2002-04-04 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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2. Roll Call: Nine of twelve members were present.

3. Approval of ECAS Minutes for March 14, 2002: The March 14, 2002 minutes were approved with minor changes.

4. Announcements: D. Curran will not be able to attend the April 11 ECAS meeting. He will be invited to another meeting later this academic year or at the beginning of the fall term.

5. Committee Issues/Reports: H. Gerla, Chair of the *Faculty Affairs Committee*, had nothing to report.

J. Dunne, Chair of the *Academic Policies Committee*, distributed the proposal, “Revision of Section V, Administration of the University’s General Education Policy, April 1991” which will be presented to the Provost’s Council on April 8 and the Academic Senate on April 19. This proposal’s main “thrust” is to identify the role of the Associate Dean. Major redrafting was done to the last two paragraphs of the document concerning the Associate Provost and the Associate Dean. B. Conniff, P. Morman, and F. Pestello will be at the April 8 meeting of the Provost’s Council and will report to ECAS next week about any suggested revisions. ECAS members, too, are invited to review the document for possible revisions before submission to the Academic Senate. A group from APC is reviewing Section II, “Rationale and Goals” and will have proposals to update for GE early in the fall term. J. Dunne will update the Senate on the Quantitative Reasoning implementation and the APC will continue to work on this issue. Graduation competencies are starting to be implemented.

S. Dandaneau, Honors and Scholars, reported that T. Westendorf is investigating how other schools designate honors and scholars programs or specialized education programs on their diplomas and transcripts. Since a new degree has not been created, no action is needed from the ECAS or Academic Senate.

It was recommended that the Registrar communicate to the faculty what the policy is on the +/- grading system.

S. Bartley, Chair of the *Student Academic Policies Committee*, distributed a questionnaire directed to Department Chairs. Suggestions about the questionnaire were made:
- Pretest with a chairperson
- Send an explanation cover letter
• Ask deans, department chairs, and students
• Don’t make the questionnaires uniform among the departments
• Ask the department chairs to conduct individual interviews (exit interviews) with graduating students
• SGA should survey students
• Breakdown categories of advising

It was suggested that the SAPC send a proposal to the Provost’s Council requesting that academic advisor evaluations take place.

6. Academic Senate Meeting on April 19: The agenda for the April 19 Academic Senate meeting will be:
   • Reports from committees (summary of activities to be distributed)
   • “Revision of Section V, Administration of the University’s General Education Policy, April 1991” Proposal
   • Presidential Transition Update

7. Issue of Committee Appointments: A complete listing of the committees and their membership was not available. It was directed that K. Henderson develop an up-to-date list. The excerpt from the ECAS minutes of August 31 regarding a new committee to replace the disbanded Committee on Committees is very confusing. After the available information on committees has been collected, ECAS will review this information and rethink the issue before bringing it before the Academic Senate.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by J. Rogatto