Academic Affairs Council Meeting  
8-9 AM Tuesday, September 22nd, 2009  
107 Lab of Mechanics 

Minutes

Committee Members Present:  
Suzanne Hendrich, FSHN, Chair of AAC  
Geoff Abelson, Academic Standards and Admissions  
Sanjeev Agarwal, Marketing, College of Business  
Michael Clough, Curriculum & Instruction, College of Human Sciences  
Brad Dell, Music & Theatre, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
April Katz, Art & Design, College of Design  
Robert Martin, Agricultural Education & Studies, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Jim Thompson, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Guests Present:  
None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes  
Not addressed

Meeting began with Suzanne summarizing AAC significant accomplishments from prior academic year. This was followed by introductions of AAC members, and reviewing the purpose of the committee. According to the information on the Faculty Senate web site, the 2009-10 AAC Council Charge is as follows:

Coordinates the creation and consideration of policy in the area of academic affairs, including but not limited to instructional policies, honors programs, and the academic calendar. Coordinates the policy proposals of the Committee on Curriculum and the Committee on Academic Standards and Admissions. Works with the Committee on Honorary Degrees to solicit nominations from the faculty and to assist the committee as needed.

Committee Reports

(a) Jim Thompson, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee  
First meeting of this academic year has not yet taken place, therefore no business to report. An issue that will likely be addressed this year is Library 160 (What is the need for this course? Should it be revised? If so, how?)

(b) Geoff Abelson, Academic Standards and Admissions (AS&A)  
First meeting of this academic year has not yet taken place, therefore not business to report. Suzanne asked whether a report would be forthcoming regarding how the new academic standards are working. Geoff replied that more data is needed for a meaningful report, perhaps following an entire cohort group going through the university.

New Business

Suzanne summarized AAC general procedures.
Discussion regarding budgetary impact on programs and the need for faculty review was discussed.

Question was raised regarding whether curriculum is part of the strategic plan. The possible role of AAC in supporting faculty and playing a leadership role was discussed.

The point was made that ISU and ISU faculty may have a different view on what is meant by “world class faculty”. ISU administration view of that phrase likely means “research faculty”. Many ISU faculty view of that phrase is “faculty who work well with students, particularly undergraduates”.

The role of AAC in considering what would make ISU a better place for academic programs was raised.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:52 AM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 13, 2008, 8:00AM

Minutes prepared by Michael Clough