

1989

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Council on Academic Affairs

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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
July 27, 1989

The meeting was held at 2:00 p.m. on July 27, 1989, in the BOG Room, Booth Library.

Members present: Dr. Bates, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Downs, Dr. Felstehausen, Dr. Shank,
Dr. Nilsen, Dr. McGown, Dr. Weidner, Vice President Kindrick,
Mr. Herde, and Mr. Oates.

Staff present: Dr. Whitley, Academic Affairs.

Members absent: Dr. Sutton, and Ms. Durham.

Staff absent: Mrs. Schaeffer, Academic Affairs.

Visitors: Dr. Baumgardner and Dr. Ankenbrand.

I. Minutes.

The minutes of July 20, 1989, were approved as published.

II. Communications.

1. None.

III. Proposed Revision of MAT 1000, (89-30).

Dr. Bates moved and Dr. Nilsen seconded the motion to approve the proposal. Voting will be later.

IV. Proposed Revision to the Grade Repeat Policy, Catalog p. 42, (89-31).

Dr. Bates moved and Dr. Shank seconded the motion to approve the proposal. Voting will be later.

V. Proposal for Formulation of the SUE Report - Dr. Whitley, (89-9).

The Council discussed of the section on Scientific Awareness. The motion passed unanimously.

Scientific Awareness. This component should provide experience and understanding of what science is and is not plus an appreciation that scientific knowledge is based upon experimentation and observation. Illustration of how scientists actually work should be included to emphasize that scientific theories are open to proof or disproof by independent observers.

These experiences should be a combination of active participation in experimentation plus development of an understanding of a minimum set of basic facts, principles and theories. From a knowledge of fundamental facts, principles and theories, students should be introduced to experimental design, hypothesis design and testing, data analysis, and drawing of valid conclusions. Significant discussions and writing about the philosophy, history, and ethical implications of science should be included. The impact of science upon human thought, history, and culture should be stressed along with the limitations and mis-use of scientific knowledge.

Dr. McGown joined the Council at this point.

The Council began discussed the section on Senior Seminar. The motion passed with a vote as follows:

Yes: Dr. Bates, Dr. Buchanan, Dr. Felstehausen, Dr. McGown, Dr. Nilsen, Dr. Weidner, Mr. Herde, Mr. Oates.

No: Dr. Shank.

Abstain: Dr. Downs.

Dr. Shank's reason for voting no: "Given our careful consideration and deliberation of the integrated core and its design and content I do not feel the 'Senior Seminar' element is necessary or essential."

Senior Seminar. This element should serve as the cap-stone of the Integrated Core. The courses should continue to be cross-disciplinary, culminating experiences that provide students with an opportunity to apply concepts and use skills developed during their undergraduate years. Under the tutelage of outstanding faculty from outside the student's major department, small groups of students from several disciplines will come together to read, discuss and write about issues of major intellectual, social, and cultural importance. Students in these seminars should critique ideas from readings, speakers, and other sources through short papers and class discussions. A key ingredient in the process should be the experience students get in analysis, synthesis, and refinement of ideas and concepts and practice in oral and written communication. This experience is an obvious opportunity for assessment of the effect of general education on students.

VI. Recognition and Commendation.

The Council wishes to express its thanks and gratitude for the services of the three members who are completing their tenure: Dr. Dale Downs, Dr. Joyce Felstehausen, and Dr. William McGown.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15.

Billie Rawlings - Recording Secretary

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING

August 31, 1989

Arcola/Tuscola Room - MLK Union

Agenda:

- *88-99 Undergraduate Education Study of Eastern Illinois University.
- *89-9 Proposal for Formulation of the SUE Report - Dr. Whitley.
- *89-23 Proposal on A, B, C, N/C Grading for courses in the Language Component.
- *89-24 New Course Proposal, HEC 4842, Third World Families.
- *89-30 Proposed Revision of MAT 1000.
- *89-31 Proposed Revision to the Grade Repeat Policy, Catalog p. 42.

* Motion on floor.