

SEPC MINUTES – 3 April 2003

Present: Heidi Sulzdorf (Head), Ryan Mann (Secretary), Rivera Cook (Dance), Lawson Wulsin (Dance), Tadd Morgan (Drama), Colleen Jennings (Drama), Christopher Burgan (Freshman), Valerie Wetlaufer (Lit), Courtney Hill (Lit), Melissa Maugeri (Media), Hans Buetow (Music), Jeremy Schulick (Music), Sylvia Spicer (RCLC), Lily Kortlandt (Science/Math), Sultana Noon (Social Sci), Josiah Weiss (Social Sci), Guy Tourangeau (Art), Ian Kiesel (Art). Absent: Ann Vieira (CCT), Julie Smolinski (Sci/Math), Lidija Vrabac (RCLC)

On the reverse

- ~~Attached~~ is an outline of the responsibilities of the Academic Policy Committee (APC) and a list of its members. It was prepared by Janice Brumbelow in the Dean's Office. SEPC will be glad to pursue answers to any further student questions regarding APC and its operation.
- Due to a lack of sufficient time to accommodate all students on plan days, academic advisors were asked to provide a list of their advisees whom they believed did not need a meeting. Some advisors consulted their advisees about the issue, while others made the choice on the student's behalf. SEPC suggests that, in the future, advisors consult their advisees about such issues to avoid confusion.
- SEPC has fielded many questions regarding the history candidate search. The only information currently available is that committee is still meeting to make a decision and work through the hiring process. The committee will complete the process soon, but some committee members have been reluctant to give a specific timeframe.
- SEPC will be participating in a focus group with FWT Office staff to address student issues regarding FWT. SEPC suggests that students speak with SEPC members to assure that their concerns and suggestions are represented in the meeting.

Discipline Updates

Dance: All dance faculty members plan to provide written midterm feedback or have already scheduled time in the syllabus to meet with students for midterm discussions.

Social Science: The social science SEPC representatives are considering hosting a meeting to get general student feedback and suggestions about the social sciences. As noted above, the history search committee has completed bringing candidates to campus and will soon fill the position.

Music: The music representatives are working with the dance representatives to facilitate communication between dancers and sound designers. The representatives are working with house chairs to possibly host a music workshop on the lawn.

Literature: There is confusion among students over recent proposed changes in the literature department. The lit reps are working to get the faculty to produce some form of written clarification. All students are invited to bring a favorite poem to share at the Mon 6 April literature gathering.

Drama: This Wednesday's drama forum will feature the second installment of drama students performing monologues written by students in Becky Godwin's "Reading the Writing Short Story" course. On April 30, the drama faculty will host voluntary crits; students are invited to get faculty feedback on a monologue or short scene. On May 28, the faculty will host a discussion on students' options for continuing work in drama after Bennington.

ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

I. RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMPOSITION

The Academic Policies Committee (APC) is composed of an elected faculty Chair, six other elected faculty members, the President (ex officio), the Vice President for Finance and Administration (ex officio), and the Provost/Dean of the College (ex officio).

The function of the APC is to review general matters of academic policy, academic programs, curriculum, academic budgeting, and the hiring of new faculty members. The APC is authorized to recognize program groups, work with the Vice President for Finance and Administration concerning academic budgets, recommend faculty vacancies or new positions to appropriate disciplines, review the curriculum in consultation with faculty colleagues on a regular basis, approve courses, and assign credit hours.

The Faculty has at least one meeting every term for the purpose of discussing the academic needs and strategic goals of the College. The APC takes these discussions into consideration in its deliberations and regularly report to the Faculty as a whole.

The APC is presided over by a faculty member elected for a one-year term as Chair. The Chair serves as moderator at meetings and will not vote except to break ties. All other members, except the President and the Vice President for Finance and Administration, have voting rights.

APC MEMBERS

Paul Voice, Chair
Steven Bach
Donald Sherefkin
Marguerite Feitlowitz
Ann Pibal
Sue Rees
Jonathan Kline
Kirk Jackson – alternate