College of Arts and Sciences Policy Committee Minutes  
April 27, 2015

Present: Ed Hirt (chair), Jim Davis, Stuart Davis, Julia Fox, John Hanson, Eileen Julien, Dale McFadden, Julie Van Voorhis, Nick Williams

The meeting was called to order at 4:00. The minutes of April 20 were discussed and approved.

The meeting began with a discussion of the BFC’s revised Creation, Reorganization, Elimination and Mergers Policy (CREM), on which BFC will vote tomorrow. The CPC was requested by the Executive Dean on behalf of the Provost to provide its position to the BFC regarding the most recent CREM policy in advance of the meeting. The CPC chose to send its earlier comments on the policy, some of which were addressed in the revised version of the document, and some of which were not. [The policy came to a vote in the BFC and passed on April 28.]

The CPC discussed revisions to its policies on budgetary matters of the College. It was proposed that the policy on the confidentiality of the budget process (http://college.indiana.edu/faculty/policy/collegepolicies/budproc.shtml) be eliminated, since it referred to individual budget meetings between Dean and departments and programs, a practice that is now obsolete. The budget policy guidelines (http://college.indiana.edu/faculty/policy/collegepolicies/contingency.shtml;) will also be revised to integrate the CPC into the changing budget procedures of the College. Work on this latter policy is ongoing.

Executive Dean Larry Singell joined the meeting at 5:05. The CPC discussed its proposed changes to the budget policy with the Dean. The committee asked the Dean about the contingency funds that were mentioned in the old policy; the Dean responded that these funds do not exist, but that the policy may be referring to changes in budget when enrollment estimates are below actual tuition revenues. The Dean reported that budget allocations are now based on a three-year moving average of student credit hours, which in turn allows the College to estimate its funds with greater accuracy.

Dean Singell gave report on the status of the American Studies department. After receiving the report of a committee comprised of College faculty, the Dean has recommended appointing an external head whose responsibilities will include rewriting the department’s governance documents.

The meeting concluded with additional conversation with the Dean about the CREM policy, to which the administration is opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45.
Julie Van Voorhis, recorder