

Faculty Assembly Executive Council (FAEC) Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2015
ASB 007-008
9:30AM to 11:30AM

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

Secretary: Mark Skowronski

Guests: None

- 1) Approval of FAEC minutes from February 24, 2016
 - a. Approved

- 2) President's Rainforth Report
 - a. There have been reports that deans may be preventing certain faculty members from teaching hybrid courses. Course delivery (hybrid, traditional, etc.) is a question of pedagogy, in which case the convening group—not the administration—should be deciding such matters. Although the deans have ultimately authority over scheduling, the criteria that are used to deny hybrid course options to faculty members are not clear.
 - i. Some members of the FAEC believe that deans should be using a published, “checklist” style criteria for such decisions. It may be in the faculty’s interest to put something forward that describes the requirements (and reasons to be denied) hybrid teaching options. In addition, it may be appropriate to have convenors make a statement that they have looked at the syllabus before approving the scheduling of a hybrid course.
 - ii. The FAEC will discuss this issue with ARC and at unit council meetings.
 - b. Provost Council has granted a 30 day extension of the review period for the proposed revisions to the teaching load policy. The deans were not satisfied with the language that the FA drafted. Specifically, they want language that acknowledges deans’ authority over scheduling. The FAEC would like the deans to provide a counter proposal. The FAEC believes that this issue can be addressed collaboratively with the administration.
 - c. President Mercer will be meeting with some TAS faculty members about their concerns with proposed changes to lab credits.

- 3) Discussion of GEIT Governance and Structure
 - a. Many members of the faculty are concerned about faculty input and decision making with regards to Gen Ed implementation. Many feel that the process is too “top down”, and that the Vice Provost for Curriculum and Assessment has too much influence (e.g., leading Gen Ed faculty fora). The faculty has ultimate authority over the curriculum.
 - b. There is confusion about the role of the GEIT steering committee. The steering committee is not technically a decision-making body. Rather, the steering committee is charged with coordinating across subject matter experts (comprising working groups).
 - c. Many faculty members do not feel that the Gen Ed governance structure is transparent.
 - d. There are also concerns about a lack of consultation with faculty that do not serve on Gen Ed working groups. The FAEC will propose to the Gen Ed steering committee that a forum be held on March 30 for working groups to consult with the faculty.
 - e. President Rainfroth suggests that the FAEC requests a different process for capping the number of courses in each Gen Ed category. The faculty should have a role in setting these caps (and the FAEC acknowledges the need for such caps). Perhaps the working groups can make recommendations and ARC can decide on the appropriate cap. These caps should be published online.
- 4) At present, there has been no posting of the ASB dean search. The FAEC would like some information on the status of this process.
- 5) There are concerns that deans may not respect the role of ARC and its jurisdiction over curriculum and academic policies/procedures. The FAEC will discuss this with the Provost (and seek a reaffirmation of ARC’s jurisdiction).
- 6) Agenda for FA, March 23
 - a. SSHS will be elect its unit FAEC rep today. Prof. Rainforth will put out a call for at-large rep nominations (nominations made last month are null and void).
 - b. Faculty forum. The LRTF would like to use the faculty forum to acquire feedback on its white paper.
 - c. ARC proposals:
 - i. Minor in Digital Filmmaking

- ii. Name change – Substance Abuse minor changed to Substance Use Disorder minor
- iii. Certificate in (CIPL) in Children’s Yoga Teaching
- iv. Proposed MSN concentrations are on hold until Dean’s Council revises the teaching load policy.