

College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Meeting
Wednesday, April 13, 2005
3:30 p.m., City Union

3:30 p.m. Iced tea, lemonade, and cookies

3:45 p.m. Meeting begins

AGENDA

- Item I. Approval of minutes from Faculty Meeting, December 9, 2004.
- Item II. Opening comments.
- Item III. Opportunity for faculty to ask questions arising from annual reports of the various college committees (see appendix).
- Executive Committee
 - Committee on Academic Distinction and Awards for Students
 - Curriculum Committee
 - Faculty Instructional Development Committee
 - Grading Appeals Committee
 - Assessment Committee
- Item IV. Recommendation from the College Curriculum Committee to approve Essential Studies courses listed for Area E, Historical Studies and Area F, Humanities (see appendix). Supporting materials are available for review in the Dean's Office.
- Item V. Recommendation from the College Curriculum Committee to approve Integrative Studies courses (see appendix). Supporting materials are available for review in the Dean's Office.
- Item VI. Opportunity to ask questions of the Dean.

APPENDIX

Item III. Opportunity for faculty to ask questions arising from annual reports of the various college committees.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

As per its charge, the Executive Committee reviewed and made recommendations for faculty representation on the College's standing committees; provided advice to the Dean about a variety of issues; and met with and made recommendations regarding the hiring of candidates who might merit an offer with tenure.

The annual review of tenure and promotion recommendations began in December. The committee reviewed seven recommendations regarding promotion to Associate Professor with tenure, eleven recommendations regarding promotion to Full Professor, one promotion to Full Research Professor, and one tenure without promotion recommendation.

Committee Members: Professors Thomas Shores (Mathematics), Richard Dienstbier (Psychology), David Forsythe (Political Science), Clinton Rowe (Geosciences), Susan Belasco (English) and Associate Dean Edward Schmidt.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC DISTINCTION AND AWARDS FOR STUDENTS

This report covers the period of three graduations: August 2004, December 2004, and May 2004. The College of Arts & Sciences awarded 2 degrees with Highest Distinction, 6 degrees with High Distinction, and 25 degrees with Distinction. For May 2005, the committee will consider 19 students for degrees with Highest Distinction, 27 students for degrees with High Distinction and 35 students for degrees with Distinction.

A total of 83 scholarship applications were received. The committee will make one nomination for the Kate Field Grant-in-aid and two nominations for the Donald Walters Miller Scholarship. It will also make selections for the scholarships controlled by the College of Arts & Sciences.

Committee Members: Professors Cal Garbin (Psychology), James Carr (Chemistry), Franz Blaha (English), Gordon Woodward (Mathematics), Noriko Asato (Modern Languages & Literatures); and Associate Dean Laura White.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The committee reviewed 31 new course proposals; 44 change in course proposals; 14 course deletion proposals; 27 Essential Studies proposals; 24 Integrative Studies proposals; and 14 proposals for various majors and minors.

The Committee forwarded to the faculty the following recommendations:

- to approve 20 courses to fulfill the University Essential Studies requirements for Arts & Sciences majors.
- to approve 12 courses to be forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee for Integrative Studies designation.
- to approve the changes in Essential Studies which resulted in blanket approval for 70 courses.
- to approve the changes in Integrative Studies.
- to approve changes in the cross-listed course policy.
- to approve changes in general college requirements regarding residency in the major, the Plan A minor and courses numbered above 299.

- to approve the changes in the Spanish major.

The committee forwarded directly to the University Curriculum Committee: 25 new course proposals, 33 course change proposals, and 4 course deletions proposals. The Committee approved non-substantive changes in the Course Exclusions and Restrictions List; Actuarial Science major; Chemistry major; Computer Science & Engineering major; Ethnic Studies major and minor; Environmental Studies major; History major; Meteorology major; Women's Studies major and minor. These changes went directly to the bulletin editor.

Finally, the committee made recommendations for faculty representation on standing committees. The chair for the 2005-2006 academic year will be decided at the next committee meeting.

Committee Members: Professors Robert Shirer (Modern Languages & Literatures), Jeff Spinner-Halev (Political Science), Thomas Marley (Mathematics), Ted Pardy (Biological Sciences), Catherine Nickel (Modern Languages & Literatures); Geoff Mickells (Student Advisory Board), John Wood (Student Advisory Board); Anne Kopera (Advising), and Associate Dean Laura White (Executive Secretary).

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FACULTY INSTRUCTIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The committee considered six nominations for Distinguished Teaching Awards. One nomination for the Annis Chaikin Sorenson Award for distinguished teaching in the humanities was forwarded to the UNL Teaching Council's Subcommittee on Distinguished Teaching Awards and six nominations were made for the College Distinguished Teaching Award. The awardees will be honored at various events including the Arts & Sciences Honors Convocation on April 22, 2005.

The College Distinguished Teaching Award winners are: **David Berkowitz**, Associate Professor, Chemistry; **James LeSueur**, Associate Professor, History; **Adelaida L. Martinez**, Professor, Modern Languages & Literatures; **Patrice C. McMahon**, Assistant Professor, Political Science; **Amelia M. Montes**, Assistant Professor, English; **Vinodchandran N. Variyam**, Assistant Professor, Computer Science & Engineering.

The committee considered ten nominations for the Graduate Studies Graduate Teaching Assistant Award and six nominations for the Graduate Studies Graduate Research Award.

The recipients for the College Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards are **Michael Bessert**, Biological Sciences; **Haitham Hamza**, Computer Science & Engineering; and **Tyrone Jaeger**, English. The recipients for the College Graduate Research Assistant Awards are **Leonard Mason**, Geosciences; **Sarah Petitto**, Chemistry; and **Wang Yao**, Computer Science & Engineering. All of these students will be recognized at the Arts & Sciences Honors Convocation on April 22, 2005.

Committee Members: Professors John Hibbing (Political Science), Steve Lavin (Anthropology & Geography), David Skoug (Mathematics) James Takacs (Chemistry), Mark van Roojen (Philosophy); Jason Renner (Student Advisory Board representative), Kris Gandara (graduate student representative), and Associate Dean Laura White.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GRADING APPEALS COMMITTEE

The Committee received one appeal which is under consideration as the 2004-2005 academic year draws to a close.

Committee Members: Professors Robert Hitchcock (Anthropology & Geography), Matthew Parker (Geosciences), Stephen Burnett (Classics & Religious Studies/History); Jason Weber and Andrew Clements (Student Advisory Board); Associate Dean Peter Bleed.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

The biennial cycle of assessment reporting established three years ago, is now fully operational. Thus, the final report on the College's 2003/4 assessment of undergraduate advising was finalized in August of 2004 with a report submitted to the University Assessment coordinator. That report has been posted on the University's webpage among other "potential models for assessing student learning."
http://www.unl.edu/ous/faculty_resources/assessment/a&s_advising_assessment_report.pdf

Soon after that report was finalized, the biennial round of program assessment reports was received from programs within the College. Reports were received from 21 of 23 undergraduate programs. Members of the College Assessment Committee read and reacted to these reports. Those reactions were added to the unit reports to form the core of the College's 2005 Assessment Report which was submitted the University Assessment Coordinators on February 15, 2005. As the year closed, the Assessment Committee met to identify an assessment issue for next year and to discuss ways of increasing both the efficiency and effectiveness of the assessment process. Because assessment materials will be needed in advance of the upcoming UNL accreditation visit, units will have to submit their next assessment reports in April 2006.

Committee Members: Professors Chris Gallagher (English), Gordon Woodward (Mathematics), Elizabeth Theiss-Morse (Political Science), Mark van Roojen (Philosophy), Mark Griep (Chemistry), Kathy Krone (Communication Studies), Tom Carr (Modern Languages & Literatures), Nan Lindsley-Griffin (Anthropology & Geography), Brian Humes (Political Science); Tony Macdissi (Student Advisory Board representative); Associate Dean Peter Bleed.

Item IV. Recommendation from the College Curriculum Committee to approve Essential Studies courses.

Area E, Historical Studies

RELG 208 Introduction to Islam (3 cr)

Area F, Humanities

ENGL 311G Revolution and Romanticism (3 cr)

RELG 208 Introduction to Islam (3 cr)

Item V. Recommendation from the College Curriculum Committee to approve Integrative Studies courses.

BIOS 140 Natural History of Western Nebraska (4 cr)

CHEM 106 Chemistry in Context (4 cr)

ENGL 311G Revolution and Romanticism (3 cr)

ENGL 445 Ethnic Literature (3 cr)

ENGL 487 Senior Capstone Experience (3 cr)

HIST 242 Native American Women (ETHN 242/WMNS 242) (3 cr)

HIST 411 Indians in American Popular Culture (ETHN 411) (3 cr)

HIST 468 Cultural History of Native American (ETHN 468) (3 cr)

MATH 106B Calculus for Biology & Medicine (5 cr)

RELG 208 Introduction to Islam (3 cr)

Item VI. Opportunity to ask questions of the Dean.