

Faculty Senate Minutes
July 3, 2008
12:00-1:30
Room 26

Members Present

Y. Amirkhanyan
M. Arshakyan
V. Bournazian
M. Brown
A. Hajian
G. Khachatryan
V. Petrosyan

Members Absent

R. Agajeenian*
L. Galajyan
T. Khorozyan*
S. Knyazyan
N. Lejter
J. Lyman*

Other

* Indicates excused absence

AGENDA

- Quorum Call
- Adopt Past Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Agenda
- Executive Committee Report
 - PA Building (fair designation of academic program offices, statement for the website)
 - Seminar on teaching methods (brown bag lunch seminar with Dr. Fuller)
 - Feedback from Administration on approved procedures
- Ethics & Grievance Committee Report
 - Ethics & Grievance Committee procedure regulation follow-up steps (see attached)
- Committee on Extension Programs Report
- Curriculum Committee Report
- Working group to review the existing withdrawal policy

MINUTES

1) Quorum Call

Quorum present

2) Adopt Past Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the June 6, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting were adopted by consensus (Aram Hajian moved to adopt and Yelena Amirkhanyan seconded the motion).

3) Approval of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by consensus (Melissa Brown moved to adopt and Aram Hajian seconded the motion).

4) Executive Committee Report

Committee chair Varduhi Petrosyan informed the Faculty Senate that decisions had been made regarding which departments would be housed on which floors of the new building in a double lottery, and asked FS members to pass this information along to their departments. The EC also proposed posting the following text on the

website: “We find it exemplary of AUA values that the AUA Administration has decided that the primary and immediate beneficiaries of the new building will be faculty and students, while the Administrative officers and personnel have chosen to remain in the old building.” This proposal was welcomed by the FS and it was agreed to place the text on the website, changing the phrase “have chosen to...” to “have graciously chosen to...”

The EC also brought up the idea of organizing a seminar on teaching methods, explaining that faculty brought up this issue to the attention of EC. The EC decided to ask Dr. Don Fuller about leading such a seminar within the Brownbag lecture series. It was noted parenthetically that Dr. Armenian is to conduct such a seminar in October. The problem with the Brownbag format, it was agreed, is that not everyone who could profit from a seminar on teaching methods attends, for scheduling or other reasons. It was agreed, therefore, to try to find a more convenient time for Dr. Fuller’s presentation, and to encourage faculty members in all the departments to attend.

Finally, Varduhi Petrosyan reported that EC have received feedback from the administration on the grievance procedure regulation prepared by the E&G Committee and adopted by the Faculty Senate. The administration thanked the E&G Committee for their work, but found the document to be long, complicated, and containing too much legal language. They requested a simpler document that would be accessible to the entire AUA community, so that everyone can understand and follow the procedure. The chair asked Vahan Bournazian to work on a simplified document, and it was agreed after a brief discussion to an Ad Hoc Committee on EGC Rules in which Vahan would revise the document and Mher Arshakyan would review the revisions.

5) Ethics & Grievance Committee Report

Ethics and Grievance Committee procedure regulation

Committee chair Yelena Amirkhanyan raised the issue of Dejan Georgievski’s work on amending other AUA regulations to harmonize them with the new grievance procedure regulation. Vahan Bournazian proposed sending Dejan Georgievski’s document to the Ad Hoc committee, which will review it as well and make sure all the language coincides. It was agreed that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on EGC rules would be completed by the end of September.

6) Committee on Extension Programs Report

Committee chair Aram Hajian reported that the committee had met with the administration and the dean of the Extension Program. They suggested a change in the third step of the policy on course review, localizing all authority for course review within the CEP, thereby streamlining the process. It will be the CEP’s responsibility to request recommendations from the deans as appropriate, but the final decision will remain with the CEP. Other suggestions raised in the meeting were to include date of delivery in addition to course duration, to add a line stating whom the course was recommended by, and to expedite the approval process for established English courses. This revised procedure will be available of the FS website.

7) Curriculum Committee Report

The Curriculum Committee reported that it had been in communication electronically and had held one meeting but was not yet ready to share a report incorporating additional comments with the Faculty Senate.

8) Working group to review the existing withdrawal policy

Vahan Bournazian reported that the committee, in the absence of second committee member Nelly Lejter, had as yet compiled no specifics on academic standing. Vahan said he would ask the registrar's office to do some research into the matter and then prepare the recommendations on this own.

It was agreed to hold the next Faculty Senate meeting on July 31, 2008 at 12:00.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vahan Bournazian and seconded by Gurgen Khachatryan.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa Brown.