

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting
March 06, 2014

Members Present: Krista Brumley, Geoffrey Nathan, Avis Vidal, Charles Parrish, Larry Lombard, Lisa Maruca, Mark Ferguson, Tom Killion, Anne Duggan, Pramod Khosla, Ed Golenberg, Jennifer Wareham, Caroline Morgan

Attending: Wayne Raskind, Robert Aguirre, Paul Clemens, Caroline Brzuchowski, Lou Romano, Barrett Watten

Absent With Notice: Yifan Zhang, Elizabeth Faue, Fred Pearson, Danielle McGuire, Michael Belzer

The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

The minutes of the February 06, 2014 meeting were approved.

Lou Romano, President of the Academic Senate, gave a presentation to council on the changes in the university's credit hour policy. Romano called the implementation of this new policy "a mess," saying that it was based on a misinterpretation of the Department of Education guidelines and that it was done without incorporating the feedback of the Academic Senate. In general, Romano said, the Department of Education guidelines allow for flexibility with regard to course level and discipline; the directives from the provost's office allow for very little such flexibility.

While agreeing that more time should have been given for the implementation, and noting that the uniform standards were something to which the college objected, Dean Raskind said that there was nonetheless great variance amongst CLAS departments as to what constituted a credit hour, and that this "disequilibrium" needed to be addressed. Before the revisions, he said, there were "wild variations." There needs to be alignment, he said, between costs, credit hours, and contact hours.

Romano said that it comes down to the question of who owns the curriculum—the faculty in the departments, or Kelly Skillin, to whom the provost delegated the credit hour project.

Barrett Watten said that in his department, English, these credit hour changes will necessitate changes to the curriculum, particularly at the graduate level.

Geoff Nathan asked that issues with Travel Wayne be sent to him.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30.