COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC POLICY

Minutes, August 31, 2006
Present: Debra Boutin, Kevin Grant, Esther Kanipe, Seth Major, Sam Pellman (Chair), Joe Urgo, Nat Strout

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

2. The Committee approved a request from Professor Eismeier that his Sophomore Seminar in Spring 2007 be limited to 12 due to considerations of field trips.

3. Kirk Pillow joined the Committee to discuss the allocations procedures for renewable non-tenurable positions. In 2005-06, some departments were confused about the procedures and failed to meet deadlines to petition for renewal of their positions. CAP gave advice to the two deans about possible changes in length of renewable appointments, maximum number of years an individual can occupy a renewable non-tenurable appointment, and clarification for departments and programs of the procedures for allocation. The CAP recommended that one department be asked to submit a reallocation request in the fall; the Committee normally does not receive such requests out of sequence, but felt that this was an exception in order to be fair to both the department and occupant of the position.

4. The CAP discussed a change in the CAP rules to prevent having two members of the same department elected to the Committee.

5. The Committee approved a request from C. Drogus, Associate Dean of Students for Off-Campus Study, to change the catalogue in reference to language requirements for study abroad in a non-English speaking country. The existing language reads "To study abroad in a non-English speaking country, you must pass a course or otherwise show proficiency in the country’s language at: The fourth-semester (140) level for French, German, Russian, Spanish, Latin and Greek.” This rule makes no sense for Latin and Greek, since they have no 140 courses, and the Classics Department has specified elsewhere in the catalogue the requirements for those who wish to pursue classical studies abroad. The words "Latin and Greek" will be removed from this passage in the catalogue.

6. The Committee rejected a request from Professor Scott MacDonald to add the Writing Intensive designation to his course Art History/Comparative Literature/English 319 for Fall 2007 because the course has already begun. He is welcome to change the designation in future catalogue copy.
7. The Committee had a brief discussion of issues related to the Charter of the Alexander Hamilton Center, and the Committee's written response to it.

8. The Committee discussed a proposal to alter the Sophomore Seminar Program. The Committee decided that the latest date to bring their motion to the faculty would be the November meeting, and hopefully sooner. The Chair will use FACCUR as a way to alert the faculty and initiate discussion of the Committee's proposal.

9. The Committee discussed the departmental planning process, and which departments and programs might begin the process this year. On the Committee's advice, the Dean will initiate discussions with the Chairs of those departments and programs.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther S. Kanipe