

Faculty Senate Minutes
November 2, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Sociology/Anthropology.

I. Minutes

The Minutes for the October 19th meeting were amended. Senator Mowrey noted that the courses in the Nursing Graduate proposal presented in last meeting are all new courses and need to be noted as such in the Minutes. For the report of the General Education Task Force, the written report in Minutes is replaced by the following “Dr. Foster-Clark, chair of the task force, discussed the recommendations for the pilot test of the first year seminars included in the document distributed to the Faculty Senate. The primary issue discussed was the feasibility of opening 20 sections of these seminars for the fall of 2005. Complement and new course approval procedures were some of the issues discussed. Discussion of the pilot-testing will continue at the next meeting. Before then Senators should present this document for discussion within their departments.”

“The Task Force also has requested that Faculty Senate devote a special meeting for the purpose of the Task Force presenting its final report and recommendations. A motion was passed to make this topic a special order for the December 7th Faculty Senate meeting”.

II. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chairperson Kerper informed the Faculty Senate on changes for distribution of the Minutes. Starting with last meeting’s minutes, it will be distributed in draft form before the next meeting. The approved version of the Minutes will be distributed as the official copy to the University community.

Administrative approval for the Interdisciplinary Policy and a change in admission to the major policy in the Art Department was received from Provost Prabhu.

III Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Albright’s report is not available at this time.

IV. Report of the Graduate Student Organization

Dana Passek, Graduate Student Organization Representative, reported on their first meeting. A mission statement was developed which reads “The mission of the graduate studies programs at Millersville University is to promote an exchange of ideas among graduate students and with faculty and administration. The primary responsibilities of the GSA are to provide guidance and assistance for graduate students, to promote

opportunities for student-faculty interaction, and to provide a forum for the expression of graduate student's needs and concerns.”

V. Report of the Administrative Officers

President McNairy

President McNairy reported on the increased funding for Millersville University. She noted that these monies were assigned in a competitive manner, resulting in some of the sister institutions getting less funding.

She announced and encouraged the faculty to attend a series of important activities scheduled on campus in the next week.

Provost Prabhu

Provost Prabhu reported on the promotion process and encouraged the Faculty to attend an informational session scheduled for November 4, 2004. at 4:00 p.m.

Executive Assistant to the President Phillips

Executive Assistant to the President Phillips encouraged the Faculty Senate to attend workshops led by Alan Guskin. The University Vision will be topic of discussion. These workshops are scheduled for November 11 and 12, 2004.

Again, she reminded the Faculty Senate to inform students to check their Marauder email accounts. From now on, they will be getting all University related correspondence via this mode of communication.

Senator Luek again asked the faculty to sign up for the ACE Task Force focus groups.

VI. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

First Reading

UCPRC

Program Change

CSCI 161: Introduction to Programming – List as a required course for completion of computer science major.

New Course

COMM 317: Intercultural Communicology – Prerequisites - English 110 and junior standing. Count in G1 and as a Writing course.

Mowrey/Heintzelman motion was passed to waive the second meeting rule and move for approval of COMM 317. The course was approved.

Second Reading

GCPRC:

Academic Proposal

Addition of Nursing Education track and certificate in Nursing Education

As noted by Chairperson Kerper this proposal was not discussed pending discussion of the Provost and the Dean of Education regarding a procedural matter related to the approval process.

New Courses

NURS 720: To renumber as NURS 630 and change title to Effective Teaching: Theories and Methods in Nursing Education – Approved

NURS 721: To renumber as NURS 631 Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education– Approved

NURS 722: To renumber as NURS 632 and change title to Nursing Curriculum and Program Design – Approved

NURS 723: To renumber as NURS 633 Nursing Education Internship – Approved

NURS 575: Advanced Practice Nursing Clinical Internship – Approved

VII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

General Education Task Force

Dr. Foster Clark, chair of the task force, distributed revised recommendations for the pilot-testing of First Year Seminars. [see Attachment #1] This document asked the Faculty Senate to:

- endorse the proposal to pilot-test First Seminars (at least 10 sections instead of 20 as in prior proposal) linked with a Fundamentals course in a learning community,
- approve the granting of GEN ED equivalence for First Seminar (UNIV 179),
- grant provisional authority to the General Education Review Committee to approve topics and GEN ED block designation for proposed sections UNIV 179, and that once
- establish a process whereby once approved by GERC, topic proposals must go to the appropriate School Curriculum Committee for final review and approval. The discussion revolved around issues such as available data to support these recommendations and how to assess the effectiveness of the pilot seminars. The document distributed during the last meeting contains this information.

A Luek/Borger-Greco motion passed, postponing the vote on the revised proposal until the next Faculty Senate Meeting.

VIII. Faculty Emeritus

None

IX. Other/New Business

None

X. Committee Elections

Blazer/Piperberg motion passed to close nominations and to direct the secretary to cast one vote for all nominees whose committee seats were uncontested. Committee elections took place. Adele Ruzak [WSSN] was elected to the Honorary Degree Committee and Aida Ceara was elected to the Cultural Affairs Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. after the elections.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Elba I. Rohena
Secretary

Attachment #1

Millersville University General Education Task Force Recommendations for the Pilot-testing of First-Year Seminars Revised November 2, 2004

When we make our final recommendations to Senate next month, the General Education Task Force will be recommending that incoming first-year students at Millersville be placed in small, supportive learning communities during their first semester. It is expected that many of these learning communities will include new Gen Ed first-year seminars – three-credit, theme-based, intellectually rich courses linked to a Fundamentals course (Engl 110, Comm 100). In order to move in this direction, we are asking that a pilot-test of about 10 sections of these new seminars be undertaken in fall 2005. We propose that they be taught as sections of UNIV 179 on an experimental basis with 20 students per seminar. The sections involved in the pilot-test will involve Exploratory (undecided) students only (now being served by UNIV 101 linked to a learning community). Incoming students would receive letters informing them of the opportunity and asking that they indicate their top five choices of seminar topics. Students would be placed into seminars on a first-come basis until the various seminar offerings are filled. It is expected that these would be living-learning communities.

Rationale for the First-Year Seminars and Learning Communities

This proposal builds upon the success of our own growing experience with first-year programming for both Exploratory students and students with a variety of majors. It is also consistent with National trends to enhance the engagement of students early in their college careers to promote their retention and eventual success. A draft of the course proposal for First Seminars (distributed at the last Senate meeting) provides further specification and justification for these courses. This proposal is now being amended to more fully incorporate some missing elements from UNIV 101.

What is being asked of Senate?

- To endorse the proposal to pilot-test First Seminars linked with Fundamentals courses in a learning community.
- To approve the granting of Gen Ed equivalence for First Seminar (UNIV 179).
- To grant provisional authority to the General Education Review Committee to approve topics and Gen Ed block designation for proposed sections of UNIV 179. Once approved by GERC, topic proposal must go to the appropriate School Curriculum Committee for final review and approval of Gen Ed designation before they will count for Gen Ed credit.

Action is needed now on this proposal in order to recruit faculty for the pilot-test, to get the courses on the books, and to properly coordinate with the linked courses and residential life.

Gen Ed First Seminars Sample Seminar Topics

Appearing below is a listing of sample first-year seminar topics that have been proposed by Millersville faculty or by faculty at similar institutions.

Why We Hate? (based on a book by the same title by Ross Dosis)

Guardians Of The Dream Of America

Breath In The Air: The Science And Social Impacts Of Air Pollution

Why Do I Buy? Media, Marketing, And Identity

Brown Vs. The Board Of Education

Romantic Visions: Wordsworth, Keats & Coleridge

Humanity's Quest For Meaning And Justice

Mastering Nature: Humans And The Ecosystem

Information Technology: Ethics And Issues

Literary Voices From The Middle East

Geometry, Topology, And The Shape Of The Universe