

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**ACADEMIC REVIEW COMMITTEE (ARC)**

Meeting #56 Minutes of

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

11:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

SAB Sanyo Conference Room (A-224)

All members present: S. Klein (SAB), Chair; S Gorewitz (CA); R. Mentore (TAS); E. Risch (LIB); F. Shapiro-Skrobe (SSHS); I. Spar (AIS); M. Ecker (Office of the Provost, ex-officio member).

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. and the minutes of the April 28th meeting were approved with minor changes.

I. ARC Discussion Items**ARC Representatives:**

ARC congratulated S. Klein, I. Spar, and F. Shapiro-Skrobe on their re-election as ARC Representatives of SAB, AIS, and SSHS, respectively. E. Risch announced that S. Kurzmann will be replacing her as the Library's ARC Representative, while J. Lipkin will be replacing S. Gorewitz as CA's new Representative. TAS has not yet selected its ARC Representative.

The Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Program Report and Resolutions:

ARC reviewed the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Program Report sent by A. Romano, Director of the WAC Program, and by the WAC Advisory Council (WACAC). We also discussed the two resolutions for the Faculty Assembly being put forth by WACAC.

After discussion, the ARC recommended that an outside consultant be retained to review the structure, organization, and administration of the WAC Program, in the context of the on-going college-wide restructuring of the curriculum. The ARC recognizes that it is essential to improve the reading, writing, and critical thinking skills of our students.

S. Klein agreed to meet informally with the Provost and with Vice Provosts Ecker and Aggrey to discuss administrative support for the WAC Program,

Information Literacy Curriculum Standards:

E. Risch distributed the Librarians' latest draft of the "Information Literacy Curriculum Designed to Meet Middle States' Standards".

Courseload Adjustment (CLA) Proposed School Core and General Education Program:

S. Klein distributed two documents for the committee to review: an overview of the proposed CLA Gen Ed Program and a comparison of the General Education proposals put forth by CLA, the Deans,

SSHS, and the Advisement Center, as well as the Revisions proposed at the April 7 CLA meeting.

F. Shapiro-Skrobe raised questions as to course levels for the proposed “Studies in “ courses, the issue of double counting, and the place of foreign language courses in these proposed new categories.

S. Klein stated that CLA recommended in its report that ARC create a subcommittee to implement the new General Education Program.

One major issue discussed was College Seminar: what its content should be, where it would be housed, and whether it should be offered for credit or no credit. R. Mentore reiterated that a move to reduce both the academic credit and academic content would be regressive. S. Klein invited R. Mentore, the Director of the First Year Seminar Program, to attend the next CLA meeting, to be held that afternoon at 3:30 in the Library, to share his expertise and to voice his concerns.

While ARC is not prepared to make recommendations re: CLA to the Faculty Assembly. we agreed that S. Klein should inform CLA members at their next meeting that ARC believes that there are too many requirements in the proposed Gen Ed Program; that “Studies” should be switched back to “Readings” to ensure a literary component; that “Intercultural America” and “World Cultures” should be integrated into all other categories and courses and be eliminated as separate categories; and that uniform minimum requirements should be instituted for all courses within a category.

We will continue this discussion at our next meeting on May 12th.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Frances Shapiro-Skrobe

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