

Meeting of the Villanova University Academic Policy Committee

Friday, April 19, 2013
Mendel Science Center, room 103, 9:00 am

MINUTES

Present: Louise Russo (chair), Paul Pasles, Bob Styer, Wenhong Luo, Craig Wheeland, Dennis Kuhn, Lesley Perry, Kelly Welch, Joyce Willens, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Fayette Veverka, Sridhar Santhanam, Ken Kroos, Adele Lindenmeyr, Edwin Goff, Randy Weinstein, Mark Doorley

Not in Attendance: JeanAnn Linney (NIA), Paul Hanouna, Catherine Warrick, Mary Ann Cantrell (NIA), Wayne Bremser (NIA), Jutta Seibert (NIA), Chris Marroletti (NIA), Ali Yousaf, Caroline Kemp, Aaron Moore, Christine Alizzi (NIA), Jack Chong, Daniel Troiano

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Minutes from the meeting on March 21st were reviewed and approved.

- I. The chair welcomed invited guests Nurit Friedman, Paul Bonfanti, and Jim Trainer from OPIR who joined the committee once again to review CATS data analysis. Per the previous APC discussion reflecting language in the final CATS analysis report indicating that score deviations ± 0.2 from the mean are insignificant, the committee questioned whether quartile language should be discontinued since the value range would account for most of the quartile. The committee had requested that OPIR complete a sample analysis and report to assess how a change in reporting from quartile to decile intervals would affect interpretation of outcome for faculty assessment/development purposes. Paul Bonfanti shared the results of this sample analysis. Discussion of the shifts in faculty rank designations focused on concerns about how such an approach would complicate interpretation based upon providing an advantage to some faculty even though this approach may assist chairs in identifying faculty who may be in need of development support. Additional comments supported the potential inclusion of longevity data within faculty CATS reports as a more beneficial indicator for faculty evaluation of effectiveness and adaptation. While such approaches are reasonable to consider, the general concern regarding an additional adjustment to reporting structure or language was that this would draw even more focus on the CATS as an assessment vehicle for teaching effectiveness. Many members emphasized that the CATS is not a good proxy for assessment of student learning and discussion ensued as to how APC may participate in Institutional initiatives to develop more appropriate measurement vehicles. No resolution was reached as to a

change in CATS report language and therefore this issue will be on the agenda for the first meeting of the fall 2013 semester.

- II. The committee reviewed the proposed academic calendars for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 as provided by the VPAA's Office. Both calendars were approved by majority vote. Discussion did ensue related to how the calendaring system may need to change to reflect a more robust offering and access to online courses. The most relevant topic included the potential for inclusion of a winter term.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Russo

Members of APC: Louise Russo (chair), Wayne Bremser, Fayette Veverka, Robert Styer, Adele Lindenmeyr, Edwin Goff, Kelly Welch, Mary Ann Cantrell, Louise Fitzpatrick (represented by Lesley Perry), Joyce S. Willens, Wenhong Luo, Paul Pasles, Paul Hanouna, Kail Ellis (represented by Craig Wheeland), Jean Ann Linney, Gary Gabriele (represented by Randy Weinstein), Patrick Maggitti (represented by Dennis Kuhn), Catherine Warrick, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Mark Doorley, Sridhar Santhanam, Kenneth Kroos, Aaron Moore, Jutta Seibert, Jack Chong, Christine Alizzi, Caroline Kemp, Daniel Troiano, Christopher Marroletti (non-voting member), Ali Yousef, Sophie Kagan (ex officio non-voting member)