

COUNCIL OF CHAIRS
Minutes
Wednesday, October 8, 2008
ACTION ITEMS IN RED

Present: E. Ahl, Provost Bernier, D. Beronä, N. Betchart, B. Boschmans, P. Cantor, K. Chong, I. Cucina, P. Fedorchak, D. Haight, K. Hart, E. Hoffman, L. Levy, D. Mackey, R. Marshall, G. Mears, D. Moore, L. Reitsma, J. Santore, C. Vascak, D. Zehr

Absent: T. Boggess, B. Lopez-Mayhew, C. Moniz, W. Tomkiewicz

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 p.m.

Welcome from Acting Chair, Khuan Chong.

Approval of draft minutes from September 24, 2008. Approved as submitted.

- General Education forum: any discussion after the forum?
Question about number of gen ed courses related to number of students at PSU related to number of sections that need to be offered. When the gen ed program was designed, the understanding was that enrollment would not go over 4000 and now its 4300. **Provost Bernier will email her report (distributed at a spring meeting) about department contribution to the gen ed program to everyone since so many chairs were on sabbatical.** There was a discussion about the program and the pros and cons related to the lack of double counting and the fairness of how we treat transfer students versus PSU students.
- Paperless registration – feedback from departments
- ED dept – good to save paper, but some of the detail that is in the paper can't show online in Banner. Info in front of schedule is very helpful and shouldn't lose that. What happens if Banner goes down!!
- CM dept – split support. Some people just like having a paper copy to look at with students. Don't need to print all the policies that are in the catalog – which would save paper. On advising night having the paper works well.
- HHP dept – will talk about at meeting next week. Now that their building is wireless students could bring their laptops to advising night but then there is no social interaction.
- EN dept – good idea
- BI – hasn't met yet.
- Grad Studies – moving to no more paper for next fall. Tried paperless before and students didn't like it, but students and faculty have gotten more tech-savvy and will try again.
- Registration nights are staggered to avoid bogging down the system.
- **Provost Bernier will check with Ann Thurston who was going to see whether the registration date could be moved back.**
- MA – students like the listings of gen ed in the front of the paper schedule.
- MU – looking at the printed list with CRN is so much easier than doing course query – but they can adjust.

- Implementation of new attendance policy – Liz Ahl
 Handed out new attendance policy that faculty passed last semester. As the chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, she met with Tim Keefe, Dean of Students, to discuss side effects of the new attendance policy. It is causing an enormous backlog at the Health Center. Students line up to get doctor's notes creating a traffic problem as well as a time problem. The Health Center is going to start temporarily issuing the old kind of notes to students to use for excused absences. There was concern from him about implementation interpretation problems.
 Provost Bernier shared that the Executive and Student Cabinets met to discuss this new policy. Students acknowledged that part of the problem is students don't talk to their faculty. Is there a problem with privacy and having the health center tell faculty about sick students? There isn't uniformity among the faculty in how they treat the sick note rule. Discussion.
- Curriculum Revision forum – some discussion about curriculum change to minimum of 120 credits for a degree, and allowing current students to do 120 if it means they can drop 2 crs of elective. **Provost Bernier and Dean Zehr will discuss with this issue with the appropriate committees and the faculty.**
- Carryover from the last meeting:
- Promotion and Tenure report – given at the September Faculty meeting
 no discussion.
- Announcements:
 - November 19th Dot Diehl (HHP) will be honored with a new women's athletic award. More information will be forthcoming. (Linda Levy)
 - October 14th, 12:15-1:15, women's studies roundtable on gender and the elections and feminism. (Liz Ahl)

The meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Alice O'Connor, Scribe

NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD.