

Plymouth State University
Faculty Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 5, 2008
3:35PM-5PM – Heritage Commons

- I. Approval of draft minutes of the Oct. 1, 2008 meeting. Minutes are available online on the Faculty Governance Blog (which has a slightly new look; note the changes in the left column and changed tabs above). You will be required to log in to myPlymouth to view the minutes. Click on the link listed below the title “Faculty Meeting minutes Oct 1, 2008 draft.” The Faculty Governance Blog may be found at <http://facultygovernance.blogs.plymouth.edu>.

- II. Reports submitted in writing –
 President Steen
 Provost Bernier

- III. New Business
 - a. Resolutions of the Standing Committees— none.

 - b. Motion: (Academic Affairs – Liz Ahl): To revise our add/drop policy as follows: Students may add or drop full-semester, first half, first quarter courses until the end of the seventh calendar day of the semester. Internships, practica, individual enrollment courses, independent study, second half, fourth quarter, Performance Study and auditioned courses may be added or dropped until the 10th Friday after the first day of classes. Adding or dropping a course does not require the signature of the instructor. Courses dropped within the Drop period will be removed from the transcript. (See appendix A for additional details.

 - c. Motion: (Social Science Department – Khuan Chong): That the Directions portion of the General Education program be reduced to require one 3-4 credit course per Direction (Creative Thought, Self and Society, Past and Present, and Scientific Inquiry) instead of the two courses per Direction currently required. The 12 credits saved will be used for free electives (which includes minors).

 - d. Discussion item (Dennis Machnik): On Friday October 17th there was a “Creation Science Presentation” held in Boyd 001. Holding such a lecture in our Science Center seems to give tacit validity to something that the courts have ruled is not in fact science.... I am not saying we should not allow such lectures, but they should not be held in Boyd. This was a religious talk (I did not attend), not a science talk. It should not be presented as if it were science. Anyway, we need to consider

how this should be handled. I believe there is a conflict with our mission as an educational institution.

- e. Motion (Honors Council -Kerry Yurewicz and Rebecca Noel): To amend the Faculty By-Laws to add the Registrar to the Honors Council as an *ex officio* voting member.

Additional information:

Current language:

By-Laws as amended 4/2/08

Article XI. Committees Section F. Committee Descriptions

13. Honors Council

a. Composition:

Composed of Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies, five faculty members appointed by the Faculty Speaker to three-year terms. The Committee elects its chair.

b. Function:

The Honors Council is responsible for all functions related to the University Honors Program.

[amended 3-3-04]

Proposed language for Nov. 5, 2008 Faculty Meeting (addition in bold)

a. Composition:

Composed of Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Studies, five faculty members appointed by the Faculty Speaker to three-year terms, **and the Registrar serving as an *ex officio* voting member.** The Committee elects its chair.

b. Function:

The Honors Council is responsible for all functions related to the University Honors Program.

IV. Announcements

Appendix A

Motion from the Academic Affairs Committee

To revise our add/drop policy as follows:

Current language:

Students may add or drop *full-semester, first half, first quarter courses* until the **second Friday after the first day of classes**. *Internships, practica, individual enrollment courses, independent study, second half, fourth quarter, Performance Study and auditioned courses* may be added or dropped until the **10th Friday after the first day of classes**. Adding or dropping a course requires the signature of the instructor. Students must submit add forms (after they have been signed by the instructor)/drop forms to the Registrar. Courses dropped within the Drop period will be removed from the transcript.

Proposed language (additions/revised language underlined/highlighted; discarded language crossed out):

Students may add or drop *full-semester, first half, first quarter courses* until the **end of the seventh calendar day of the semester**. *Internships, practica, individual enrollment courses, independent study, second half, fourth quarter, Performance Study and auditioned courses* may be added or dropped until the **10th Friday after the first day of classes**. Adding or dropping a course ~~requires~~ **does not require** the signature of the instructor. ~~Students must submit add forms (after they have been signed by the instructor)/drop forms to the Registrar.~~ Courses dropped within the Drop period will be removed from the transcript.

So the revised policy would read as follows:

Students may add or drop *full-semester, first half, first quarter courses* until the **end of the seventh calendar day of the semester**. *Internships, practica, individual enrollment courses, independent study, second half, fourth quarter, Performance Study and auditioned courses* may be added or dropped until the **10th Friday after the first day of classes**. Adding or dropping a course does not require the signature of the instructor. Courses dropped within the Drop period will be removed from the transcript

How this will work:

During the initial registration period WebReg will open at a time designated by the registrar. For all continuing students, WebReg will remain open through the end of the add/drop period. New first-year first semester and transfer students who participate in the June orientation sessions will initially have access to WebReg only during the time period they are on campus for their orientation session. When all June orientation sessions have been completed, WebReg will be reopened to all first-year first semester and transfer students through the end of the add/drop period.