

Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee  
Wednesday, May 9, 1979  
3:00 p.m. Room 2067 - Cushman Hall

Present: Dr. Hill, Dr. Swan, Dr. Baldino, Mr. Skarote,  
Dr. Kougl, Dr. Richley, Dr. Scriven

Actions:

1. Dr. Baldino moved approval of the minutes of April 11 and 18. Seconded by Dr. Kougl. Unanimously approved.
2. Dr. Hill explained the agenda: Dr. Jenkins requested a statement relative to our reaction to Dr. Cohen's proposal. Concerning the Honors Program; Dr. Baer's proposal won't be presented to the University Senate this year. It is on the Senate agenda, however I assume it will be removed. Dr. Baer is available to meet with us. I believe Dr. Cochran's A&S committee is still discussing courses related to the proposal.
3. Experimental Courses:

Dr. Scriven was interested in a suggestion of action discussed at the April 11 meeting. Why don't we request special topics at the 500 level be initiated to handle these curriculum matters?

Dr. Swan's motion: Resolved, That, the Academic Affairs Committee is sympathetic to the desire to have an expeditious curriculum procedure, however, we find the proposed policy on experimental courses to include possible substantive, procedural, and collective bargaining difficulties.

Seconded by Dr. Baldino. Discussion continued.

Dr. Baldino felt that the effect of the motion would be to receive clarifications for the objections we have raised. The proposal can not be approved in its present form. We have profound reservations concerning points of direct clash with established procedures.

Dr. Hill pointed out that the nature of the developing proposal is probably a Curriculum Committee matter. He was concerned that it may not be our business to recommend a course of action.

Dr. Richley agreed, if anyone could develop a mechanism to bring off the proposal, it probably would be the Curriculum Committee. There are many mechanical problems that the Curriculum Committee knows how to handle.

Dr. Swan pointed out further objections to Dr. Cohen's proposal, there are faculty violations and procedural violations, such as giving the veto to Dr. Edgar.

Dr. Baldino added, it is clear that there are many unanswered questions which must be answered before a decision of approval or disapproval is made.

A vote on Dr. Swan's motion was called. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Honors Program:

Dr. Baldino was concerned with the proposed minimum standards for the honors program. How does the proposed program differ from the current program? What are the standards applied to the course content and credit? Dr. Cochran raises questions that we can not really answer without additional information.

Dr. Scriven felt the proposal dealt with minimum academic standards for admission to the current honors program.

Dr. Baldino disagreed. He pointed out that page one of the proposal deals with admission, however, Draft #4 deals with protocol for approval of the honors seminars.

Dr. Hill assumed Draft #4 when completed would insure that when someone proposes a particular honors seminar, the content will be carefully considered. He was concerned with how departments avail themselves of honor seminar numbers.

Dr. Scriven answered, seminar titles are given to already approved honors seminars.

Dr. Baldino asked what is the use of setting up a procedure for operation without indicating what the honors program includes and what will be designated as such?

Dr. Kougl asked, how is the current program run without any standards?

Dr. Baldino answered, in the current program Dr. Altinger had each department set its own standards. Now, apparently, they want some minimal requirements.

Dr. Richley also requested further information. I need to know how the current program exists and how the standards would change in the proposed program.

Dr. Swan suggested tabling the proposal until we have the answers to our questions.

Dr. Scriven suggested we speak to Dr. Baer to find out if our responses are urgently needed.

Dr. Hill pointed out that Dr. Baer said the proposal won't be before the Senate this year.

5. General Education Advisory Committee:

Dr. Hill summarized, I have the committee pretty well squared away. When I finish the appointments you will receive the list of names. If you have any objections, please let me know. Perhaps this committee can meet once before the school year is over.

6. Dr. Kougl moved for adjournment. Seconded by Dr. Baldino. Unanimously approved.