

# Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 31, 2024

Science III – Room 100

## Meeting Minutes

Attendees: E. Adams, J. Deal, C. Dell'Amico, H. He, M. Herman, E. Montoya, K. Szick, M. Szolowicz, J. Wang,

Absent: T. Holiwell, R. Korba

1. The meeting was called to order by J. Deal at 10:02 am.
2. Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by K. Szick, seconded by E. Montoya, all in favor.
3. Minutes
  - a. Approval of minutes from 10/17/24: A motion to approve the minutes was made by H. He, seconded by M. Szolowicz, all in favor.
  - b. Volunteer for minutes for today's meeting: J. Wang.
4. Announcements

The committee welcomed M. Herman joining AAC.  
J. Deal informed the committee to expect curriculum referrals from Academic Senate.
5. Resolutions
  - a. J. Deal updated the committee that the second reading on Resolution 242506 - Proposal for New Concentration - B.S. in Biochemistry - ACS Certified occurred at Academic Senate on 10/24/24. The resolution was passed by Senate and sent to President for signature.
  - b. J. Deal updated the committee that the first reading on Resolution 242507 - Ethnic Studies, Feminist Ethnic Studies, and Queer Ethnic Studies Minors occurred at Academic Senate on 10/24/24. There were no issues raised on the first reading.
6. Referrals
  - a. Referral 2024-2025 14 - SOCI Process (with FAC)
  - b. Referral 2024-2025 15 - Timeframe of SOCI Administration (with FAC)

J. Deal provided background information of these two referrals. The committee began an open discussion, reflecting on SOCI discussions from last year. The committee noted that biases, particularly gender and ethnicity related, exist in SOCI. It was recommended that RTP committees receive training on potential biases in SOCI. The RTP review of teaching effectiveness should focus on patterns in SOCI responses. The committee reiterated the importance of linking individual comments with their respective ratings. The suggestion was made again to grant instructors access to the online SOCI link. Concerns were raised that SOCI may reflect student satisfaction more than teaching effectiveness and may correlate with student grades. The committee also discussed caution in removing biased comments. If SOCIs are flagged for biased comments, the removal of both qualitative comments and quantitative ratings remains open for discussion.

After the open discussion, the committee reviewed the resolution drafted by FAC. Some questions were raised about the wording of the resolution, and clarifications are needed from FAC. J. Deal proposed a joint meeting with FAC to discuss the questions/concerns raised by the committee.

a. Other Discussion Items - None

b. Open Forum

E. Adams informed the committee that the Cal-GETC resolution has been signed by the President. Academic Programs is working on outlines to integrate Cal-GETC requirements into the curriculum for each department. These outlines will be provided to each department for review. With departmental feedback, the outlines will then be reviewed by GECCo and AAC. E. Adams is also working with the Music Department to incorporate the Cal-GETs requirements into their new degree program structure.

Meeting adjourned at 11:21am.

Approved January 23, 2025