

Academic Affairs Committee—November 14, 2017

Present: Sandy Maisel, Dale Kocevski, Steve Saunders, Katie Donihue, Loren McClenahan, Beth Schiller, Sam Scott, Adrienne Carmack, Jacob Adner, Barbara Moore, Russ Johnson, Jim Sloat, David Freidenreich (by phone)

I. Minutes from the November 7, 2017 meeting were approved.

II. Final exam scheduling

The committee looked at the results of a faculty survey. The survey (with 93 respondents) indicated that:

16% of classes require a 4.5 hour final exam block

46% of classes require a 3 hour final exam block

38% of classes do not require a scheduled classroom for a final exam

The possibility of creating a “mixed” final exam schedule with some 4.5 hour blocks and some 3 hour blocks was discussed but generally considered impractical. The biggest hurdle is that groups of classes that meet at the same time during the semester needed to be grouped together in the exam blocks, and such groups would probably contain mixtures of classes needing 4.5 and 3 hour blocks.

A question was raised about whether the small group of faculty members who currently use the full 4.5 hour time block for final exams might be willing to convert to 3 hour blocks. Russ agreed to send out a query to all faculty members asking that question.

It was unanimously agreed that the committee will not meet on Tuesday November 21 (the day before Thanksgiving break).