Meeting of the Villanova University
Academic Policy Committee

Monday, April 23, 2018
10:30 – 11:30 PM
Fedigan Room (SAC 400)

Present: Gordon Coonfield, Marylu Hill, Christopher Kilby (chair), Crystal Lucky (representing Adele Lindenmeyr), Eric Lomazoff, Peggy Lyons, Wen Mao, Emily McCloskey, Elizabeth Petit de Mange, Michael Posner, Marguerite Schlag

Absent: Sherry Bowen (on leave), Danai Chasaki (NIA), Sepideh Cheheltani, Jennifer Dixon (NIA), Shelly Howton (on leave), Brian King, Rees Rankin, Joseph Schick (NIA), Andrea Welker (NIA), Craig Wheeland (NIA), Dennis Wykoff (on leave), Tina Yang (NIA)

Administrative Items

1) Gordon Coonfield volunteered to take minutes.

2) Minutes from 3/21/2018 approved unanimously.

Old Business

3) Guidelines for Cross-College Major
   Christopher Kilby again introduced the idea that APC develop recommendations for guidelines for future Cross-College Majors as a shift to a proactive stance, developing policy recommendations before individual initiatives emerge. He distributed a rough draft of guidelines for a first reading and to spark discussion. Christopher emphasized that this not be taken as an attempt to promote cross-college majors, but rather as getting out in front of a policy issue that may be on the horizon.

   The discussion focused on a number of practice concerns (faculty time, program directors (if any), the relationship between programs and majors, potential impact on untenured faculty, role of Provost’s office, concerns about credentialing) as well as what lessons might be learned from prior experience, e.g., with Global and Interdisciplinary Studies (GIS).

   A side discussion regarding the APC charter (still in draft form) raised the need for a clearer mandate about what should and should not fall under APC’s purview. One suggestion that appeared to have substantial support is requesting reporting on a regular basis from the Provost’s office on academic policy issues, including recent academic policy changes and upcoming academic policy issues.
4) Online CATS Subcommittee (Michael Posner, Chair)

Michael Posner explained that the subcommittee is preparing a faculty survey to better understand faculty experience transitioning from paper to online CATS, while also using this opportunity to gather data on faculty perceptions of the CATS more generally. APC discussed several aspects of the survey.

The survey will be sent out the week between finals and commencement (May 14-18), with a final draft ready by May 2.

Christopher Kilby concluded the meeting by explaining the manner in which the new APC (for the 2018-2020 term) would elect its Chair, encouraging all interested in the position to contact him.