

Wayne State University
Academic Senate
Minutes of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee
November 11, 2009

Present: T. Austin, W. Brusilow, v. Bielat, A. Cobbs, V. Dallas, K. Feathers, J. Ku, J. Moseley, R. Reynolds, A. Saperstein, E. Young, A. Vlasopolos, A. Retish.

Absent with notice: S.Baskin

Absent: C. Collins, H. Shapiro.

Minutes from October 14, 2009 were approved as was the agenda for the meeting.

V. Dallas and K. Feathers updated the CIC on two issues discussed at the previous meeting. The Policy Committee has made a recommendation on the issue of late registration and discussed the issue of the final date to withdraw from a class. The Policy Committee will meet with Howard Shapiro to consider language to implement the changes in both the late registration and withdrawal policies.

V. Bielat described a problem with the computer competency exam. The exam is based on Office 2003, but computers on campus and those students purchase are all are equipped with a later version of Office. This presents a problem for students as they have no computers on which to prepare for the exam, but it also presents a larger problem in that the exam does not reflect the skills necessary for current computer competency. K. Feathers indicated that she had a conversation with H. Shapiro and L. Woodward, Chair of the Assessment sub-Committee of the GEOC about this matter. L. Woodward was in contact with Monika Witoslawski about updating the exam and also about working with the WSU library staff to do so. A. Cobbs made a motion seconded by V. Dallas that the matter should be forwarded to the GEOC, specifically to the GEOC Committee on Competencies. That motion passed with one abstention.

The CIC then addressed the charge from the Policy Committee related to the SET and the ASSET Report. During the discussion of the issue, A. Retish indicated that he thought SET scores used to be classified by levels (1000, 2000, etc.) although others did not recall this. A. Saperstein recalled that we used to be sent graphics that depicted the relationship between student interest in the course and SET overall score along with a score that considered both those factors. It was agreed that the current SET score does not account for student interest. Additional issues discussed were that SET scores are a contributor to grade inflation and that the current SET does not fit alternative course formats such as online courses or courses that are more student based.

A.Saperstein made a motion that a graphic that displays the interaction of student interest and overall SET score and a score that expresses the ratio of student interest to overall SET score be part of the SET report for each class for each instructor and also that this distribution and ratio be

included in the summary reports. The motion was seconded by W. Brusilow and carried with no dissenting votes or abstentions.

The group also wondered about whether it is in our purview to make recommendations about the use of SET scores in matters of faculty evaluation. K. Feathers will investigate this question with W. Crossland, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee and with Seymour Wolfson.

Curriculum & Instruction Committee

December 9, 2009

Agenda

Agenda

Minutes

Old Business

- SET Score/ASSET Report

New Business