proposal to establish the curriculum for a new program was approved without dissent.
- (3) BS Geology, Environmental Geology option. Proposal to establish the curriculum for a new option was approved without dissent.
- (4) BA Earth Science, Geology option. Proposal to establish the curriculum for a new option was approved without dissent.
- (5) ESCI 427: Field Studies of Mountain Belts, 3 credits, W. Proposal for course to study tectonic evolution and resulting geologic structures in the field was approved with one dissenting vote.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chair Walsh encouraged senators to engage in campus events and initiatives. She also reported work to review Senate standing committees and governance policies.

IV. Report of the Student Senate

None

V. Report of the Graduate Student Association

None

VI. Report of the Administrative Officers

President

President Anderson reported that the search for PASSHE Chancellor is underway. Although this is a relatively closed process, representatives from the Presidents' Council will interview final candidates. Dr. Anderson encouraged attendance of a presentation on moving from diversity to inclusion tonight at 7 p.m. by Dr. Jamie Washington.

Provost

Provost Prabhu highlighted opening of the Writing Center in McNairy and reminded faculty to refer students there for writing help. A question was asked about night and weekend hours for IT availability. Dr. Prabhu indicated that budget restraints have reduced those hours but that automating a mechanism for password resets would take care of a large majority of problems fielded during those hours.

Associate Provost

Associate Provost Adams announced Campfire events through the CAE to allow faculty to collaborate on D2L course structures.

Dean

Dean Umble highlighted the presentation and campus visit of Alice Aycock, the Conrad Nelson Artist in Residence.

VII. Curricular Notices

It was noted that CAP notifications are sent out early Monday mornings.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ENGL: Creative Writing & Publishing minor. Proposal to establish the curriculum for a new minor.
- (2) ESCI 345: Atmospheric Radiative Transfer. Proposal for course about how atmospheric radiation interacts with atmospheric constituents and the land and ocean surfaces.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (3) BUAD 203: Personal Finance. Proposal to change number and title and to add G3 label.
- (4) GOVT 111: Introduction to American Government. Proposal to teach in DL format.
- (5) ENGL 319: Science Writing. Proposal to teach in DL format.

- (6) ESCI 342: Atmospheric Dynamics I. Proposal to update course description and add 1-credit recitation.
- (7) ESCI 340: Cloud Physics and Precipitation Processes. Proposal to change title, description, and course topics.
- (8) ESCI 446: Statistics, Uncertainty, and Decision Making in the Earth Sciences. Proposal to change title, description, and pre/corequisites.
- (9) BS Meteorology. Proposal to update course options.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

Cooperative Education

Chair Robyn Davis solicited feedback from senators on departmental discussions of the Variable Credit Internship proposal. Key discussion points were:

- There would be a disconnect between the awarded credit for the work and the actual commitment to the experience that doesn't serve students well when opting to pay for only a single credit.
- Some students would like to participate in streamlined experiences that better fit their available opportunities.
- Institutional approaches to the cost structure might address that aspect and do more to promote student participation.
- Businesses or individuals might be willing to contribute towards a funding source that could be used to offset the credit cost for students in internships.
- There is strong interest from faculty and administration in exploring more cohesive ways to enhance the role of internships for students.

The proposal was returned to the Cooperative Education Committee for further consideration of how to address issues relevant to internships.

IX. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

X. Faculty Emeriti

None

XI. Committee Elections

Previous nominations were distributed and the floor opened for additional nominations to remaining vacant seats. An A. Miller/Cook motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous vote for each unopposed candidate in the third regular election was approved without dissent.

XII. Other/New Business

Ms. Michele Santamaria, co-chair along with Dr. Dan O'Neill, described the One Book, One Campus program. Rather than focusing only on freshmen, everyone on campus is encouraged to read *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely and participate in reading groups, use the text in classrooms, and attend related events. The authors are planning a March 27, 2018 visit to campus.

Senator Sciarretta reminded faculty that Early Alert is active to help identify students needing academic help. Concern was expressed about no longer being able to select a "No Issues" option for students. It was noted that athletes are included as part of the priority students pool but are not distinguished separately.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller
Faculty Senate Secretary

Action Summary:

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