

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2016

ASB: 007-008

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Attendees: Emma Rainforth, Rebecca Root, Jonathan Lipkin, Ken McMurdy, Susan Kurzmann, Roark Atkinson, Susan Eisner, Eva Ogens, Bonnie Blake

Secretary: Mark Skowronski

Guests: Tae Kwak

- 1) Approval of FAEC minutes from March 9, 2016
 - a. Approved.
- 2) President Rainforth's Report
 - a. Gen Ed update: The faculty working groups have mostly finished developing outcomes for the new Gen Ed. Prof. Rainforth will provide a Gen Ed update at the end of today's FA meeting (before the faculty forum).
 - b. The Assistant Dean of Nursing would like the proposed MSN concentrations on today's FA agenda. She amended the proposal during today's FAEC meeting to be consistent with the College's undergraduate teaching load policy. Therefore, the FAEC is comfortable adding a vote on this program to the agenda for today's FA.
 - c. The Task Force on the Class Schedule has made some minor changes to its proposed schedule (see FA website).
 - d. Lab Credit Hour update: Prof. Rainforth and several members of TAS met with the Provost and President to discuss the administration's parameters for alternate lab credit hour proposals. The Provost has sent an email to TAS faculty addressing this issue. Prof. Rainforth will discuss the possibility of lifting the 68 credit major cap with TAS faculty (if there is support, the issue may go to Provost's Council). The FAEC is concerned about any future requirement that each convening group must operate at a profit.
- 3) Guest: Scheduling Task Force Chair – Tae Kwak
 - a. The task force has received a lot of feedback about the schedule. The task force would like the FA to vote today on its proposal (even with the possibility that a motion is made to table the proposal for a month). A member of the FAEC suggested to Prof. Kwak that the timeslot reserved for all college meetings be moved to 1-4pm (from 1:30-4:30pm) in order to increase faculty attendance at such meetings. There was a debate about whether schedule changes actually increase faculty participation and engagement (and whether other strategies may be more effective).

- 4) The FAEC discussed the faculty's comfort with change (and whether this is used as an excuse for administrative actions).
- 5) Gen Ed Discussion
 - a. It was suggested that the GEIT Steering Committee may benefit from having a faculty co-chair. A faculty co-chair might help improve communication and faculty perceptions. On the other hand, some feel that this position is not necessary as the GEIT Steering Committee is not a decision-making body.
 - b. Decisions will need to be made about the membership of the new GECCo. How will GECCo coordinators for specific Gen Ed categories (that are not necessarily limited to a specific unit) be selected? Should these decisions be made by an all college vote of the faculty? Perhaps the GEIT working groups can choose a GECCo reps for the first year (although the membership of such working groups was selected by the GEIT Steering Committee from a pool of faculty volunteers)? The FAEC will discuss this topic further at its next meeting.
 - c. GECCo's charge, and its role in vetting Gen Ed courses before they go to ARC, should be refreshed with the FA.
 - d. The next GEIT Governance Committee meeting will occur on April 6 at 11am.