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Faculty Assembly Meeting
May 22, 2014
11:30 a.m.
Bazarsky Auditorium
O'Hare Academic Center

Quorum Count: 57

Minutes from the April 30 assembly meeting approved by consent.

MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly moves to clarify the language regarding Part IIIA of the Enduring Questions and Contemporary Challenges core curriculum. In keeping with the language of the approved model, students may use a minimum of seven university seminar courses and courses chosen from Part IIIB to fulfill the Paths of Inquiry requirement. One additional course may be selected from among approved undergraduate courses offered by any department or program at Salve Regina University.

Discussion: The 30-day requirement was not met. Do we need to vote to suspend the rules?

Answer (Dr. Craig Condella, Chair of the Faculty Assembly): This is a clarification, not a change. The 30-day rule is not required.

Discussion: Any motion before the assembly has to be available for 30 days prior to a vote.

Discussion: It's not a clarification; it's a change. Professional studies courses are not liberal arts.

Discussion: It is a change. It might add 3 credits to the core based on the choices a student makes.

Discussion: Part III needs clarification but this is based on a misunderstanding of Part III. This motion increases the maximum number of credits for the core. This contradicts the model approved by the Faculty Assembly.

Discussion: Some nursing requirements being themed in Part IIIA will give nursing majors more flexibility in fulfilling the core and makes the core more feasible for high-credit majors.

Discussion: Science courses will help with the theme fulfillment for nursing majors.

Discussion: The model has already been approved by the Faculty Assembly, Sr. Jane, and the Board of Trustees. It cannot be changed.

Discussion: The core curriculum handout we received yesterday does not reflect the core that the Faculty Assembly approved.

Discussion: If a course is offered in Part IIIB, does its course cap automatically go up to 35?

MOTION: The Executive Committee moves to suspend the rules.

Vote:

Yes	68
No	26
Abstain	5

The motion passed.

Discussion: This clarification was not the Core Task Force's intent. The professional programs would be included in the university seminars. Section III was meant to be just for the liberal arts. This is a substantive change more than a clarification.

Discussion: Will courses be allowed for core theme credit if it's a course only for nursing majors?

Discussion: When we approved the core, everyone knew it wasn't perfect. We'll improve it as time goes on.

Discussion: This is a dramatic change from the spirit of what we voted on. There will be more courses fulfilling core requirements so there will be more flexibility for the professional program students.

Discussion: The Core Task Force included a rationale and justification for the model. This question is covered in the rationale.

Discussion: Part III is entitled "Exploring the Liberal Arts." Only liberal arts courses should count.

Discussion: Interdisciplinary programs that are based in the liberal arts are not currently included in Part III.

Discussion: Courses from programs that are liberal arts should be counted if the course is approved.

Discussion: There is ambiguity about what is liberal arts and what is professional studies. ADJ is based in the liberal arts but is considered professional studies at Salve. If a course can define itself as a liberal arts course, it should be considered.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: Change the wording in the original motion by substituting "Students *must* use" instead of "Students *may* use."

AMENDED MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly moves to clarify the language regarding Part IIIA of the Enduring Questions and Contemporary Challenges core curriculum. In keeping with the language of the approved model, students must use a minimum

of seven university seminar courses and courses chosen from Part IIIB to fulfill the Paths of Inquiry requirement. One additional course may be selected from among approved undergraduate courses offered by any department or program at Salve Regina University.

Discussion: Opposed to the amendment. "Must" would rule out the chance of taking two interdisciplinary courses to fulfill the theme requirement.

Discussion: "May" with "minimum" is contradictory.

Discussion: The purpose of the themes was to support the distribution requirements, to explain the purpose of the distribution courses and how they are connected.

Discussion: The sentence does not make sense as written.

Discussion: The themes integrate the disciplinary courses.

Discussion: It's absurd not to consider American Studies courses or Global Studies courses as fulfilling the American and Global themes.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT (Changing the word "may" to "must")

Yes	57
No	30
Abstain	13

The amendment passed.

Discussion: Interdisciplinary courses could be crosslisted with Arts and Sciences departments as a way to get them to count for core theme requirements.

Discussion: Faulty wording in the core model document should not lead to major changes in the model.

VOTE ON AMENDED MOTION

Yes	58
No	35
Abstain	7

The amended motion passed.

MOTION: The Department of English recommends that all students be given the opportunity to test out of University Seminar II.

Discussion: What happens to low performing students?

Answer (Dr. Matt Ramsey, English Department Chair): They go into University Seminar II.

Discussion: Isn't the SAT writing test a better indicator of student writing ability?

Answer (Dr. Ramsey): No, the SAT is not a good indicator of writing performance in college.

Discussion: Oppose the motion. Every student should have to take a writing seminar. Every student would benefit from the course.

Discussion: Why aren't we placing students by ability?

Answer (Dr. Ramsey): That was the English Department's wish. Offering an array of seminar topics was considered more important than placing students by ability.

Discussion: All students could benefit from the course.

Discussion: Was the English Department unanimous in its views?

Answer (Dr. Ramsey): No, there were some different views, but the Department agrees with the motion.

Discussion: All students could benefit from the course.

Discussion: University Seminar II isn't just a writing course. Students could gain public speaking experience and other important skills. The intent was for every student to take the course. It might cause elitism if some students are allowed to opt out.

Discussion: University Seminar II is designed as a writing intensive course. Emphasis is on the writing process, not the professor's content. What the English Department is asking for is reasonable.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

Yes	51
No	46
Abstain	3

The motion passed.

Dr. Condella announced that the election for the new Core Review Committee would begin later today via Survey Monkey.

Adjourned 12:55 p.m.