

Minutes of  
THE FACULTY SENATE  
OF  
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The Faculty Senate met Tuesday, December 9, 2003, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 325 of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. The following members were present:

Dr. Annette Holeyfield	Dr. Charles Busch
Dr. Sid Womack	Mr. Ron Robison
Dr. Joe Moore	Dr. Kevin Mason
Dr. Scott Kirkconnell	Ms. Darla Sparacino
Ms. Peggy Lee	Dr. Trey Philpotts
Ms. Marti Wilkerson	Dr. Jeff Robertson
Dr. Carl Greco	Dr. Kathy Pearson

Mr. Ken Futterer was absent. Dr. Eldon Clary, Dr. Cathy Caldwell, Dr. Ursula Chandler, Mr. Andy Anders, Dr. Carl Brucker, Dr. David Bell, Dr. Theresa Herrick, Dr. Glen Bishop, and Dr. Jackie Bowman were visitors.

CALL TO ORDER  
of  
APPROVAL OF  
to  
MINUTES

President Sparacino called the meeting to order and asked for action on the minutes of the November 11, 2003, meeting. Motion by Dr. Mason, seconded by Ms. Wilkerson, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion carried. President Sparacino asked for any amendments or corrections. There being none, motion by Dr. Greco, seconded by Dr. Pearson, to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

CURRICULAR  
ITEMS

The following actions were taken with regards to recommendations from the Curriculum Committee:

Motion by Dr. Womack, seconded by Dr. Philpotts, to consider all proposals from each department/school together for the purposes of making motions for approval. Motion carried.

A. Department of Foreign Languages and International Studies

Motion by Dr. Womack, seconded by Mr. Robison, to add FR/GER/SPAN 3213, Advanced Grammar and Usage, to the course descriptions; add FR/GER/SPAN 3223, Short Story, to the course descriptions; add FR/GER/SPAN 4701, Foreign Language Pedagogy, to the course descriptions; modify the Curriculum in Foreign Language with a Concentration in French, German, or Spanish for Teacher Licensure by (1) deleting FR/GER/SPAN 1014, Beginning (Language) I, and FR/GER/SPAN 1024, Beginning (Language) II; (2) adding FR/GER/SPAN 3213, Advanced Grammar and Usage; (3) adding FR/GER/SPAN 3223, Short Story; (4) adding FR/GER/SPAN 4701, Foreign Language Pedagogy; (5) adding three credit hours of upper-division language elective; (6) deleting HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; (7) deleting one credit hour of physical activity; and (8) adding two hours of electives for program to total 124 hours; and add TESL 4023, Tesol Second Language Acquisition, TESL 4703, Tesol Methods: Teaching English as a Second Language, TESL 4713, Tesol Assessment, and TESL 4723, Tesol Teaching People of Other Cultures, to

the course descriptions (5000-level cross-listed courses to be acted upon by the Graduate Council). Motion carried.

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B. Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Motion by Dr. Philpotts, seconded by Mr. Robison, to modify the Curriculum in Early Childhood Education by changing the general education math requirement from MATH 1103, Algebra for General Education, with a footnote to MATH 1103, Algebra for General Education, or MATH 1113, College Algebra; changing the general education fine arts requirement from ART 2123, Experiencing Art, to any course accepted for the requirement as listed in the General Education section of the catalog; and changing the general education social sciences requirement from SOC 1003, Introductory Sociology, to either SOC 1003, Introductory Sociology, or PSY 2003, General Psychology. Motion carried.

C. Department of Health and Physical Education

Motion by Dr. Womack, seconded by Mr. Robison, to increase the course fee for PE 2941, Scuba Diving I, from \$75 to \$100 and change the course description to clarify rental information; modify the Curriculum in Health and Physical Education for Teacher Licensure by adding a footnote for both HIST 2003, History of the U.S. to 1865, and POLS 2003, American Government, indicating that students may enroll in appropriate alternatives or substitutions as listed in the General Education section of the catalog; and add prerequisites of PE 2101, Methods of Teaching Team Activities, PE 2111, Methods of Teaching Individual Activities, and admission to Stage II to PE 3603, Methods and Materials in Physical Education for Secondary Schools. Motion carried.

D. Department of Art

Motion by Mr. Robison, seconded by Dr. Womack, to add "Sophomore Review" as a prerequisite for the following course descriptions: ART 3003, Concepts in Art Education; ART 3013, Art Education Practicum; ART 3113, Art History, American; ART 3123, Art History, Renaissance; ART 3203, Typography and Layout; ART 3223, Three Dimensional Design; ART 3233, Production Techniques; ART 3303, Drawing Studio I; ART 3503, Painting Studio I; ART 3533, Watercolor Painting; ART 3603, Introduction to Ceramics; ART 3703/3713, Sculpture Studio, I, II; ART 3803, Introduction to Printmaking; ART 3813, Printmaking Studio I; ART 4103, Art History, Modern; ART 4243, Professional Portfolio Preparation; ART 4233, Techniques for Illustration; ART 4313/4323, Drawing Studio II, III; ART 4503/4513, Painting Studio II, III; ART 4603/4613, Ceramics Studio I, II; ART 4701, Special Methods in Art; ART 4703, Senior Project and Exhibition; ART 4803/4813, Printmaking Studio II, III; and ART 4823, Art Criticism and Aesthetics; add ART 4823, Art Criticism and Aesthetics, to the course descriptions and the Curriculum in Art for Teacher Licensure; and modify the Curriculum in Art for Teacher Licensure by (1) deleting one physical education activity; (2) deleting HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; (3) adding ART 4823, Art Criticism and Aesthetics; (4) changing ANTH 2003, Cultural Anthropology, and POLS 2003, American Government, as the social sciences requirements and adding a footnote indicating that students may enroll in appropriate alternatives or substitutions as listed in the General Education section of the

catalog; and (5) adding one hour of Art electives for curriculum to re-total to 124 hours. Dr. Caldwell stated that the need for adding the “Sophomore Review” as a prerequisite for the stated courses was due to increased emphasis on portfolio assessment. Motion carried.

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E. Department of English

Motion by Dr. Pearson, seconded by Dr. Philpotts, to delete the ENGL cross-listings (i.e., delete the ENGL courses) of ENGL/TH 4263, Theatre History I: Antiquity to 1564, and ENGL/TH 4273, Theatre History II: 1564 to 1900; change the course number of ENGL 3043, Advanced Composition: Practice and Theory, to ENGL 2063, and change the course description; change the course number and title of ENGL 3213, Short Prose Fiction, to ENGL 2233, Introduction to Fiction, and change the course description; change the course number and title of ENGL 4233, Literary Criticism, to ENGL 3103, Literary Theory, and change the course description; change the course number and title of ENGL 2183, Film as Literature, to ENGL 3173, Studies in Film, and change the course description; change the course description of ENGL 3203, Modern Novel; change the course number of ENGL 4223, Young Adult Literature, to ENGL 3223, and change the prerequisite; change the course number and title of ENGL 4443, Early British Novel, to ENGL 3243, Early Novel, and change the course description; change the course number and title of ENGL 2293, Themes in Literature, to ENGL 3293, Studies in Literature, and change the course description; change the course number of ENGL 4453, Chaucer, to ENGL 3453, and change the course description; change the course number of ENGL 4463, Shakespeare, to ENGL 3463, and change the course description; change the course number of ENGL 2513, Methods of Research, to ENGL 3513, and change the course description; change the prerequisites of ENGL 4083, Seminar: English Language; change the prerequisites of ENGL 4213, American Folklore; change the prerequisites of ENGL 4283, Seminar: World Literature; change the prerequisites of ENGL 4383, Seminar: American Literature; change the prerequisites of ENGL 4483, Seminar: British Literature; and change the prerequisites of ENGL 4683, Seminar in Women’s Studies; modify the Curriculum in English by (1) deleting ENGL 2513 (3513 - see above change), Methods of Research; (2) changing the course number of Advanced Composition: Practice and Theory from ENGL 3043 to ENGL 2063; (3) changing the requirement of taking both ENGL 3013, Systems of Grammar, and ENGL 3023, Introduction to Linguistics, to taking one or the other; and (4) adding six hours of English electives (2-4000 level); modify the Curriculum in Creative Writing by (1) deleting ENGL 2513 (3513 - see above change), Methods of Research; (2) changing the course number of Advanced Composition: Practice and Theory from ENGL 3043 to ENGL 2063; and (3) adding three hours of English electives (2-4000 level); modify the Curriculum in English for Teacher Licensure by (1) deleting ENGL 2513 (3513 - see above change), Methods of Research; (2) changing the course number of Advanced Composition: Practice and Theory from ENGL 3043 to ENGL 2063; (3) designating an additional three hours of English electives as 2-4000 level; (4) adding three hours of electives; (5) deleting SEED 3702, Introduction to Educational Technology; (6) adding EDMD 3013, Integrating Instructional Technology; (7) deleting HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; (8) deleting one hour of physical education activity; and (9) changing the required courses of ANTH 2003, Cultural Anthropology, and POLS 2003, American Government, to any appropriate alternatives or substitutions as listed in the General Education section of the catalog; and modify the Curriculum in Creative Writing for Teacher Licensure by (1) deleting ENGL 2513 (3513 - see above change), Methods of Research; (2) changing the course number of Advanced Composition: Practice and Theory from ENGL 3043 to ENGL 2063; (3) adding three hours of English electives at the 2-4000 level; (4) deleting SEED 3702, Introduction to Educational

Technology; (5) adding EDMD 3013, Integrating Instructional Technology; (6) deleting HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; (7) deleting one hour of physical education activity; and (8) changing the required courses of

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ANTH 2003, Cultural Anthropology, and POLS 2003, American Government, to any appropriate alternatives or substitutions as listed in the General Education section of the catalog. Motion carried.

F. Department of Music

Motion by Ms. Lee, seconded by Dr. Womack, to modify the curricula in Music Education for Teacher Licensure (all options) by (1) deleting HLED 1513, Personal Health and Wellness; (2) deleting one hour of physical education activity; and (3) changing the required courses of ANTH 2003, Cultural Anthropology, and POLS 2003, American Government, to any appropriate alternatives or substitutions as listed in the General Education section of the catalog; change the course description of MUS 3853, Music in the Elementary Classroom; and change the course description of MUS 4701, Special Methods in Music. Motion carried.

G. School of Physical and Life Sciences

Motion by Dr. Kirkconnell, seconded by Ms. Wilkerson, to change the course number and title of BIOL/PHSC 3003, Science in Elementary and Middle School Education, to BIOL/PHSC 3213, Science Education in the Elementary School, change the prerequisites, and change the course description; change the course number of BIOL/PHSC 3013, Science Education in the Secondary School, to BIOL/PHSC 3233, change the prerequisites, and change the course description; add BIOL/PHSC 3223, Science Education in the Middle Level, to the course descriptions; and change the requirement in the Curriculum in Middle Level Education (Mathematics and Science Licensure) from BIOL/PHSC 3003, Science in Elementary and Middle School Education, to BIOL/PHSC 3223, Science Education in the Middle Level. Motion carried.

H. Department of Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration

Motion by Mr. Robison, seconded by Dr. Womack, to modify the Curriculum in Recreation and Park Administration (Interpretive Naturalist Emphasis) by (1) changing the name of the emphasis to Interpretation; (2) adding a required minor in Anthropology, History, or Biology; (3) changing the biology general education requirement to BIOL 1014, Introduction to Biological Science; (4) deleting BIOL 1114, Principles of Biology; (5) deleting BIOL 2124, Principles of Zoology; (6) deleting BIOL 2134, Principles of Botany; (7) deleting BIOL 3114, Principles of Ecology; (8) deleting thirteen hours of upper-division Biology electives; (9) adding RP 2033, Recreation Leadership; (10) dropping RP 3053, Natural Resource Management and Planning, or RP 4053, Water Resources Development, as Recreation and Park Administration Major Electives; (11) dropping CHEM 1114, Survey of Chemistry; (12) adding ANTH/MUSM 4403, Interpretation/Education through Museum Methods; (13) adding three hours of approved electives; and (14) adding six hours of upper-division Recreation and Park Administration electives; add a corequisite to HA 2913, Principles of Food Preparations; change the prerequisites of HA 4043, Menu Analysis and Purchasing; change the course number of HA 3063,

Dining Service Management, to HA 2063, and delete the prerequisite; change RP 1022, Boating Education, to RP 1021; add a minor in Recreation and Park Administration; modify the Curriculum in Recreation and Park Administration (Recreation Administration Emphasis) by changing the requirement from PSY 3063, Developmental Psychology I, to PSY 3063, Developmental Psychology I, or PSY 3163, Developmental Psychology II; add RP 1041,

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Principles and Techniques of Fishing, to the course descriptions and the coeducational activities that may be taken for general education credit; delete RP 1051, Fundamentals of Canoeing, and RP 1061, Basic River Canoeing, from the course descriptions; add a minor in Hospitality Administration; change the course description for RP 4053, Water Resources Development; and delete the prerequisite for RP 4063, Park Operations. Dr. Kirkconnell questioned whether the Biology faculty had been notified concerning the above changes. Dr. Herrick stated that the faculty had been notified and that she would continue to work closely with Biology. She also emphasized that students can still select the biology minor as an option. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: President Sparacino reminded the Senators that this agenda item had been tabled at the last

GRADE INFLATION meeting and invited Dr. Clary to speak. Dr. Clary reported that he had conducted a study a few years ago concerning grade point averages (GPA) and ACT scores over time at Tech. He noted that Academic Affairs had started computing the weighted GPA for each semester beginning in 1974. His study indicated that the average GPA for the past 29 years is 2.66, and the standard deviation for this distribution was .08. There were five years where the GPA was one standard deviation below the mean and seven years where it exceeded the mean by more than one standard deviation. Dr. Clary also reported that average ACT scores have been over 21 since 1997. His study, therefore, supports the conclusion that the "creep" in GPA is a result of the increase in average ACT scores of entering freshmen and that Tech has grade compression, beyond the freshman year, because fewer of those with very low GPAs remain.

Dr. Kirkconnell reported that Dr. Chris Kellner had also performed some analyses on the data provided by Academic Affairs, and stated that it is surprising that there hasn't been a more clear demonstration of grade inflation since Tech is more selective and because there are so few forces acting to increase numbers of low grades. He also noted that the numbers of students receiving 4.00 GPAs is increasing and asked Dr. Clary if his data would prove that this should be happening.

Dr. Clary responded that the data would not directly support this theory but that it can be rationalized. With better students, as indicated by higher high school GPAs and higher ACT scores, the percentage of students making As should go up. Dr. Philpotts expressed concern of the percentage of students receiving a 4.00; Dr. Clary reminded everyone that those students would normally receive grades from four or five different instructors.

Additional discussion noted the completion of the high school core curriculum as having an impact on the preparation of entering freshmen. Dr. Kirkconnell stated that Dr. Kellner had prepared a plot correlating GPA and ACT and that this information, along with Dr. Clary's information, may be put on the Senate's website for review by all faculty. President Sparacino thanked Dr. Clary for his presentation.

SCHOLARLY WORK OF FACULTY President Sparacino asked for comments relating to the draft material Dr. Hamm had distributed at last month's meeting. Dr. Greco reported that he had sent some comments directly to Dr. Hamm. President Sparacino read an e-mail from Mr. Futterer, which had also been sent to Dr. Hamm, concerning including solo recitals, theatre designs of a major set, art shows, etc., in the list of what constitutes scholarly activity. After discussion, consensus was that these items should be included but that no specification about difficulty (relating to comparisons and equivalencies of different types of scholarly works) be included.

OPEN FORUM President Sparacino asked for any comments at this time, and none were voiced.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/ INFORMATION ITEMS President Sparacino reported that Academic Affairs had received requests for other elected standing committee minutes to be posted to the web. She stated that Academic Affairs will have a web page developed for this purpose and that the Faculty Senate will encourage all the elected standing committees to post their minutes to this site. Dr. Kirkconnell mentioned that it would also be a good idea to post to the Senate's website many of the informational items that are distributed at the monthly meetings.

Dr. Greco inquired as to the status of the issue of elected standing committees not meeting on a regular basis, particularly the Student Affairs Committee. President Sparacino stated that she has talked to Dr. Biller about this issue and has asked that the Senate sub-committee meet with him after the first of the year.

After discussion, it was determined that the Faculty Senate will meet the second Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. during the spring semester. The first meeting will be in February unless agenda items necessitate a January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.



Darla Sparacino, M.Ed., President



Scott Kirkconnell, Ph.D., Secretary