

Rules, Procedures and Agenda (RP&A) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 2, 2011
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Physics Bldg. 208

Attending: M Schulz, KM Isaac, D Westenberg, J Cohen, M Fitch, D Tauritz, B Hale, M Davis, L Haynes, V Gandikota, J Martin

1. Approval of March 2, 2011 RP&A Agenda.
Approved with insertion of item 3

2. Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2011 RP&A Meeting.
Approved with revision (Item #10)

There are a variety of courses not currently assigned to either an academic department nor a special program, and consequently not permitted by the bylaws to be revised because only academic departments and special programs may submit curriculum forms to the Campus Curricula Committee. These courses were “orphaned” when the campus eliminated school and colleges under which these courses used to fall. We discussed the options available to resolve these issues, including changing the bylaws to allow special programs to have courses of more than one credit hour or creating a separate class of externally accredited special programs without the one hour restriction. The vast majority of those present were against changing the bylaws as they felt the arguments for doing so were not sufficiently convincing. Instead, they strongly favored assigning all courses of more than one credit hour to an academic department.

For the teacher education program the specific suggestions were to either assign it to ALP or to create a new department. Lance pointed out that that program originally resided in ALP and that as far as he is concerned the EDU courses still fall under ALP so he can sign curriculum forms for that discipline. He also stated that he would be happy to see that program assigned back to ALP.

For the hit the ground running course there was a consensus that it should be assigned to a department and ALP was mentioned as being a good fit (or perhaps the least bad fit).

For the freshman engineering program there was somewhat of a split between those favoring that it be assigned to an existing department versus those favoring it being made a special program, with a majority feeling that as long as the faculty governance part of a proposal to create a special program for freshman engineering was done well (i.e., consisting of strong champions generally regarded to represent well the related departments and uphold academic standards), then it would have a fair chance of receiving the blessing of RP&A.

D Tauritz said he would report this decision to the Provost and the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies

3. Public Occasions (Westenberg)
UMKC wants to start the 16-week Spring calendar in 2012, instead of 2013. There were no objections at RP&A. D Westenberg will discuss with S&T stakeholders (recruitment, enrollment) and given a green light, will introduce to S&T Faculty Senate. The Board of Curators will have to approve the switch.
4. Upcoming Board of Curators meeting (Isaac)

BOC meeting at S&T will occur Monday Mar 21 and Tuesday Mar 22. KM wants to invite two professors for research presentations, one tenured, one assistant. M Schulz suggested a science professor for one of the slots.

5. Retirement Committee Report (Davis)
The committee will vote to recommend one of four options: (A): Stick with defined benefit; (B): Hybrid DB/defined contribution, but defer to Board of Curators; (C): Hybrid DB/DC, recommendation to BOC; (D): Switch to DC. Most campuses preferred B or C. M Davis will present this report to Faculty Senate.
6. Presidential Search (Davis)
IFC discussed this process. A committee will be formed with one faculty member from each campus, plus the IFC chair, who is at UMC. Campus reps will be selected from Curators' and Curators' Teaching profs. There will be an open forum on the search here March 15.
7. Bylaws changes for dept chairs' revised responsibilities and related topics (Isaac).
DCC submitted a revised text for the bylaws:

d. Department Chairs Council

The Department Chairs Council (DCC) consists of titled departmental chairs, including acting and interim Chairs and other officials who supervise faculty and report to the Provost. The DCC considers all matters referred to it by the Board of Curators, the President of the University, the Chancellor, the Provost, and individual chairs. The DCC, acting in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Curators, formulates, recommends and assists in the implementation of issues of mutual concern to department chairs.

Suggested revisions from RP&A are in bold below:

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Some concerns remained about the language in the section and the legal status of DCC. B Hale will review the paragraph further and propose further changes, if they appear warranted.

8. Comments from UM – Legal on proposed T & P policies (Cohen)
B Schwartz has yet to report back to J Cohen on the status of the changes. Jerry said he will attempt to contact the provost directly.

9. Sustainability Minor (Tauritz)
The Provost has requested implementation of the Sustainability Minor. The Program Leader of the Sustainability Minor Special Program must submit a DC form to the Campus Curricula Committee for the minor to be implemented.
10. Academic Integrity (Davis)
The new policy was approved at IFC. The policy will be forwarded to the Provost, who will post it on his website. Language in the new policy appears to conflict with the CRR.
11. Grievance Procedures (Isaac)
There was consternation in high places that the “pilot” policy was rejected by the S&T Faculty Senate. The Provost wants a meeting with Graham and Rubin and representatives of relevant campus committees (FS officers, Personnel, Academic Freedom) as well as some of the FS members who opposed the motion. This meeting will be held during the BOC visit on March 22.
12. Report on MAFS meeting (Davis)
Not much going on.
13. Student Academic Regulations (Isaac/Referral from Debra Robinson)
D Robinson approved the language recommended by RP&A (see Feb 7 minutes), with the slight revision indicated in bold

SAR Sec VIII Undergraduate Studies –I.3c:

“A student may request **consultation through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs in the event they need clarification on student related policies and procedures”.**

14. FS Agenda
15. Next Scheduled Meeting – April 6, 2011
16. Adjourn

Referrals Ongoing

1. RP&A ref - Across the Board versus Targeted Budget Cuts (Budgetary Affairs)

Ongoing Monitoring (Review as necessary)

1. Provost's web site – posting of T&P rules. (G. Cohen)
2. Archiving FS data (Isaac)

Other Committee Items (Review as necessary)

1. Budgetary Planning, Start-up Packages (Budgetary Affairs)
2. Academic Integrity (Academic Freedom & Standards) (Waiting for IFC progress)