Regular Meeting of the College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate
Monday December 19, 2011, 4:00 P.M.
104 Gore Hall
Minutes

Present: Andrews, Ardis, Batchis, Boyer, Broadnax, Carlsen, Cherrin, Cotsell, Coulter, Cubillos, Doren, Draper, Evenson, Galileo (for Noble-Harvey), Haslett, Hestvik (for Heinz), Kaminski, McKenna, Montano, Mycoff, Okpotor, Overby, Penix-Tadsen, Perez, Schwartz, Seraphin, Skeen, Szabo, Watson, Young

Absent: Budani, Cassman, Payne, Ridge, Lennon, Bernhardt

Excused: Bellion, Gutman

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

1. Consent Agenda

   a. Adoption of agenda for the December 19, 2011 meeting – approved unanimously as presented.

   b. Approval of the minutes of the November, 2011 meeting – approved unanimously as written.

2. President's Remarks (Tony Seraphin)

Following initial welcoming remarks, President Seraphin thanked all senators and senate committee members for their high level of willingness to serve throughout the fall semester, and called for special recognition of the contributions of Mary Cleveland. He noted the narrow defeat of the apportionment resolution, and commented that the CAS Senate will revisit the issue when the next opportune moment arises. He encouraged Senators to engage in dialogue with colleagues from other colleges to share the CAS perspective on the positive aspects of what reapportionment will accomplish, and to nominate and support colleagues’ nomination to University Faculty Senate (UFS) committees (particularly the COCAN and Executive committees), so that there will be a proportionate representation of CAS concerns.

Senator designate John Morgan added his comments about the apportionment issue, noting that UFS committee structure has become more defined, and that committees are more important than in the past. He observed that additional committees that are important are Rules, Undergraduate Studies, Graduate Studies, and the Coordinating Committee on Education (whose chair is president-elect of the senate).

President Seraphin concluded by offering his best wishes for a prosperous, productive new year.
3. Special Information Session: Dr. Scott Stevens, Director of the University of Delaware's English Language Institute (ELI).

Dr. Stevens gave an overview of the history and mission of the ELI, with which he has been associated for 30 years. The ELI was established 1979 as an academic unit of CAS. After moving away from CAS for a period of time, it is once again housed in the college. ELI currently has about 150 faculty and staff employees who do the scheduling, admission, advisement, cultural programming for Institute's students, who currently number several thousand. The ELI has expanded so that its operation requires rented space in several Newark buildings, including the second floor of the building that also houses the International House of Pancakes.

The ELI offers an intensive English Program for which there are 100 to 110 classes per session, with 6, 2-month sessions held per year. The classes are offered at 6 levels of proficiency, and there are 4 tracks of English to study: general, academic, business, and American culture. ELI also offers cultural programming, which includes host families, clubs, trips, and structured opportunities to join campus life. It operates a Conditional Admissions Program to help English requirements for conditionally admitted undergraduate and graduate students to meet requirements for English proficiency, and bridge programs for matriculated students. It houses the MA TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) program, which provides certification for Delaware public schools, and an International Teaching Assistant Program for about 100 students per year. Additional programs/institutes associated with ELI are the Christina School District Limited English Program (for children), the Evening Language Program (for adults, typically local professionals and UD spouses, English for Professional Purposes (language enhancement for corporate clients), the American Law and Legal English Institute, and teacher training (for foreign English teachers – people visiting from other countries who will return to teach English in those countries).

ELI receives external funding from numerous sources, including USAID, foreign ministries of education and foreign universities. Its faculty are involved in scholarship, particularly in methods of effective pedagogy, and collaborate in various ways with CAS departments.

A new CAP cohort program will start in March. Its focus will be on academic transition and engagement, with a gradual immersion in university life. The program will include group/cohort learning mentored by ELI staff (undergraduate and faculty advisors). The students will participate in university life as a cohort.

Senator designate Morgan inquired about possibility of doing prescreening of graduate student candidates on a more frequent basis.

4. Dean’s Remarks (George Watson)

Dean Watson noted that ELI is a critical element of the CAS and UD strategic plan to globalize the campus and further internationalize its curriculum, and welcomed the unit back to its original CAS home. He remarked that he endorses President Seraphin's remarks on apportionment. He provided updates on the following CAS business: 1) he has completed most of budget meetings with department chairs and leadership; 2) the new CAS web site is now live; 3) the review of P & T dossiers is currently underway. He acknowledged his service on the university budget taskforce (one of two Deans to serve), which is in the process of making recommendations for
ways to close the 14 million budget deficit (in excess of individual college deficits). These recommendations are due early in January. He concluded by commending the faculty for their hard work and wished everyone a restful holiday.

5. Business arising from Standing Committees

a. Diversity – Chair Overby announced that Margaret Andersen, the Executive Director of the President’s Diversity Initiative, will attend the CAS senate meeting in February.

b. Educational Affairs – The committee presented a slate of proposed course revisions and additions. President Seraphin asked if senators would like to call out any items for discussion. All items were approved without comment or question.

c. Steering Committee

i. Ad hoc WAC Committee – Brian Ackerman and Eric Rise (co-chairs). The charge of this committee is to collect information from departments about their current writing initiatives, including information about how and when their majors are meeting their second writing requirement. The committee will issue a report by end of May that will review merits and demerits of the current second writing programs, and make more extensive recommendations about WAC. It will research programs at other Universities as part of doing the latter, and will endeavor to make recommendations that respect the status of departmental resources.

ii. Ad hoc rules committee – President Seraphin noted that this committee issued a report, which was published on the Senate web site. The committee charge is provided at the top of the report. It suggests amendments to the bylaws, and recommends creation of a standing Rules Committee (to essentially serve the function of parliamentarian).

A question was asked by Senator Paul Evenson about the section of the report that notes the need to clarify the definition of “formally designated alternates.” Is there a suggestion for an amendment associated with it? Or, should this section be reworded to more clearly indicate what the recommendation is? John Morgan, who was a member of the committee, said that the specific wording of this section was intentionally left up to the steering committee, to be drafted in the future. Senator Evenson made a similar suggestion (for an associated amendment) for the recommendation to create a standing rules committee.

6. Unfinished business

There was no unfinished business.

7. New business

There was no new business.

8. Announcements
President Seraphin announced the critical dates in the nomination process for CAS faculty awards. Names of faculty to be nominated are due to the Dean's office by December 23 and completed nomination packets are due by January 31, 2012.
The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 pm.