

FSAC Minutes

October 30, 2008

1:00 - 3:00 Sue Jameson Room

Present: Sunil Tiwari, Carlos Ayala (recorder), Richard Senghas, Helmut Wautischer

Guest: Victor Garlin

Convened at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Approval of Minutes: Approved with two minor corrections.

Reports:

Tiwari (chair of FSAC) shared the draft 16 unit cap policy that will be implemented next semester and added to agenda this topic for discussion. The statement of collegiality has been added to the EXCOM agenda. Minor in Jewish studies has been added to senate agenda.

Wautischer (academic freedom subcommittee) stated that several persons will consult with the AFS about code of conduct at job fairs.

Business Items:

Item 1, Textbook adoption policy. FSAC agreed that several important factors need to be considered when debating the text book adoption policy. *1) Undue burden:* The new policy does impose a burden and decisions should revolve around what is an undue burden on faculty. What does this look like? *2) Context dependent:* There are time and discipline contexts that afford and constrain the implementation of an ATI text book policy. For example, when a course is authorized for implementation may be beyond deadline. How do we handle that? What about shadow sections? How do we handle last minute text book changes? *3) Reasonable accommodations:* We need to think about what are reasonable accommodations for students with respect to text book materials. *4) Reducing impact on pedagogical implementation:* There should be no unreasonable impact on pedagogy based on the implementation of the policy. *5) Acknowledge the importance of the policy.* FSAC agreed that there are important and significant reasons for implementing this policy with appropriate and reasonable accommodations.

Item 2, 3, 4 not addressed.

Adjourned 2:56 p.m.