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2003-02-14 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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1. **Opening Prayer**
   Megan Telfair began the meeting with a prayer to St. Valentine.

2. **Roll Call**
   Twenty-five of thirty nine Senators were present.

3. **Approval of Minutes**
   The minutes of January 17, 2003, were approved as written.

4. **Announcements**
   Laurie Quill and Philip Taylor, members of this year’s Leadership UD class, introduced themselves and explained the program. The program is currently accepting applications for next year’s class.

5. **Committee Reports**
   Student Academic Policies Committee: Megan Telfair reported that the group met in January and will be reviewing the following issues this semester:
   
   a. **End of term evaluations**: SAPC, in collaboration with SGA, will review the evaluation process, as directed by Academic Senate document I-99-07.

   b. **Summer scheduling**: There is a lack of continuity in the timing of course offerings. George Doyle presented his proposal for summer course scheduling; SAPC is looking into the possibility of helping establish summer schedule guidelines, in consultation with Patsy Martin and Tom Westendorf.

   Academic Policies Committee: John Rapp outlined the issues that the APC will be addressing this semester.
a. Online registration problems: Concern was voiced about the current online registration system and its attendant problems. Consultation with the Registrar’s Office found that the current online registration program will be replaced soon with a new system. The APC is considering what its involvement, if any, is with this matter.

b. Schedule adjustment day: Adjustment days are proving to be problematic for out of town professors and there are other complaints about the schedule. This semester the APC will be reviewing the issue in the context of the whole academic calendar.

c. Thematic clusters: This issue is also on the APC agenda for the semester.

Faculty Affairs Committee: Harry Gerla noted that the committee is ready to finish up a couple issues from last semester.

a. Non-tenure track research professorships: Last semester the committee reviewed a proposal to allow for the creation of non-tenure track research professorships. Following some suggested changes, a modified proposal was sent back to the FAC. The committee recommends that the Academic Senate support this revised document.

b. With the passage of Senate Document 1-02-03, Suspending the Tenure Clock for Tenure Track Faculty Members Eligible for Family or Medical Leave, the measure now goes before the entire faculty for a vote. Previously, the Academic Senate would hold hearings to inform the faculty, but these have been plagued by low attendance. The FAC suggests that an online presence could effectively communicate the issue to the faculty.

c. Policy on Fair, Responsible and Acceptable Use of Electronic Resources: The FAC provided Tom Skill some feedback on this policy. His office is receptive to the recommendations and will be incorporating the changes.

d. New Business: The FAC will be reviewing part-time and non-tenure track faculty figures this semester.

6. Proposal for Quantitative Reasoning Competencies

John Rapp, on behalf of the Academic Policies Committee, presented Senate Document No. I-03-01 to the Academic Senate for a vote.

He noted that two open meetings have been held on this issue and that questions were primarily administrative in nature.

Joe Saliba made a motion to replace the existing QRC plan, 00-10-A and 00-10-B, with the proposal outlined in document 03-01.

Paul Eloe stated that the Math Department supports this new proposal.

Q: Unlike other competencies, this one seems to require multiple classes. Can you please explain?
A: A student must complete three modules before graduation: Algebra, Statistics and Mathematical modeling. Students can satisfy the Algebra and Statistics modules by successfully completing online exams. The coursework in MTH114 and MTH207 will prepare the students for these online exams.

Q: What about high school Advanced Placement credits?
A: This proposal includes considerations for AP credits; see pages 6 & 7 of the draft. AP credit, however, may not always fulfill all three modules.

Q: Is it possible for students to skip the online exams? What happens then?
A: Students can take the online exam for Module 1 before they arrive on campus through the Virtual Orientation. Additionally they will work with the Assistant Deans in communicating the importance of the online exams to students.

Favor: 21
Oppose: 3
Abstain: 0

7. Proposal to Create Non-Tenure Track Research Professorships, I-03-02

Harry Gerla, on behalf of the Faculty Affairs Committee, presented Senate Document No. I-03-02 to the Academic Senate for a vote.

Previously, the Academic Senate was asked to lend its support for the creation of such research professorships. The FAC approved the action with additional recommendations, primarily that such professorships be closed to tenure track faculty, and that the activities of these research professors be excluded from the performance record of the "home department."

Several issues were raised while considering the proposal: one, that the competition faced by tenured and tenure track faculty for grants would increase. The FAC felt that if such were true, such competition is healthy and enhance the quality of the proposals. Secondly, the objection was raised that only persons who engaged mainly in teaching should be given any sort of professorial title. FAC felt that it was not a reason for not approving the document.

Resolution: That the Academic Senate support the creation of non-tenure track research professorships.

Q: Even though this is a non-tenure track position, it is the AAUP’s position that 7 years and teaching experience qualifies one for tenure. Could someone with a non-tenure track research professorship make the claim for tenure after all?
A: Visiting and research professors are not part of the academic ranks. Rather, they are more like administrative faculty.

There was a suggestion to strike the “Full” from “Full professor” on page 3 of the proposal. This friendly amendment was so approved.

Favor: 24
Oppose: 0
Abstain: 0

8. Proposal for University Degree Requirements for Minimum UD Credit Hours, I-03-03

John Rapp, on behalf of the Academic Policies Committee, presented Senate Document No. I-03-03 to the Academic Senate for a vote.

Both the Undergraduate and Graduate student bulletins specify minimum credit hours a student must complete by taking University of Dayton courses. Language in the bulletins note that the credit hours must be taken “at the University of Dayton.” There is possible confusion in interpreting these policies regarding credit earned via UD distance learning and off-campus locations and whether such credits qualify under the current language.
The proposal seeks to clarify the policies by changing the current language to the following phrase: “taken from the University of Dayton.”

Joe Saliba made a motion that the Academic Senate approve the phrase “taken from the University of Dayton” for policies specifying minimum academic credits earned via University of Dayton courses.

Q: What about students who finish courses at home?
A: Deans have the final say. This new policy does not affect these situations.

Comment: The use of “from” means the University becomes more abstract. Will such a word diminish UD as a place? Maybe a more appropriate term is “through”?

Favor: 23
Oppose: 0
Abstain: 1

9. ELC Discussion Groups

Joe Saliba provided an informational update on the ELC, which was reorganized by Dr. Curran into 3 subcommittees. The Budget subcommittee will be chaired by Tom Burkhardt; Strategic planning (positioning and image) will be run by the Provost’s Council; and the Living spaces/residences is to be organized by Bill Schuerman.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Heidi Gauder, Secretary of the Academic Senate.