

Draft of ASCC Minutes
Friday, January 30, 2015
3:30-5:00pm
CNS 8

Present: Laura Nash (Chair), Steven Bayne, Margaret McClure, David McFadden, John Miecznikowski, Michael Pagano, James Simon

Regrets: Terry-Ann Jones, Kathryn Nantz, Glenn Sauer

Meeting began at 3:30 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2014

Corrections:

- “Upcoming for the Spring Semester” – change ‘*Chemistry 5-year review*’ to ‘*Bio-Chemistry 5-year review*’

James Simon moved to approve, Michael Pagano seconded; 5 in favor; David McFadden- abstained
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II. Announcements from Laura Nash

- Math course number change: MA321 to MA251. No change in content; Laura Nash approved.
- Spanish 231- asked to have two sections: one specifically for nursing and one specifically for business. Had numbers for both; Laura Nash approved.
- Special Topics Courses: 1) Art History 290 and 2) ‘Newport’- American Studies Graduate Course
- Laura Nash has a scheduled meeting with the Registrar’s Office to discuss forms, attributes section, what works and what doesn’t work.

III. Philosophy Course

Currently, a special topics course for Spring 2015 (2 sections and are both full); proposing to become a permanent course

- David McFadden – Needs to be a final paper worth more to differentiate between other papers during the semester
 - Steven Bayne – on page 6 of the proposal under ‘writing’ states that the last paper will be comprehensive and will be due during the final scheduled exam period
 - David McFadden – that needs to be much clearer
 - Steven Bayne – the three papers will be worth 25 points but the final paper will be comprehensive
 - Laura Nash – agrees that the proposal should be clearer
- James Simon – page 6 under ‘writing’ says students will write three short papers, one in response to each of the three course questions listed on page 5. So paper three would be on “what’s the reality of sex work” but paper three is also supposed to be comprehensive and cumulative for the whole semester. So how would this

paper be both comprehensive and on this topic. This should be flagged as a concern but this doesn't stop him from approving the course.

- John Miecznikowski – On page 6 under 'reading': students are expected to spend about four hours a week reading the assigned text. Is this normal for a 200-level course in philosophy?
 - Laura Nash – The general expectation is about 3 hours outside of the classroom for every hour in the classroom. So is this too little?
 - James Simon – There is also a writing component involved
 - David McFadden – It looks like there are a lot of readings but it is only 10% of the grade
 - Laura Nash – seems a bit assessment-light, it may be readings and a discussion of the readings but then the participation grade should be higher
- Steven Bayne – Academic integrity section – “students who are found academically dishonest will receive an F for the assignment” – that should be a '0' for the assignment

James Simon moved to approve, John Miecznikowski seconded. All in favor.

IV. Religious Studies Courses (three courses)

- Buddhism Course – RS286
 - Discussion:
 - David McFadden adds that this is a great course for Ron Davidson
 - John Miecznikowski thinks that there is a lot of rigor in the course and it is great to see the syllabus in the proposal

John Miecznikowski moved to approve, Michael Pagano seconded. All in favor.

- Mormonism in the American Church
 - Discussion:
 - Will be taught by the new faculty member
 - John Miecznikowski – how many pages are they going to read? There is a reading list but no indication on page numbers.
 - James Simon – not a requirement on the proposal

John Miecznikowski moved to approve, Michael Pagano seconded. All in favor.

- Islam, Race and Power
 - Discussion:
 - Steven Bayne – 9b – justification on how this will be taught says that because Intro to Islam is now being taught by adjunct faculty and the opportunity to each 200 level and up courses has opened up. Maybe that's the reason but relying on part-time faculty is problematic.
 - David McFadden agrees that it is the wrong rationale

- Laura Nash – can we dictate how a department handles their resources?
- Steven Bayne – thinks this is a red flag on academic quality, maybe not a good enough reason
- Michael Pagano – typo of “blackamerican” in the catalog description. Is this a new term or a mistake?
- Steven Bayne – are critical book reviews common?
 - Michael Pagano says he does it in one of his courses and it is ok and not a problem

James Simon moved to approve, John Miecznikowski seconded. All in favor. With the condition that “blackamerican” corrected or explained.

V. Changes to the Course Submission Form Discussion

- Course Catalog Description now has an unlimited text word count versus the prior 100 word limit
- Ask for Word Documents instead of PDFs- easier to copy and paste information for the Registrar’s Office
- Daytime (8am-6:15pm) turbo courses need to be scheduled during traditional time codes
- John Miecznikowski spoke with Susan Bickel and Jen DiMartino – they requested a list of all the approved US Diversity and World Diversity courses. In addition they want to know if it is instructor specific or for the whole section. Deadline of February 23rd for the report.
- James Simon on registration issues – course submission process by departments was a disaster in November. The Russ Batista and Christine Siegel will be attending the Dean’s Council meeting on February 11, 2015 to discuss how to properly submit courses.
 - Laura Nash adds that it was mainly an issue of terminology: example – ‘roll-over’ is used differently by the registrar’s office and the departments.
- ‘Department/Program’ instead of ‘Subject’
- Ask for a complete syllabus – refer to the faculty handbook for guidelines and journal of record for requirements
- Strongly suggest for: academic dishonesty, disability language.
- Don’t ask for attachments just put information in a box on form- other than the syllabus- that should remain as an attachment
- Number 8 – instructional resources – do we care about number 8?
 - Gives the Department Chair an opportunity to think about resources
- Number 7 – Push back to the chair’s section, an email can be sufficient versus a formal letter
- Chair’s section questions (9, 10 and 11) are designed to make the Department Chair to do their due diligence for department’s curriculum planning
- Subcommittee will work on specific requirements for department meeting minutes

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Minutes submitted by: Kat Phrasavath