

AUC Curriculum Committee Minutes

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Google Meet Member Attendees:

Franca Barricelli, Linda Dupell, Margaret Hoey, Soumitra Basu, Lisa Gim, Cheryl Goldman, Elizabeth Gordon, Jonathan Harvey, Laurie Link, Tara Marolis, Zach Miner, Aisling O'Connor, Sherry Packard, Audrey Pereira, Britton Snyder, Danielle Wigmore, Sara Wright.

Absent:

Sam Bright, Jerry Johnson, Adem Elveren, Natasha Kurtonina

Guests:

Alberto Cardelle, Michael Nosek, Charles Roberts, Heather Thomas, Kisha Tracey, Nelly Wadsworth

Charles Roberts representing the AUC called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm, following informal introductions

1. Announcements

Charles Roberts outlined the agenda and responsibilities of the AUC Curriculum Committee. This included the election of a committee chair (or two co-chairs) as well as two or more secretaries at a minimum. In addition, at this meeting the committee was to form a LA&S subcommittee and grant the AUCC chair the authority to send proposals directly to this subcommittee. Lastly, two proposals were to be considered; AUC #1 and AUC # 3.

2. New Business

2.1 Leadership Election

- Co-secretary: Aisling O'Connor self-nominated and was unanimously voted co-secretary by the members present.
VOTE: 17/0/0
- Co-chair: Soumitra Basu self-nominated and was unanimously voted co-chair by the members present. Soumitra assumed the chair and conducted the remainder of the meeting.
VOTE: 17/0/0
- Additional co-chair: Motion to nominate at next AUC Curriculum Committee meeting: Lisa Gim, Second: Cheryl Goldman
VOTE: 17/0/0

2.2 Election of Addition Co-secretary

Soumitra made the first order of business to appoint an additional co-secretary and sought self-nominations. Danielle Wigmore self-nominated was unanimously voted co-secretary by the members present.

Motion to approve Danielle Wigmore as co-secretary: Linda Dupell, Second: Margaret Hoey

VOTE: 17/0/0

2.3 LA&S Subcommittee Formation

Nine volunteers were sought for the LA&S subcommittee. Michael Nosek provided clarification on the role of this subcommittee; proposals will be sent directly from AUC to the subcommittee by the AUC Chair. The subcommittee should meet in advance of the AUC and provide input at the AUC meetings. The following committee members self-nominated: Franca Barricelli, Linda Dupell, Margaret Hoey, Lisa Gim, Elizabeth Gordon, Jonathan Harvey, Tara Marolis, Danielle Wigmore, Sara Wright. The vote was deferred to the next AUC meeting. [Should we add who the final members ended up being?]

2.4 Motion to Grant AUCC Chair Permission to Refer Proposals Directly to LA&S Subcommittee

Motion: Linda Dupell, Second: Danielle Wigmore

VOTE: 17/0/0

2.5 Motion to Consider AUC #1

Motion: Aisling O'Connor Second: Laurie Link

Sponsor: Alberto Cardelle

Discussion: Alberto indicated that the 2021/2022 calendar was approved last year. There has been one modification to this: AUC #114 (2019), in which the deadline for incomplete grades was changed. The 2022/2023 calendar follows the typical footprint, although the President's address and Development Day are on the same date. Winter commencement is on December 16 in order to avoid a snow date of December 24. The major change to this calendar is the addition of a Reading Day in the Spring Semester. This was recommended by AUCC last year, in order to avoid WF classes having a class on Wednesday, followed by a final exam the next day. In the past, Reading Day had turned into Spree Day by students, but since it has been a few years since the institution had a Reading Day, the tradition of Spree Day may be forgotten!

A friendly amendment was already proposed by the Student Affair Committee to change Columbus Day to Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples Day in the calendar. In addition, the Student Affair Committee requested a reading day in the fall semester. The sponsor indicated that this is being considered by AA. A member raised the issue of the possibility of adding more time for students to drop a course in the fall semester; possibly moving the drop date to match the add date. The sponsor and Registrar agreed that this is possible. Two members raised the issue of the first day of classes and advising for new students occurring on the Friday before the Labor Day holiday. This may lead to poor attendance due to students working / vacationing over the long weekend.

The sponsor agreed to discuss the possibility of changing the fall advising meeting to the Tuesday after Labor Day with his AA colleagues. Classes would need to start on the Friday before the holiday as there were only 12 Friday class meeting dates in the currently proposed calendar and changing this would reduce it to 11 Friday class meeting dates.

Friendly Amendments:

Change the drop date to match the add date for both the Fall and Spring Semesters in AY 2021/2022 and AY 2022/2023.

Motion to recommend AY 2021/2022 and AY 2022/2023 calendar with friendly amendment: Aisling O'Connor, **Second:** Margaret Hoey

VOTE: 17/0/0

2.6 Motion to Consider AUC #3

Motion: Aisling O'Connor **Second:** Zach Miner

Sponsor: Alberto Cardelle

Discussion: The President requested that the start date of the Spring 2021 semester be moved back by one week and spring break be eliminated and replaced by two Reading Days, one on February 23 and the other on March 17. The later spring semester start date of January 26 would allow extra time for cleaning the campus, increase time available to quarantine for faculty, students and staff travelling over the holidays and better facilitate COVID testing. Spring break would be eliminated to make up the time and also as a prevention strategy to decrease the spread of COVID that could occur due to travel over spring break. Sister institutions are also looking into this strategy.

A survey of students, faculty and staff was recently conducted regarding this proposal. Most respondents were in favor of the later semester start date. The campus community was split on the subject of eliminating spring break, with the majority of students not in favor. A possible compromise being considered by AA is to move one of the reading days to facilitate a long weekend.

Motion to recommend AUC # 3: Linda Dupell, **Second:** Aisling O'Connor

VOTE: 17/0/0

Business was completed at 4:48 pm

Motion to adjourn: Linda Dupell, **Second:** Aisling O'Connor

VOTE: 17/0/0

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Aisling O'Connor