



Congress

Monday, November 14, 2011

Approved Minutes
(Approved December 12, 2011)

Members Present: W. Barratt, K. Bauserman, D. Baez, C. Becker, M. Hare, F-Q. Lai, K. Liu, C. MacDonald, K. Moats, M. Modesitt, J. Powers, D. Collins

Members Absent: D. Krug, D. Quatroche

1. Meeting was called to order at: 3:00 pm
2. Minutes for October 10, 2011 were approved. Motion passed (Becker, Liu, 7-0-1).
3. New Business
 - a. Program Proposals
 - 1) EDLR, CIMT, CDCSEP – Change in BCOE minimum GPA Policy
After discussion about the impact of “minus” grades on GPA for students in doctoral programs, the proposal to change our minimum GPA from 3.5 to 3.3 was tabled (Barratt, MacDonald).
 - 2) Congress Policies – In an effort to update Congress Policies and make them more understandable, volunteers agreed to edit one section of the handbook. The handbook was divided into 3 sections with the assigned editors and due dates as follows:
 - a. Pages 4-8, M. Hare and F-Q Lai, December 12, 2011
 - b. Pages 19-24, K. Liu and W. Barratt, January 9, 2012
 - c. Pages 9-19, D. Krug, J. Powers, and K. Moats, February 13, 2012
4. Old Business
 - a. Grade Appeal Policy Proposal
J. Powers walked us through the updated proposal and 3 forms that were created to make the Grade Appeal Policy more understandable and more closely aligned with the College of Arts & Sciences policy. Associate Dean Collins suggested that there should be a standing committee ready to convene when an appeal arises. It was noted that the email address needs to be corrected on the contact page. After passing, the policy will be placed on the BCOE website. (Liu, Becker, 8, 0, 0)
5. Faculty Senate Representative Report
C. MacDonald reported on the “minus” grading issue. She said there was a lively discussion on the topic at Faculty Senate. Some unintended consequences of the grade change implemented in 2009 are the impact on student GPAs and loss in student retention.

6. Dean's Report (given by Associate Dean Collins)
 - Sycamore Educators Day was very successful this year.
 - Dean Balch, D. Quatroche, and S. Kiger are in Washington, D.C. representing ISU at the Teachers for a New Era Conference.
 - The Dean's office was thanked for providing clocks in the classrooms.
 - Word from the Provost's office on new searches is expected this week.
7. Chair's Report

C. MacDonald reported that a home has been found in BCOE for faculty plaques. They will be taken out of storage and placed in the second floor balcony hallway just outside the theatre.
8. Open Discussion
 - J. Powers reported that Opportunity Hires was successful again this year. More than 20 minority candidates visited campus.
 - Scholar Collaboration Day will be February 20, 2012.
 - Teachers of Tomorrow event will be November 15, 2011. About 30 students and their families are expected.
 - There will be a teleconference hosted by Dr. Bradley on January 31 on Tenure and Promotion for African-American faculty that will be presented by a nationally known author on the topic.
9. Adjournment at 4:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathryn Bauserman
Congress Secretary