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ECAS Minutes

Academic Senate

10-4-2024

2024-10-04 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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**Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
(ECAS)**

ACADEMIC SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
2024-2025

MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY, October 4, 2024
10-11:30 AM, SM 113B

President: Erin O'Mara Kunz

Vice President: Jackie Arnold

Secretary: Kayla Harris

Members: Jackie Arnold, Ali Carr-Chellman, Garrett Conti, Jen Dalton, Deo Eustace, Jon Fulkerson, Kayla Harris, Suki Kwon, Erin O'Mara Kunz, Chelse Prather, Joel Pruce (Faculty Board), Andrea Seielstad, Rachel Yeager, Darlene Weaver

Present: Jackie Arnold (virtual), Ali Carr-Chellman, Garrett Conti, Jen Dalton, Deo Eustace, Jon Fulkerson, Kayla Harris, Erin O'Mara Kunz, Chelse Prather (virtual), Joel Pruce (Faculty Board), Andrea Seielstad, Darlene Weaver

Absent: Rachel Yeager, Suki Kwon

Guests: Jana Bennett (Chair, Dept. of Religious Studies), Carola Daffner (Chair, Dept of Global Languages and Cultures), Lee Dixon (Associate Provost AALI), Trip Glazer (Chair, Dept. of Philosophy), Meghan Henning (Assistant Provost for CAP...), John McCombe, (Chair, Dept. of English)

Opening

- Call to Order (E. Kunz) 10:01 am
- Opening prayer/meditation (G. Conti) [\[Prayer/meditation sign up here\]](#)
- **VOTE:** approval of [minutes from September 27, 2024 meeting](#)
 - *Approved by unanimous consent*

Announcements

- October 11, 2024: ECAS guests President Eric Spina, Andy Horner
- October 15, 2024: Board of Trustees Installation Ceremony, Science Center Auditorium, 5pm
- October 15, 2024: Board of Trustees Installation Dinner, Curran Place, 6pm
- October 18, 2024: Academic Senate Meeting, KU Ballroom, 3:30-5:30pm
- October 28, 2024: ELC, President's Suite (KU), 10:30am-12:00pm

Agenda Items

- **DISCUSSION AND VOTE:** Humanities Working Group CAP Proposal
 - Executive Summary of the Proposal:

- Overall credit reduction of 9 hours from CAP: 6 from the Humanities Commons and 3 from Crossing Boundaries
- Humanities Commons revised from 4 disciplinary courses (ENG 100/114/198, HST 103, PHL 103, REL 103) to 2 interdisciplinary courses (HUM 101, HUM 102) to be taught by five departments instead of four (ENG, HST, PHL, REL, and also GLC)
- Crossing Boundaries revised from 12 credits to 9 by combining Inquiry and Integrative components
- Elimination of triple-counting CAP courses allows students to choose courses based on interest rather than efficiency
- Potential downsides to proposal: We have advanced courses in some disciplines where there are not introductory courses.
 - Some adjustments and additional work for faculty in these departments to account for intense writing and Catholic Intellectual Tradition (CIT) pieces
- Potential benefits to proposal: CAP more streamlined, helping students advance toward their degree. Students can choose courses based on their interests, not what “checks the most boxes” for CAP
 - For faculty, it is easier to teach a course that meets one of the CAP criteria than trying to teach a course that needs to meet multiple CAP criteria.
- The development of the proposal was a highly collaborative process, and the chairs of these units believe it is the best possible proposal given the constraints we have
- Q: We read about students coming in less prepared in certain areas, is that something that was taken into account?
 - A (J. Bennett): Yes, and the seminars are much smaller (15-18 rather than 30+ that some of the previous courses) to address this
- Q: How many faculty will have to regroup and teach this, and how many fewer do you anticipate you will need?
 - A (J. McCombe, M. Henning and J. Bennett): Right now we don’t know what the provisional budget targets are. We are creating a curriculum that we can deliver with fewer faculty. All the chairs have been thinking what their dept would look like with maximum faculty reductions and how they can still deliver a quality curriculum
- Q: Since students still need 120 hours to graduate. but fewer CAP hours, what is the expectation for the other hours?
 - A (M. Henning): They can take anything they want. By exploring elective courses, that may interest students to add minors, double majors etc.
- Q: Assuming this goes through, will these courses count towards major requirements?
 - A (M. Henning): The cover letter addresses frequently asked questions, including this. Chairs agreed that departments can decide how to address this at the unit level since they are working on revising curricula and it is best left decided there rather than across the board

- C. Daffner: For Global Languages and Cultures this would actually drive up enrollment since students will be introduced to GLC through this program now.
- Q: Have you considered if faculty will just take their existing course and then say it's now this without any adjustments?
 - A: Yes, but the proposal has several aspects to address this such as cohort training. This was a similar question when SSC 200 was originally developed. Some of that will be addressed with an implementation plan which the chairs are also working on simultaneously while consultation is occurring.
- Q: In relation to our Catholic, Marianist values, how are faculty are being formed / trained? Our formation opportunities for faculty at the University are decreasing. How will this model ensure that the experience isn't changed for our students with that Catholic, Marianist lens?
 - A (M. Henning): Cover letter addresses some of the issues related to the Catholic, Marianist pieces. The Catholic Intellectual Tradition (CIT) piece was always delivered by the 4 areas, not just REL.
 - A (J. Bennett): Looked at founders as a way of organizing the seminars. How do the founders help embody a particular aspect of CIT? Seminar 1: Chaminade, Identity and Vocation. Seminar 2: Marie Therese, Social Justice, and Common Good. Very focused on particular aspects. For faculty without a particular faith tradition, this helps them see a way to connect with CIT broadly speaking. Connect people to the reasons they came here to UD. These seminars emphasize Marianist in a way that the previous did not.
- Comment (A. Seielstad): The rush of this is disastrous and should not be implemented in such a fast fashion.
 - A (L. Dixon, E. Kunz, M. Henning, J. McCombe): This is the reality, departments will need to deliver a curriculum with fewer faculty next year. Yes there has been a rush, but also there has been a lot of time invested and a lot of consultation, collaboration, and consideration. Maybe it could be better, but with what we have, there is agreement that this is a good proposal. This proposal is better than what we had in the terms of Catholic, Marianist identity. Group is continuing to meet with enrollment management and working together to make sure things are transparent when communicating with students so that what faculty deliver matches what we tell students we are delivering.
- Comment (A. Carr-Chellman): Giving students more opportunities to take more electives is great. Very grateful for the proposal.
- Comment (D. Eustace): Students in Civil Engineering have little flexibility with CAP + degree requirements under current model.
 - Parents and employers love that the students majoring in engineering at UD are taking more humanities courses than anyone else. It's a selling point and makes the UD Engineering program unique

- A (E. Kunz, J. McCombe): Units and advisors can still help shape what the students take and encourage the humanities courses, but it just won't be prescribed in the same way. It will give them more flexibility.
 - Comment (T. Glazer): Concern about what it means to no longer require an intro philosophy course but also a lot of enthusiasm in this department to teach these new seminars. Often teaching classes with 35+ enrolled, and these seminars will provide a better experience for both faculty and students.
 - Q: Will this require curricular changes for the advanced courses?
 - A (J. Bennett): Probably. Will need to think about how to offer these advanced courses in new ways, with students coming in with various backgrounds and expertise.
 - *Motion to assign this work to APC* (A. Carr-Chellman, A. Seielstad second)
 - Vote: 10 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstain
 - *Motion passed*
- **DISCUSSION AND VOTE:** SAPC returned charge re: Academic Honor Code Revision
 - Gives clarity to when the students can and cannot withdraw/ Course instructor still has discretion to determine consequences.
 - *Motion to add this proposal to October Senate agenda* (J. Fulkerson, A. Carr-Chellman second)
 - Vote: 8 in favor, 0 against, 2 abstain
 - *Motion passed*
- **DISCUSSION AND VOTE:** New SAPC for Class Registration Process, Early Registration, and Advanced/Priority Registration
 - Q (J. Fulkerson): Do we have any authority over this?
 - A (E. Kunz and D. Weaver): Even if we do not, if we identify issues then we can provide recommendations.
 - *Motion to deliver this charge to SAPC* (A. Carr-Chellman, J. Fulkerson second)
 - Vote: 9 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstain
 - *Motion passed*
- **DISCUSSION:** Topics for October's Academic Senate Meeting (10/18) and ELC (10/28)
 - Draft Academic Senate Agenda, 10/4
 - Approve Academic Senate agenda 10/11 (latest)
 - Draft ELC agenda week of 10/7 & 10/14
 - Disseminate ELC agenda on 10/21 (bylaws say 10 days, 10/14)
 - Erin has been working with some of the information from the Faculty Board survey, particularly feedback from professional faculty and what they need and are worried about.
 - Drafting some of these issues into a resolution that could be introduced as the Senate meeting in October. Tangible things that can be delivered upon as concerns raised by our colleagues. Ideally, can discuss a draft at next ECAS meeting.
 - Erin, Jackie and Kayla are meeting with current and incoming chair of Board of Trustees, Rick Omlor and Deb Tobias next week regarding executive compensation since this issue has been raised a few times, particularly at the

latest Faculty/Staff meeting. Are there particular aspects ECAS wants to the officers to try and convey at this meeting?

- Will ask whose salary is determined by BoT, and whether they received raises when the rest of campus did not this past year.
- Suggestion that discussion should include where we are at with faculty morale
 - Faculty do a lot of mentoring, blue sky experiential learning. Suggestion to emphasize the administrative work that faculty are also doing
 - Morale is not just linked to the issue of compensation, it is only one aspect of a very complex issue.

Meeting adjourned 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted by Kayla Harris, Secretary to the Academic Senate.