

FACULTY COUNCIL
Minutes of April 2, 2009 Meeting

Present: Barnas, Bland, Carusi, Kipp, Pate (recorder-in-turn), Sibicky (chair)

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.
2. Minutes from March 19, 2009 meeting unanimously approved. Minutes from March 26 meeting unanimously approved (as amended).
3. Council members were reminded to get any missing council minutes to Greg for posting on the website.
4. Sibicky mentioned that members of the UIR delegation will be attending next week's meeting.
5. Agenda items for April 13 faculty meeting reviewed.
6. Kipp briefly discussed the faculty workload document she had prepared. This document will be posted on WebCT for all faculty to review. Kipp suggested breaking up specific areas of the document (e.g. questions about lab, course release, overload, etc.) for designated groups to look into. Since we are approaching the end of this semester, it was suggested that we have next year's faculty council look into this.
7. Council needs to decide on the timing for assigning next year's committees. There appears to be a consensus among council members that this take place in August (as in past years) rather than in June (like last year). Forms should go out to faculty by end of semester for selecting their top committee choices.
8. Concerns were raised about the recently released policy for off-campus courses. Kipp will contact concerned parties to try to reach some type of resolution.
9. Kipp informed Council that David Rhodes will attend an upcoming chairs' meeting to discuss concerns with the manner in which scholarship money is distributed.
10. A concern was raised that the online course evaluation system might have resulted in more personal/vicious attacks than the previous, hand-written evaluation system. While Council was in agreement that there is nothing we can really do to stop personal attacks of this nature, Carusi suggested that a directive be added to the top of the online form to discourage this type of behavior. Kipp will address this concern in her email to students about the evaluation process.
11. Council considered a question from the Curriculum Committee regarding Fine Arts general education credit (related to certain DANC courses that recently had been approved for general education credit.) After brief discussion, Bland made a motion that a third example of the limited exceptions to the fine arts general education requirement be added.¹ Barnas seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.
12. Sibicky announced that the music department has been asked to provide a specific proposal related to creation of their new major. This proposal is needed prior to the April 13 faculty meeting.
13. Meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.

¹ This would allow students to take two DANC courses (1.5 credits) each to fulfill ONE of their Fine Arts gen. ed. Credits.