

Academic Affairs Committee
Minutes of the 10-10-2006 Meeting
2:30, Edwards 164

Members Present:

Louis Keiner, Science, Chair	Dave DeCenzo, Provost
Pat Hardee, Education	Judy Vogt, Enrollment Services
Sharon Thompson, Education	Dan Lawless, Interim Registrar
Marvin Keene, Business	
Treelee MacAnn (for Elizabeth Keller)	
Patty Edwards, Humanities	
Jennifer Hughes, Library	
John Goodwin, Science	

Members Absent:

Jay Teets, Business

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the chair.

The minutes from the 9/12 meeting were approved.

The chair reported that the Faculty Senate had approved the proposals that were sent there last month.

B. Old Business:

None

C. New Business

1. Probation/Suspension Policy:

The topic of the implementation of Coastal's probation and suspension policy was raised. There was a problem at the end of summer where a number of students who tried to raise their GPA in summer school to avoid suspension were unsuccessful, but those grades were not reported until after they were already attending Fall classes. Since they were technically on suspension now and not eligible to be enrolled, this resulted in a difficult situation for the students and their families.

Judy Vogt made a presentation about the numbers of students affected by this problem. (See attached sheet.) There was much discussion about the following issues:

- Should summer school be allowed for persons on academic probation?
- Should the GPA be calculated at the end of summer, for purposes of determining probation, or just at the end of the 'regular' semesters?
- Should credit limits be placed on probationary students taking summer school?

It was decided that Judy Vogt and Dan Lawless should return next month with a proposal specifying a wording change to the University catalog along these lines:

- Students' GPAs should be calculated at the end of the Spring and Fall semesters for purposes of determining probation and suspension
- If students are on probation and wish to attend summer school, they should petition to do so with the limit of 4 credits per May/summer term.

2. Restructuring the AA and Core Curriculum Committee Structure?

The issue of a possible committee restructuring was brought up for discussion. The chair had discussed the issue at length with Margaret Fain of the Core Curriculum Committee. It was decided that a proposal should be written to be considered by Core Curriculum and Academic Affairs, along these general lines:

- The Intensive Writing and Computer Usage duties of both committees should be dropped, pending the elimination of those categories in the new Core Curriculum.
- The Core Curriculum petitions approval process should be devolved to the home college of the course in question.
- The Academic Affairs Course and Program approval process should be taken on by a new "University Curriculum Committee."
- The Academic Affairs function of "continuing evaluation of programs of instruction, educational policies, and admission standards" and the Core Curriculum Committee function of overseeing assessment of the Core Curriculum should be combined into a new University committee for "Academic Planning and Assessment Committee."
[note: proposed new committee names are just temporary placeholders.]

The chairs of Academic Affairs and Core Curriculum will meet and come up with a concrete proposal to be sent to the committees for consideration.

3. Question of College approval of courses and programs:

A request came from Humanities as to how other colleges approve courses and programs that come before the Academic Affairs Committee.

- Education: Faculty and Dean Approval at monthly meetings after program and curriculum committee approval
- Business: Entire Faculty approves at regular meetings
- Humanities: Curriculum Committee + Dean Approval
- Sciences: Curriculum Committee + Dean Approval

D. Good of the Order:

1. Patti Edwards asked if it would be possible to create a standard, perpetual meeting time for Academic Affairs. The chair said that he would look into it for Spring, and see if the committee can approve a standard time.

2. Sharon Thompson asked why Coastal does not have a transcript designation when a student fails a class because of academic dishonesty. Dan Lawless mentioned that the Registrars' national association discourages this.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM. Next Meeting, November 13, 2:30, Edwards 164