

Augustana College

Rock Island, IL

**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
April 12, 2012
Hanson Science Building, Room 102
11:30 AM**

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Pamela Druger. Roll call was taken by Katie Hanson.

Members unable to attend: Tim Bloser, Lendol Calder, Dan Cortis, David Ellis, Kevin Geedey, Laura Greene, Ellen Hay, Virginia Johnson, Mary Kilbride, Dell Jensen, Mario Magalhães, Norm Moline, Paul Olsen, Jayne Rose, Lori Scott, Cecilia Vogel, Peter Xiao

Members excused: Amanda Baugous, Deb Bracke, Kristin Douglas, S. Fenwick, Bill Hammer, Randy Hengst, Jason Koontz, Jamie Nelson

2. **Approval of minutes from the December 1, 2011 meeting of the Senate**
“To approve the minutes from the December 1, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting.”
MOTION CARRIED

Approval of minutes from the February 2, 2012 meeting of the Senate
“To approve the minutes from the February 2, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting.”
MOTION CARRIED

3. **Approval of Consent Agenda**

- **New Course/LP/Suffix: ARHI 370 [PP, G]: Dutch Art & Identity 3 cr. [Morse]**
- **New Course: MUSC 116: Rudiments of Music Composition 2 cr. [Bancks]**
- **New Course: MATH 477: SI Mathematics 3 cr. [Bengtson]**
- **New Course: MATH 478: SI Applied Mathematics 3 cr. [Bengtson]**
- **New Course: ENCW 490: Creative Writing Senior Inquiry 1 cr. [Daniels]**
- **New Course: MUCH 111 (211, 311, 411): Rudiments of Music Composition .5 cr. [Bancks]**
- **New Course: LSFY 103: Becoming a Gay and Lesbian Community 3 cr. [Bengtson]**
- **New Course: BIOL 390: Service-Learning in Nicaragua 2 cr. [Wegman-Geedey]**
- **New Course: BIOL 467a: Nursing Clinical SI: Question & Design 1 cr. [Wegman-Geedey]**
- **New Course: BIOL 467b: Nursing SI: Analysis & Reflection 2 cr. [Wegman-Geedey]**
- **New Course: HONR 128: Mind and Meaning 4 cr. [Crowe]**
- **Suffix: ARHI 368 [D]: American Art 3 cr. [Goebel]**
- **“Logic” Contract Major for Jacob Gaier**
- **Course Credit Change: PSYCH 230: Victim Advocacy 1 cr. CHANGE TO 2 cr.**
- **Augustana College and Northern Illinois University Articulated Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science in Engineering Program Agreement**
- **Academic Calendar 2014-2015 with addition of Labor Day Holiday**
- **Academic Calendar 2015-2016 with addition of Labor Day Holiday**
- **Math Senior Inquiry Structure Change**
- **Creative Writing Minor/Major changes**
- **Course Expiration Policy Proposal**
- **Final Exam Policy Proposal**

4. Motions

4.1 Motion-AS&D [Fowler]

“To approve the 2011-12 Winter Term and Spring Term Candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, subject to completion of all degree requirements.”

MOTION CARRIED

4.2 Motion- EPC

“To approve the Augustana Pre-Enrollment Earned Credit Policy for First-Year Students”

Discussion: As a result of a conversation President Bahls initiated at the 2011 Faculty Retreat over concerns about the steady increase of early graduates because of transferred-in high school AP and dual enrollment credits, Liesl Fowler responded by drafting the “Pre-Enrollment Policy Issues” document, which was approved by Cabinet on 2-1-12 and by EPC 3-6-12. Cabinet recommended the college implement item “C” of the document “Augustana Pre-Enrollment Earned Credit Policy for First-Year Students.” Pareena Lawrence reported the number of high school students matriculating to Augustana with college credits has been on the rise. Because our budget is based on students attending Augustana for four years, this creates budget problems if students enter Augustana with sophomore status.

Steve Klien asked what the practical implications of this policy are. Liesl indicated that for most students it is to their advantage to be considered first-year students because they will receive more scholarships. Those students most at a disadvantage will be transfer students, as their incoming credits do not apply towards gen ed requirements, SI, etc., yet they still are required to take 60 credits at Augustana. Darrin Good questioned if the incoming students work with their advisor to determine which courses to declare. Liesl Fowler affirmed that this is the case. Incoming students also work with the Registrar’s Office before fall orientation to discuss their options, and no final decisions are made without consulting with the advisor. Rowen Schusheim-Anderson expressed concern that this policy might deter writing students coming in with AP credits. Pareena replied that the policy has not changed. It is still at 18 credits. Rowen Schusheim-Anderson asked if there is concern that only the brightest students in high school are the ones who are bringing in college-level credit. Pareena’s response was to ask how we define what an Augustana student is, and what does it mean for them to get a college education here. Administration feels that one year of credit is enough to bring in. Some schools will not allow any credit earned as a high school student to be transferred in their institutions. Augustana wishes to strike a balance so as not to lose those students to another institution. Tom Bengtson noted that he shared Rowen Schusheim-Anderson’s concern, but made no further comment.

Brian Katz asked if the state of Illinois or Iowa oversees college courses taught by high school teachers in any way. Although she did not know Iowa or Illinois’ policy, Pareena Lawrence reported that at the University of Minnesota, a faculty member vets the syllabus and textbook for a high school teacher, and the teacher is required to have a Master’s degree to teach that

course. Exams may or may not be vetted by a faculty member; it depends on the faculty member. Dave Hill commented that it is not clear to him that most of these high schools are qualified to teach college courses. Dave felt the college should be responsible in taking control over what our students do to receive a degree from Augustana, and feels this is a reasonable solution.

MOTION CARRIED

4.3 Motion-Faculty Senate Steering Committee

“To authorize awarding the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa* to Philip William McKinley in recognition of his numerous contributions to the arts and culture of our nation and world, and in thanksgiving for the many ways in which his career has brought honor and recognition to the College.”

MOTION CARRIED.

5. Reports

5.1 4-1-4

Pareena Lawrence reported that faculty have had several opportunities to discuss the 4-1-4 Calendar and Curricular Realignment Proposal, and participation and discussion has been good. Dr. Lawrence thanked the faculty for their participation.

As it relates to the 4-1-4 calendar, Dr. Lawrence indicated she emailed to faculty new information on how pre-tenure leaves and sabbaticals would look in that scenario. In general, there would be a two-course release for pre-tenure leaves and a two-course release (15 week full-pay sabbatical leave or a three-course release (15-week plus J-term) sabbatical at 80% pay.

5.2 4-Year Graduation Guarantee

Because the March 2012 faculty senate meeting was cancelled, this document comes to Faculty Senate as a fully-implemented policy. Since Augustana’s graduation rate is so outstanding, the Parents’ Council, where this idea originated, wanted Augustana to put the guarantee in writing, and have Augustana stand behind that statement.

Mike Wolf indicated that the version of the document presented at the meeting was not the current one, as the final document reports that the actual graduation rate is 71%. Dr. Lawrence clarified that it is true that of those students who stay at Augustana for four years, the graduation rate is 95%; however, not all students stay all four years at Augustana, which changes the graduation rate to 71.1%. To announce this statistic publicly, official IPED data must be used.

Jane Simonson asked if the 4-year guarantee document contains any information about adding a second major. She commented that a number of departments rely very much on these second majors, that already students face a lot of pressure by their parents not to declare. She indicated that some faculty are concerned that this kind of thinking will exacerbate with such a policy in place. Dean Lawrence indicated that the college cannot guarantee double and triple majors, but the college can respond to the huge investment parents make in their child's education by indicating its commitment to making sure their student can graduate in four years. Jane Simonsen stated she would like to see an initiative from the Admissions Department to inform first-year students what majors are available, and to publicize such that parents can be assured that their student can get a job with any of Augustana's majors. Jane asked the amount of paperwork involved in this agreement. Pareena indicated that the back-end part and the advising part of it is being worked on now. The Dean's Office will manage the forms. Only a handful of students are expected to sign the agreement each year. Liesl Fowler added that there are approximately 30 students each fall who are late graduates, and this year there will be over 50 overload letters sent to students.

Kelly Daniels asked if this policy will put pressure on faculty to make special concessions for students so that they pass classes. Dr. Lawrence replied, no, faculty are not expected to make concessions. Students will still need to maintain a 3.0 GPA. In response to a question by Dave Hill, Dr. Lawrence acknowledged this agreement guarantees only tuition and fees. Dave Hill commented that the college should not be concerned with a great amount of risk by implementing this agreement.

Dave Dehnel asked if the college ought to offer a better guarantee that gives more scope to the liberal arts majors. Dean Lawrence replied that as an institution, we cannot afford to give those students those guarantees. If it is a small number, we can manage it, but should the number of students rise to 50, for example, the college cannot afford that. At some point it adds to the cost to the institution.

Dara Wegman-Geedey suggested adding a caveat in the agreement for students who need to withdraw from the college for medical reasons.

Brian Katz indicated the document seems to indicate that the college will pay tuition to someone for the additional required courses the student might need. That sentence may need reworded.

John Pfautz commented that the weight of advising is increased through the incorporation of this agreement, as opposed to when the college used to say that you the student are responsible for your four-year program. Dean Lawrence clarified that the onus is still on the student, only now their advisor would know that the guarantee is in place.

In the instance when the advisor makes an error which results in the student not completing degree requirements in four years, Dave Hill asked if the student can claim they were misinformed. Dean Lawrence indicated that the Web-based system creates a written record as to what the student and advisor agree upon so there is no room for misunderstanding.

Dave Hill asked if this was being used as a marketing tool, as guarantees such as this are not consistent with the basic principles of a liberal arts education. Dean Lawrence stated that since the college's graduation rate is already at 92%, she does not believe it is a marketing tool.

Jane Simonsen stated that she has heard from students who want to declare a major in "*this*", but their parents will not allow them to. Jane asked to go on the record saying that this new agreement will make that worse. She stated there is a difference in something that is written and something that is not. Many students will not take a class in a certain discipline because they do not know what it is. They certainly then, will not declare that kind of major the end of their first year unless someone tells them about it. Dean Lawrence stated that departments and programs need to provide the Admissions Department with the right tools or words that the departments and programs would like to use to describe their majors so Admissions can use that for marketing. The role of the Admissions Department only goes so far, however.

Jason Peters stated that he is in agreement with David Hill, that this is inimicable to the college spirit of a liberal arts education. This has all the appearance of trying to recruit six or more students in an effort to make a class will not necessarily recruit genuinely curious students.

Pamela Druger announced that this new agreement has gone public. If the faculty wish to make changes, it can be revised next year. If the faculty have comments, suggestions for re-wording, etc., they may be sent to Randy Hengst, Pareena Lawrence, or Pamela Druger.

6. Announcements

6.1 2012-2013 Faculty Senate Meetings

The time period to hold faculty senate meetings in the next academic year with the fewest conflicts is 5:20 PM on Wednesdays, which suggests a 5:30 PM meeting time. The senators were asked for ideas for an optimal time to meet. Kathy Jakielski asked if the new faculty senate for 2012-13 should be voting on this. Pamela Druger said they will, but this year's group wants to put forth some ideas. Pamela Druger shared a thought that perhaps having two, instead of three meetings a term, may be desired. Rowen Schussheim-Anderson suggested early morning meetings.

Steve Klien stated that there are potential conflicts with child care for early morning or afternoon meetings, but that evening meetings would be easier of the two. The senators were asked to think about it and bring ideas to the next senate meeting on May 3, 2012.

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski
Academic Affairs