Committee on Academic Policy
Minutes for February 11, 2016

Attending: Karen Brewer (Chair), John Eldevik, Rob Hopkins, Tara McKee, Cheryl Morgan, Steve Orvis, Penny Yee

The meeting convened at 4:15pm

1) The minutes of the 2/4 meeting were approved.

2) The committee reviewed and discussed proposed changes to the motion for a Committee-of-the-Whole discussion at the March Faculty meeting regarding the proposed diversity requirement. Karen will send the final draft to Academic Council tomorrow.

3) The committee discussed the draft motion for speaking-intensive courses. We discussed where in the catalog this information should appear, when the designation should start, and whether or not the guidelines were specific enough for CAP to approve such courses.

4) The committee briefly discussed the timing for allocation requests and the goal to start meeting with departments before spring break.

5) The committee continued the ongoing discussion of the languages. Karen updated the committee on her meeting with John Bartle and Mary Sisler regarding the Italian Studies minor proposal. We continued to discuss the idea of bringing a consultant to campus to facilitate a broader discussion of the future of languages at the College.

Penny brought up a NY6 proposal for synchronous video instruction of Hindi through Syracuse University. The proposal is for a three-year commitment, which would cost $10K per year if no other NY6 school participated. The Mellon grant would pay for any modifications that would be needed for a technology classroom. We discussed the need to gauge student interest and whether or not anyone has tried to hire an adjunct to teach Hindi at Hamilton. We also talked about the benefit of having a demonstration of the technology. Individuals from NY6 requested to meet with CAP on Feb. 28th. There will also be a presentation in the near future by a researcher who studies various kinds of language instruction and compares outcomes across models.

6) The committee briefly discussed the grade distribution information that was presented last week. Gordon Hewitt is continuing to work on additional formats of the grade distribution information (e.g., by course level, faculty rank). Academic Council is taking the lead on this discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Tara E. McKee