Minutes of the USAO Faculty Association
Tuesday, 6 December 2011

Signed in as present:


I. Call to Order by President, Nancy Osborn, at 11:07 am.

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the 11/2/11 regular meeting of the USAO Faculty Association were delivered electronically by S. Rees on 11/28/11. A motion to approve the November 2011 minutes made by J. Loutsch, seconded by J. Bruce, and passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer’s Report

K. Crow announces a balance of $831.57 after purchase of distinguished graduate plaques.

IV. Committee Reports

- Tenure/Promotion committee will meet in January
- Curriculum committee presents the following changes for Faculty Association vote:

  1. Title and course description changed for IDS 1013. Course title “Rhetoric and Public Speaking” changed to “Rhetoric and Critical Thinking.” Details can be accessed HERE. Vote: 35 approve, 3 opposed, 1 abstention.

  2. Changes in course descriptions and dates for World Thought and Culture sequence designed to move some material from IDS 3313 to IDS 3323. Details are HERE, HERE, and HERE. Vote: 38 approve, 1 abstention.

  3. Changes in course descriptions and dates for American Civilization sequence, designed to move some material from IDS 2143 to 2133. Details HERE and HERE. Vote: 38 approve, 1 abstention.

  4. Creation of Computer Science minor. Details HERE. Vote: 32 approve, 1 opposed, 6 abstentions.
5. Dropping of Introduction to Computer Science from IDS core curriculum and changing course title from IDS 2003 to CSCI 1143. Details HERE. Vote: 28 approve, 4 opposed, 6 abstentions.

6. Adding Research Endorsement option to IDS core curriculum in place of Honors Senior Seminar option. Details HERE, HERE, HERE, and HERE. Heavy discussion ensues. President notes that change did not pass in Curriculum Committee. K. Lamar calls for question. Vote: 13 approve, 12 opposed, 10 abstentions. Discussion continues regarding the significance of these numbers. Resolved to report voting data to VPAA’s office.

- Handbook committee will meet 12/14/11 to complete their work on the VPAA’s handbook revision.

V. Old Business

VPAA has reviewed situation of Freshman Orientation midterm grades. Students with a D or F in Freshman Orientation should report to Nancy Hughes immediately for the opportunity to salvage their grade.

VI. New Business

J. Johnson addresses members on the subject of eliminating the Computer Science program. Computer Science courses will be offered through Spring 2014 in an effort to graduate existing majors. No courses will be repeated, so students must take and pass them all the first time.

Next meeting will be 10 January 2012.

Wellness Center Project request was approved by the Regents and is going forward.

Please continue to advise your Faculty Association representative of any scholarly activities you wish touted at Regents’ meetings. Schedule of meetings and attendees:

- 13 December, K. Crow
- 14 February, N. Osborn
- 10 April, N. Osborn
- 12 June, N. Osborn

VII. Announcements

- J. Mather reminds everyone to donate to Books for Tots
- K. Lamar reminds everyone to visit the Holiday Art Show in the 3rd floor gallery
J. Vaughn is applauded for having successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in Psychology.

VIII. Motion to adjourn by J.C. Casey, second K. Lamar, 11:55 am

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley S. Rees