

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**200 Bricker Hall****October 22, 2008****3:00 – 5:00 PM****ATTENDANCE****Faculty:**

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| ✓ Dr. Lawrence A. Baum (Political Science) | Dr. Michael Ibba (Microbiology) |
| Dr. Neelima M. Bendapudi (Marketing and Logistics) | ✓ Dr. Daniel A. Mendelsohn (Mechanical Engineering) |
| ✓ Dr. James W. Cogdell (Mathematics) | ✓ Dr. Sally V. Rudmann (Allied Medical Professions) |
| Dr. Daniel E. Collins (Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures) | ✓ Dr. Robert J. Ward (Music) |
| ✓ Dr. Marcia E. Farr (Teaching and Learning) | |

Students:

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| Ms. Adrienne M. Belt (USG, Political Science) | Mr. Bradley L. Cromes (IPC, Law) |
| ✓ Mr. Robert D. Calhoun (CGS, History of Art) | ✓ Ms. Sarah K. Douglas (CGS, History) |
| | ✓ Mr. Benjamin T. Reinke (USG, Physics) |

Administrators:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith, (Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

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| Dr. Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost) | Dr. Linda L. Harlow (Director, University Honors and Scholars Center) |
| Mr. John E. Dickhaut (Office of the University Registrar) | Mr. Joshua A. Rackers (USG, Physics) |
| Dr. Kathleen M. Hallihan (ASC Curriculum and Assessment Office) | |

The council attained quorum at 3:14 PM.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR DANIEL A. MENDELSON

Daniel A. Mendelsohn addressed the issue of council member attendance at meetings. Absences hinder the council's ability to conduct business.

Mendelsohn reported on a discussion at the recent Faculty Council meeting. Faculty Council approved a resolution to create an ad-hoc committee on calendar conversion. The first step

would be a vote on whether or not to convert to semesters with the second step being a vote on what the semester calendar would look like. Faculty Council has asked for this council to put forward three names for a representative on the ad-hoc committee.

Center/institute reviews will begin soon. Mendelsohn asked for volunteers to serve on two subcommittees to conduct the reviews this year. The first subcommittee will be impaneled first and will be charged with devising guidelines for the review process.

This year the council will also take up the issue of establishing university-wide guidelines for establishing minors.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR — PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Smith reported that Professor Daniel E. Collins will be stepping down from his seat on the council. He is working with the faculty leadership to identify a replacement from the College of Humanities.

Smith also reported that this week he would be attending a conference on student learning outcomes assessment at large research universities, held at the University of Minnesota.

He, Mendelsohn, Vice President for Research, Caroline C. Whitacre, and Professor Robert S. Coleman, Chair of the University Research Committee will begin the preliminary discussion of how to conduct the review of university centers. The intended goal is to develop a process that would have a short timeline and a focused workload for members of the ad-hoc committees assigned to this task.

In response to concerns raised at the August 18, 2008 meeting of the council, Smith reported that representatives from the College of Medicine will be invited to attend the November 5, 2008 meeting to discuss plans for the Peripheral Neuropathy Center. The council's concerns related to whether or not faculty members from outside the Department of Neurology would be involved with the center.

Smith reported on minor curricular changes to the Dental Hygiene major.

ANNUAL REPORT ON HONORS—PROFESSOR LINDA L. HARLOW, DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY HONORS AND SCHOLARS CENTER

Harlow presented a report on honors at the university. She presented revisions to honors embedded courses and requested guidance from the council on establishing an appropriate approval process for such requests. The council found the recommendations of the Honors Faculty Advisory Committee acceptable.

Harlow reported that a university goal is to reduce the percentage of honors students. At Ohio State 22% of the undergraduate population are honors students. Nationally the average is 10 –

12%. The university's goal is to see approximately 15% for freshmen and 12% the entire undergraduate population. She noted that one potential drawback to reducing the percentage of honors students is a lessening of the student profile at the university. This goal will need to be considered in light of larger institutional goals and objectives.

One of the goals of Honors is to increase the number of minority students in Honors. One effort under way is to identify current minority students who are not honors students but who might qualify for honors.

Another initiative underway is to measure satisfaction with the honors program at the end of each year. This is being compared with the results of expectation surveys administered to entering freshmen.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS DANIEL A. MENDELSON AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Tabled revision to the Undergraduate Major, Department of Physics**

Mendelsohn presented the revision to the Physics major. The concerns raised at the October 8, 2008 meeting of the council were satisfactorily addressed in an email message from Dr. Richard Hughes that explained how the number of hours was determined.

The motion was seconded by Robert D. Calhoun and was approved by voice vote.

- **Proposal to create an Graduate Minor, Department of Economics**

Mendelsohn presented the proposal to create an Economics graduate minor. There were no questions or concerns.

The motion was seconded by Benjamin T. Reinke and approved by voice vote.

- **Proposal to revise the Undergraduate Minor, Department of Economics**

Mendelsohn presented the revision to the Economics minor. There were no questions or concerns.

The motion was seconded by Marcia E. Farr and was approved by voice vote.

- **Proposal to the change the name from Textiles and Clothing to Fashion and Retail Studies for both the undergraduate program and the graduate specialization, Department of Consumer Sciences**

Mendelsohn presented the proposal to change the name of the undergraduate program and graduate specialization in Textiles and Clothing to Fashion and Retail Studies. There were no questions or concerns.

The motion was seconded by Calhoun and approved by voice vote.

- **Proposal to create graduate specializations in Environment and Natural Resources, School of Environment and Natural Resources**

Mendelsohn presented the proposal to create five graduate specializations (Wildlife and Fisheries Science, Ecological Restoration, Environmental Social Sciences, Forest Science, and Ecosystem Science) in Environment and Natural Resources. There were no questions or concerns.

The motion was seconded by James W. Cogdell and approved by voice vote.

- **Proposal to revise the Professional Golf Management major, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science**

Mendelsohn presented the revision to the Professional Golf Management major. There were questions that he was unable to obtain answers to prior to the meeting. He recommended tabling the proposal until the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences is able to provide additional information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

The council adjourned at 4:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
J. Briggs Cormier