

Academic Affairs Committee—April 24, 2018

Present: Sandy Maisel, Steve Saunders, Loren McClenahan, David Freidenreich, Katie Donahue, Sam Scott, Russ Johnson, Jim Sloat, Dale Kocevski, Beth Schiller, Adrienne Carmack

I. The minutes from the April 17, 2018 meeting were approved.

II. The following course proposals were approved:

- A. Art 2xx (A, U) Facing America: Race and Representation, 1492 to Present
- B. Art 2xx (A) Design Thinking Studio: Performative Sculpture
- C. English 2xx (exp, L, U) Race, Gender, and Experimental Women's Writing
- D. English 3xx (exp, L, I) Life in Times of Extinction
- E. Global Studies 3xx (S, I) Topics in Latin American Economic Policy
- F. History 2xx (exp, H, I) Introduction to African History to 1800
- G. History 2xx (exp, H, I) Introduction to African History, 1800-1994
- H. Mathematics 145 (exp, Q) Infinite Problems and Infinite Solutions
- I. Religious Studies 2xx (exp, L, U) Religion and the American Lyric
- J. Spanish 3xx (exp, L, I) In the Shadow of Medieval Spain
- K. WGSS 3xx (exp, I) South Asian Feminisms

For some of these courses Russ will undertake further discussion with the instructor and/or department chair about the need for a more robust set of assignments (A) or for a more compelling rationale for the U or I diversity requirement designation (A, D, F, G, I).

Note: following those discussions, the I designation was removed from D. English 3xx, and the U designation was removed from I. Religious Studies 2xx.

III. Possible Amendment to Grading Motion #2.

A concern was expressed that Motion #2 (as currently worded) may have little chance of approval at the May faculty meeting. The committee discussed whether it would be a good idea to introduce a revised version of Motion 2 that did not include a request for grading information at an individual level. After considerable discussion, a number of conclusions were reached.

- 1) The committee continues to support Motion #2, and (contrary to some views expressed at the April faculty meeting) believes that the motion is beneficial to junior faculty members, especially those in the natural and social sciences.
- 2) Some members of the committee maintained that the individual reporting was an important part of Motion #2, and it should not be removed. The committee did not reach consensus around any particular re-worded version of Motion 2. For this reason, the committee will not (as a group) present an amended version of the motion at the May faculty meeting. Individual members of the committee might, however, present an amendment.

3) Sandy made an official request for a paper ballot to be used for the voting on both Motion 1 and 2. The fact that a paper ballot will be employed will be publicly announced in advance of the faculty meeting.

IV. Proposal from the Course Evaluation Committee

The Course Evaluation Committee has proposed that *“Students who are found responsible for academic dishonesty in a course, while that course is still in session, are not allowed to complete a course evaluation for that course.”*

There was a strong sense in the AAC that some faculty members fail to report incidents of academic dishonesty for fear of retribution, and that this is a problem. The motion was passed unanimously.