

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Penn State Erie, The Behrend College's monthly meeting of the Faculty Council was held on campus on Thursday, September 12, 2002, at 8:00 A.M., in Library 107

Summary of the Meeting

The main objective of this meeting was to develop an agenda for the year, including tentative charges for the committees. The following summarizes the discussion in regards to each committee.

Faculty Affairs (Gregor Olsavsky representing Eric Corty)

It was agreed that this committee should continue the work started last and examine the issue of effective evaluation of teaching. This should include:

- Inclusion of other forms of evaluation beyond SRTES, particularly in regards to Annual Review processes, which have traditionally relied heavily on SRTES. Last year much of the focus was on their use in the P&T process. This issue is also being addressed by the DADs (Deans and Directors).
- Develop guidelines for interpretation of the SRTES for use by P&T and Annual Review Committees.
- Provide more flexibility for SRTE use. For example, develop guidelines for their use, or non-use, when faculty introduce new teaching methods in their class.

Curricular Affairs (Shannon Sweeney)

The Curricular Affairs committee has a standing charge to review and approve curricular proposals. In addition, the committee will work with the school directors to better educate the schools on the processes and deadlines for submitting proposals.

Library (Lisa Mangel)

Student use of the library is down in terms of number of items checked out, possibly due to the addition of electronic databases and the ability to conduct Internet research. The committee is going to examine this further, and will also examine effective use of the library funds.

Undergraduate Studies (Traci Halmi)

Committee will continue to organize and advertise the Brown Bag lunches and one is currently being planned regarding the UNISCOPE model. The committee will also examine last year's recommendations for improving the academic culture at Behrend and recommend action for implementation, possibly working with the Student Life committee. In the spring semester, the committee will carry out its standing charge of selecting the winners of the faculty advising and teaching awards.

Student Life (Mark Bestoso)

The committee had an increased workload last year with 24 academic integrity violation forms submitted. For the next meeting Mark is going to provide a summary of violations, actions taken, and workload on the committee. If the workload is excessive, other methods of handling the violations will need to be examined.

A possible new charge for the committee was proposed, that of studying public transportation needs to/from campus for commuter students.

Athletics (Brad Comann)

Committee has a standing charge selecting winner of the student service award. This committee will examine ways to encourage greater faculty attendance at athletic events, to reduce student athlete absenteeism, and provide for better scheduling of events around academics.

We will continue to develop the agenda and address the other committees at the next Faculty Council meeting on October 3.