

Tentative Agenda
Arts & Sciences Senate
March 15, 2004

- I. Approval of Tentative Agenda
- II. Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2004
- III. Report of Arts & Sciences Senate President (J. Kuchner)
- IV. Report of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences (J. Staros)
- V. Report from the Academic Judiciary Committee (J. Shea)-see attached
- VI. Report on Proposal by the Curriculum Committee on DEC Category K (R. Cerrato)
- VII. Second Presentation of Proposed Constitutional Amendment-Members of the Curriculum Committee (J. Kuchner)-see attached
- VIII. Report on Undergraduate Colleges (P. Goldstein, J. Levinton, I. Kao)
- IX. Update on SUNY Gen Ed Assessment (N. Goodman)
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business

Arts and Sciences Senate
Minutes of the 02/16/2004 Meeting

The Arts and Sciences Senate met on Monday 16 February 2004 in the Javits Room. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Senate, Joan Kuchner, at 3:35 PM.

I. Approval of Tentative Agenda

The tentative agenda was amended and approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2003

Minor corrections to the minutes of Nov. 17th were offered and approved.

III. Report of Arts & Sciences Senate President (J. Kuchner)

Joan Kuchner reviewed some of the topics relevant to the College of Arts & Sciences that were discussed with President Kenny in her meeting with Executive Committee of the University Senate. The first was web filtering. Concerns have been raised about accessing of web sites, particularly on the East Campus. For example, some political sites have been filtered based on the concerns for virus that had been found on those sites. The According to the President, there is no University policy on filtering web sites, but this will be developed. Spam is also a concern.

The formation of new Colleges, particularly a College of Business was also discussed. The manner and degree to which these Colleges will affiliate with the A & S Senate and Committees will need to be determined in the future.

New elections for committees and executive positions are pending. Joan asked the senators to assist with the recruitment and nomination process.

Joan also mentioned that there was still time to register for Stony Brook in Albany Day and encouraged participation.

IV. Report of the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences (J. Staros)

The Dean submitted to the Provost on the status of the College and a five-year strategic plan. The report included the data presented at the A & S Senate meeting in November, but also included additional analyses. For example, new analyses revealed that 130 sections of undergraduate courses were lost and

30 sections of graduate courses this last Fall semester as compared to the previous Fall semester (~10% of all offerings).

Optimistic projections for next year's budget are that it will be flat. No additional cuts can be made. The Dean's plan involves for raising additional money for the budget from nontraditional sources, including out-of-state recruiting of students, raising the graduation rate, increasing paying masters programs, and fundraising. Some bridging funds were requested into the base budget to get these processes started.

The Dean has discussed this with the Provost, but has not yet had the opportunity to discuss it with the President. The Provost has been sympathetic to these concerns.

The question was raised from the floor as to whether higher retention rates would increase the size of the student body, further taxing limited resources. The Dean responded that his calculations were based on the assumption of a stable enrollment, but a shift toward more advanced students.

The Dean also described the changes in advising practices designed to increase retention, especially by coordinating advising programs and promoting early declaration of the major. Particularly effective has been a warning letter to student who had not declared a major.

V. Report on Professional Education Program (D. Kaufman)

Dorit Kaufmann presented an overview on how the Professional Education Program (PEP) is preparing for the national accreditation process (see attachment 1 for her presentation). Stony Brook does not have a school of education. The SBU PEP program distributes the programs within individual departments. The PEP has been preparing for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accreditation process for four years. NCATE expects to see clear organizational structure, institutional commitment, and strong partnerships with school districts. New York State also has an interest in the PEP program, and an ongoing process of information exchange has been underway with the state for several years. Math, science and social studies presently have national accreditation. Two others are pending. An institutional report is being prepared in preparation for the NCATE site visit. This process has involved many campus units. Faculty in the program include regular full-time faculty (some of whom direct programs) and lecturers. The responsibilities of the faculty were reviewed. The content of the site visit committee and agenda were outlined.

In response to a question about how many faculty were affiliated with the program, Dorit reported the number of full time and part-time and adjunct faculty in each program. Joan Kuchner suggested that it may be important to break down the specific nature of the appointments for the non-tenure track faculty to emphasize the positive characteristics of each position.

VI. Report on PEP Faculty Guidelines by the Faculty Rights, Responsibilities and Policies Committee (C. Janson)

Charles Janson (chair) reported on the review of matters affecting faculty in the PEP that is formalized in a draft set of guidelines (attached as Appendix 2). PEP faculty have complex relationships to departments and programs, and it was felt that some clarification of the rights and responsibilities would be. The FRRC Guidelines are intended to anticipate and head off problems that might affect these faculty, particularly with regard to. The FRRC sought input from a variety of sources, including Dorit Kaufmann and Associate Provost Mark Aronoff. They are soliciting input from the full A & S senate at this point in time. Some corrections and clarifications were offered, that will be incorporated.

Joan Kuchner asked for a vote of support of these guidelines. The votes was nineteen in favor, zero opposed, and no abstentions.

VII. Report from the Library-Development of Resources for PEP (E. Hoffman)

Elaine Hoffman detailed the Library's interaction with the PEP initiative (see Appendix 3).

VIII. Proposed Constitutional Amendment-Members of the Curriculum Committee (R. Cerrato)

A motion to adjourn being made and seconded, and the Arts and Sciences Senate adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Transcribed from audio copy by John Robinson
Secretary

**Arts and Sciences Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
Proposal to Return to the Original DEC Category K Definition**

Background:

The Faculty Senate of Stony Brook University adopted the Diversified Education Curriculum as a general education program in 1991. From the outset, Category K “American Pluralism” was an integral part of this program.

In 1999, SUNY System Administration established a 30-credit general education curriculum (SUNY-General Education Requirement) that included a course in American History as one of its requirements. To meet the SUNY requirement in American History, the original theme for Category K was modified to “The American Experience in Historical Perspective” and the learning outcomes and courses satisfying Category K were changed.

For the past five years, Stony Brook has been negotiating with System Administration about how our DEC K fits into the SUNY-GER American History requirement. System Administration accepted a subset (23) of Stony Brook’s DEC K courses as satisfying the requirement but just as many courses (22) were not approved. The Advisory Council on General Education (ACGE), a SUNY-wide group of faculty and administrators created to resolve disputes, reviewed the 22 courses and decided that none of them met the SUNY American History guidelines. These courses, even if modified by the instructors to increase their coverage of American History, are unlikely to be approved in the future.

During the Fall 2003 semester, Provost McGrath requested that the University immediately develop a plan to resolve this ongoing disagreement with System Administration and move to implement this plan for new students beginning in January 2004. The new plan, creating a “Skills 4 Competence in American History”, was approved by the Stony Brook Faculty Senate on December 1, 2003. This plan decouples the SUNY American History requirement from our DEC K.

Now that the Skills 4 plan has been implemented, we believe that it is appropriate to return DEC K to its original theme and course list, since the pluralism component of the curriculum was lost as a specific requirement. We, therefore, request that the Senate consider the following resolution:

Resolution:

WHEREAS, DEC K has recently been decoupled from the SUNY General Education Requirement in American History; and

WHEREAS, In modifying Category K to meet SUNY-GER, pluralism was lost as a specific requirement in the DEC; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Stony Brook University return DEC K to the following definition:

American Pluralism - Category K courses apply a multicultural approach to study the diverse society of America. The focus may be on one group and its relation to the whole of U.S. society or on the interactions of several groups within our culture. Category K must be completed at SB.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, with the consent of instructors and departments, act to reorganize DEC courses in a manner consistent with the revised theme of Category K.

Proposed Constitutional Amendment:

Arts and Sciences Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Proposal for New *Ex Officio* Members of the Curriculum Committee

Spring 2004

In the past, the Curriculum Committee has been fortunate to have professional employees from administrative offices serve as members. Their knowledge has been critical to many committee decisions. As a result of the newest revision of the A&S Faculty Senate Constitution, professional employees from administrative offices are no longer eligible to be elected to the A&S Faculty Senate or any of its standing committees.

We are requesting a change in the A&S Senate Constitution to add two nonvoting, *ex officio* members to the Curriculum Committee. We would like to have one professional employee from the Registrar's Office who has experience with graduation requirements, registration procedures, and implementation of rule changes. The other individual should be from Enrollment and Retention Management and should be knowledgeable about both general student concerns and transfer student issues.

We, therefore, request that A&S Senate Constitution be changed in the following way:

b. The *Undergraduate Curriculum Committee* shall consist of 10 voting members and ~~two~~ 4 non-voting members:

(1) two elected faculty representatives each from:

(i) the humanities and fine arts;

(ii) the social and behavioral sciences;

(iii) the natural sciences (one from physical sciences or mathematics and one from biological or marine sciences);

(2) one representative appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences as a non-voting member.

(3) one representative elected by the professional employees as a voting member under the usual procedures for this purpose.

(4) one professional employee knowledgeable about registration procedures and graduation requirements appointed from the Registrar's Office appointed as a non-voting member. This individual will be appointed annually by the Registrar after consultation with the Curriculum Committee.

(5) one professional employee knowledgeable about both general student concerns and transfer student issues appointed from Enrollment and Retention Management as a non-voting member. This individual will be appointed annually by the Associate Provost for Enrollment and Retention Management after consultation with the Curriculum Committee.

(46) two undergraduate student representatives from the Arts and Sciences Senate Constituencies, selected through the usual procedures for this purpose by undergraduate student government |

(57) one graduate student representative from the Arts and Sciences Senate Constituencies, selected through the usual procedures for this purpose by graduate student government |

(68) the Secretary of the Committee appointed by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in consultation with the Committee, the Dean of Marine Sciences Research Center and the Dean of Physical Education and Athletics, as a non-voting member. |

