

Academic Affairs Committee Minutes
November 8, 2016

Present: LISA MCDANIELS, Beth Schiller, Jenner Foster, Jacob Adner, Sahan Dissanayake, Barbara Moore, Nadia El-Shaarawi, Jim Scott, Fernando Gouvea, Margaret McFadden, Jim Sloat, Marta Ameri

- I. Approval of the minutes
The minutes for November 1 were approved with the correction that Lisa McDaniels was present, and as excellent as ever.
- II. Course proposal subcommittee
Moved and approved the consent agenda of courses approved by the subcommittee.
AM 493: Space, Culture, and Neoliberalism
ED 398: Gender, Sexuality, and Education
- III. Discussion of proposal for a minor in English
After a committee discussion to clarify various elements of the English minor proposal, department chair Mary Ellis Gibson and curriculum committee chair Laurie Osborne joined the committee to respond to questions and take suggestions. They ably handled questions about how many students might select the minor or move from a major to a minor or vice versa; about whether they could staff the minor if both faculty lines currently in abeyance were not returned to the department (yes, if sabbaticals are replaced); about why literature courses in other languages would not count toward the new minor; about the very structured nature of the minor; about why the senior seminar was a good thing to require and how the students would be prepared to work at that level with majors; and about how the minor could contribute to helping the major evolve and become more interdisciplinary and diverse. The committee was very favorably impressed by the thoughtfulness of the proposal and the department's responses and will look forward to reviewing a second draft soon.

NEXT MEETING: November 29th at 4:00 in DIAM 146.

There will be **no meeting on November 22**: Happy Thanksgiving!