

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**12:15-1:15 P.M.**  
**4 November 2010**

**Members Present**

Aram Hajian  
Varduhi Petrosyan  
Byron Crape  
Arthur Drampian  
Melissa Brown  
Irshat Madyarov  
Vahan Bournazian  
Emil Babayan  
Tom Samuelian  
Lusine Galajyan  
Arman Vatyan

**Members Absent**

Tatevik Zohrabyan\*  
Gagik Gabrielyan\*

**Guests**

Rebecca Carter  
Catherine Buon

\* Indicates excused absence

Faculty Senate Agenda:

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- Quorum Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of prior meeting minutes
- Committee reports
  - Executive committee
  - Curriculum committee
  - Ethics & Grievance committee
  - Committee on Extension programs
- FS General Assembly

**MINUTES**

- **Quorum Call**  
Quorum present
- **Approval of Agenda**  
Upon Melissa's motion, seconded by Byron, the agenda was adopted by consensus.
- **Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**  
Upon a motion by Varduhi and seconded by Lusine the meeting minutes for June 18, 2010 were adopted by consensus.
- **Committee Reports**
  - **Executive Committee**  
The Executive Committee met and discussed planning the General Assembly. [Details are discussed under that agenda item]. Another issue discussed was whether to change the FS calendar considering the current divergence between the fiscal calendar and the academic calendar. As FS members must be available during the year, new membership starts and ends with the faculty 1 year contracts which usually coincide with the fiscal year and not the academic year. FS will contact AUA administration about this issue.
  - **Curriculum Committee**  
The self-study process and audit are complete for Law, CHS and DEP. The audit of the SBM self-study is currently in process. The audit of the Extension Program cannot begin because a suitable self-study (due in December, 2008) has never been submitted. PSIA and COE are currently undergoing self-studies. SBM will also have an external audit in January because SBM composes approximately 1/3 of all AUA students and issues of norms for MBA programs need clarification. An audit consists reviewing the self-study and meeting with faculty, students and alumni regarding participation in the self-study process.

In connection with re-accreditation, a subcommittee of the CC is to be formed called the Student Learning Subcommittee (SLS). It is envisioned that each academic program will nominate 1 person to serve on the SLS. The goal is to create a mechanism whereby academic programs share and learn from each other regarding educational effectiveness.

Right now self-assessment is done by each academic program via direct and indirect evidence of educational effectiveness. Each program sets rubrics outlining a specific learning outcome/skill and assesses the extent to which students have learned to perform.

A Taskforce on Tenure is also to be created to address the issue of building an AUA community of scholars and long term employment contracts.

A reminder to academic programs that at the end of this fall quarter conditional admits who do not meet the 3.0 GPA will be dismissed under the probation policy unless requests for waivers are sent to and acted upon by the CC. Considering that many leave for winter holidays, it is important that academic programs act quickly if they are to request a waiver. Also, consider that it does no justice to a student to request a waiver if in the long run it is not reasonable that they will be able to obtain a 3.0 GPA. The message to take back to faculty is that grades must be submitted on time. FS members are reminded that part of our purpose is to take back information to be shared with our program and faculty.

- **Ethics & Grievance Committee**

Nothing to report.

- **Committee on Extension Programs**

A change in process has been implemented because due to the number of English courses offered by Extension, review by DEP was too burdensome and now DEP will get paid for that review.

A recent course offering in International Legal English raises once again structural issues which need clarification. The course carries the same title as a course offered by the Law Dept. but it was to be completed in ½ the time. The potential for confusion as to what AUA is teaching as between the Extension Program and the Law Department is just too great. DEP's current review of Extension English courses and discussions with students confirms that Extension students do not distinguish between an Extension course and an academic program course – it is all AUA to them. Also, the distinction between courses offered for credit and courses not offered for credit only causes more confusion for the public, not less.

Most universities follow either one of two models. In the first, extension courses are fully integrated with academic programs (relying on academic program faculty and with faculty oversight). In the second, extension courses are completely separate but do not offer courses of academic content. Some hybrids exist but academic content courses require academic program oversight.

Serious concerns were expressed about how Extension programming affects AUA's reputation. The Extension Program has no English program coordinator but 70% of its course offerings are English language courses. There is also an unhealthy atmosphere whereby Extension sees itself as competing against the academic programs. Hopefully the new AUA President can work to resolve these and other issues.

- **FS General Assembly**

The FS must decide on the Agenda Items for the General Assembly. Suggestions resulted in the following agenda items:

- President's Address – the FS Chair will ask the AUA President to address the faculty regarding the last Board of Trustees Meeting and the Financial Situation of the University
- Re-accreditation Process (Lucig, as Provost, or Tom, as Chair of the CC, will lead the discussion).
- Relationship between Academic Programs and Extension (Byron as Chair of the CEP will lead the discussion)

The date set for the meeting was Wednesday, November 24 for 2 hours (either from 3 to 5 or 4 to 6). If essential participants cannot attend at this time, the FS will hold an email meeting to decide the new date. The agenda and time of the meeting was approved by consensus (no opposition).

A motion to adjourn was made by Emil, seconded by Vahan and passed by consensus. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Vahan Bournazian.