

Academic Affairs Committee—October 3, 2017

Present: Russ Johnson, Sandy Maisel, Dale Kocevski, David Freidenreich, Katie Donihue, Adrienne Carmack, Marques Houston, Sam Scott, Jacob Adner, Beth Schiller, Barbara Moore, Jim Sloat, Loren McClenahan

I. Minutes from the September 19, 2017 meeting were approved.

II. The committee reviewed some potential action items for the upcoming year:

- It was confirmed that the committee will send on to the Faculty Steering Committee a proposal to form a Subcommittee on Academic Schedule.
- The Distribution Requirements Task Force will be asked to give a report of its activities to the committee later in the fall semester.
- Several members of the committee indicated that they wanted to revisit the question of A+ grades, a topic that was discussed last year. Jim, Beth, and Russ will prepare some relevant statistics for discussion at a meeting in the near future.
- Sandy would like to have some further discussion of the final exam schedule. Saturday evening and Sunday morning exams are particularly problematic.

III. Consent agenda: course approval

Reviewed and approved three new Sociology courses.

- Gender, Work, and Family
- State, Society, and Politics
- Social Policy and Inequality

IV. Proposed changes to the major in Mathematical Sciences

The proposal had been discussed at the final AAC meeting last spring. At that time, the M&S department was asked to have conversations with Economics and Physics. They have now confirmed that the Physics and Economics departments are on board with these changes. After some discussion, the committee decided to ask the M&S department to clarify some ambiguous language in the proposal – for reconsideration at the next meeting.