Academic Affairs Committee—March 5, 2019


I. Minutes from the previous meeting (February 26) were approved.

II. Nine course proposals were approved.

   CS 443 (Computational Neuroscience)
   CS 342 (Neural Networks)
   GE 125 (From Stardust to Planets)
   GE 123 (How to Build a Habitable Planet)
   GO 2xx (Writers against the State…) Exp, L, I
   GO 3xx (Constitutional Choice and its Consequences…) S
   PS 3xx (Collaborative Research in Human Movement)
   PS 3xx (Seminar in Human Movement)
   RE 284 and 384 (Faith, Class, and Community)

III. Field trip policy. Discussion of the field trip policy was continued from last week. The committee felt that the current policy allowing one professor to require a student to be absent from another professor’s regularly scheduled class session should be changed. The committee also felt that required field trips during a college recess should be prohibited. The following recommended changes in the policy will be brought to the Faculty Meeting for consideration.

CURRENT LANGUAGE FROM THE FACULTY HANDBOOK (p 73)
Field Trips. Instructional field trips off campus may be arranged by the instructor, but caution is urged if students are thus required to be absent from other scheduled class meetings. No instructor may ask that a student miss a second class meeting of another course in the same semester for field trips.

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE FOR THE FACULTY HANDBOOK (p 73)
Field Trips. Instructional field trips off campus may be arranged by the instructor, but students may not be required to be absent from scheduled class meetings of another class. Instructors may not require participation in a field trip that takes place during Spring Recess or during any other official college recess. However, optional trips associated with a class may take place during a college recess.