

Academic Affairs Committee
Minutes of the 9-12-2006 Meeting
2:30, Edwards 164

Members Present:

Louis Keiner, Science, Chair
Pat Hardee, Education
Sharon Thompson, Education
Jay Teets, Business
Marvin Keene, Business
Elizabeth Keller, Humanities
Bill Hamilton (for Patty
Edwards), Humanities
Jennifer Hughes, Library

Dave DeCenzo, Provost
Dan Lawless, Interim Registrar

Members Absent:

Judy Vogt, Enrollment Services
John Goodwin, Science

A. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the chair. Introductions were made, and the structure and the purpose were explained for the new members.

B. Old Business:

None

C. New Business

Request for Course Change: CHEM 422 to Writing Intensive.

The committee discussed what the requirements were for a writing intensive course. It was brought up that there did not seem to be clear standards stated in the catalog. The committee agreed that whatever the standards, this course clearly met them.

Motion to Accept: Sharon Thompson

Second: Marvin Keene

The motion passed unanimously.

Request for a New Course: POLI 431

Richard Collin spoke on behalf of this course to the committee. He explained that this course was in support of the Model United Nations program that Coastal students would go to yearly. It was noted that the course title listed on the

application form was “The United Nations” when it should be “The Model United Nations,” as it was listed as in the rest of the application.

Motion to Accept: Bill Hamilton

Second: Elizabeth Keller

The motion passed unanimously.

Request for a Change in Program and Deletion of Class: EDUC 380

This application was withdrawn until a later date at the request of the College of Education.

C.1. Good of the Order:

Absence Policy:

The topic of Coastal’s class absence policy was brought up by Dave DeCenzo. He stated that there were a couple of cases in the last two years where athletes had missed slightly more than 25% of the classes for a course, and the instructor had given them failing grades even though their calculated grade was an A or B. According to the University catalog, the instructor can automatically fail a student for missing more than 25% of the classes. It was felt that this was not fair to the student, if the student was representing the University for those absences.

The committee felt that the catalog should be changed to read that only *unexcused* absences would count towards the 25%. There was much discussion about how to change the wording so that only genuinely excusable absences were included in the exemption. The committee decided that the wording should be changed thus: (additions underlined, deletions struckthrough)

p 42, paragraph 3:

Absences will be excused for documented cases of:

- a) incapacitating illness,
- b) official representation of the University (excuses for official representation of the University should be obtained from the official supervising the activity),
- c) death of a close relative, and
- d) religious holidays.

p 42, paragraph 5:

An instructor is permitted to impose a penalty, including assigning the grade of F, for ~~excused or~~ unexcused absences in excess of 25% of the regularly scheduled class meetings.

Motion to Accept: Marvin Keene

Second: Pat Hardee

The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair informed the committee that there would be a proposal at the next meeting that would focus on restructuring the Academic Affairs and Core Curriculum Committees.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3 PM. Next Meeting, October 10, 2:30, Edwards 164