

Academic Affairs Committee Minutes

October 2, 2013

(Approved October 16, 2013)

1. **Roll Call (3:05 pm) Members Present:** Craig Conley, Patricia Cruz, Cristina Duran, Andre Garcia-Nuthmann, , Warren Lail, Kerry Loewen, Seonsook Park, Jesus Rivas, Gregg Turner, Ruthy Watson, Donna Woodford-Gormley, Cheryl Zebrowski
Also in Attendance: Linda LaGrange
Absent: Margot Geagon, Carmen Vidal-Lieberman, Michael Raine
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
The agenda was approved with the removal of Communication from the Registrar. (Lail/Loewen)
3. **Approval of the Minutes**
Minutes of September 18th were approved. (Conley/Watson)
4. **Communication from the Administration**
 - a. A Global Initiative Consortium was established with all NM universities in order to encourage international study. They wish to reestablish NMHU's Quito, Ecuador campus, but for all of NM universities. Details are to be worked out.
5. **Communication from the Chair**
 - a. Registrar's item postponed until next meeting.
 - b. Program reviews postponed due to heavy agenda today.
6. **Communication from the Registrar**
 - a. Not in attendance
7. **Communication from Faculty Senate**
 - a. Professor Loewen gave a brief summary of the Faculty Senate meeting. Discussion regarding BA without a minor, but will leave it to AAC to recommend any changes.
8. **Communication from Subcommittees**
 - a. Undergrad appeals: Two appeals denied, with one of them now requesting an in-person appeal.
 - b. Graduate appeals: One case resolved, and have now set-up an account on SharePoint.
 - c. Ballen Endowment: Will be drafting a letter next week.
9. **Revised forms**

- a. Please test the forms and report any errors to Dr. Lail. Need Adobe Reader 11.
- b. A couple of corrections on the course revision form: Add a review/deletion check box on Course Revision Form. Also include "Attach syllabus if course revision".

10. Discussion of Bas, GSs, and minors

- a. Difference of BA and BS: BA is a broader degree with fewer credit hours in the major, and the BS has more credit hours in the major.
- b. See p.36 of catalog for current definitions.
- c. There are minors embedded in the current majors, but can't be labeled as a minor due to certification requirements.
- d. Feedback from faculty:
 - i. A minor would offer more breadth of knowledge for scholarly education, not a job degree.
 - ii. Each department should design their own program.
 - iii. If it's too specific, it becomes a technical degree.
 - iv. Breadth of knowledge within the discipline because the subject is so diverse.
 - v. Requiring breadth of knowledge at the upper level should be included in the core.
 - vi. If breadth of knowledge is required, then all BA students should also be required to take a certain amount of science classes.
 - vii. If upper division classes are required for a minor or breadth of knowledge, that would mean extra classes because of pre-requisites.
- e. Discussion tabled.

11. BA in Biology (with embedded minor)

- a. BA in biology at other universities requires fewer credits.
- b. It was suggested that the BS has two tracks, but biology faculty did not like this idea.
- c. At least 28 credits in another field and 12 of them should be upper division. Does that requirement include the upper division minor in combined sciences?
- d. Motion made to inform Dr. Rivera that the BA in Biology contains a combined science minor. (Rivas/Loewen) Motion carried with 1 abstention.

12. BS in Chemistry (Revisions)

- a. BS in chemistry is certified by the American Chemical Society. The chemistry department examined current courses and determined that classes could be combined and dropped to allow more flexibility for students.
 - i. Motion made to accept the revision of dropping CHEM 419 and 1 required elective to the Chemistry program. (Loewen/Rivas) Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Funding was never forthcoming for the forensic program.

- i. Motion made to accept the deletion of the forensic concentration within the Chemistry program. (Lail/Loewen) Motion carried unanimously.

13. Late Arrivals

- a. none

14. Meeting adjourned at 4:46