

Faculty Council  
Meeting Minutes  
January 18, 2007

**Present:** Julio de Paula, Dean of the College; Jane Hunter, Associate Dean; Cliff Bekar, Associate Professor of Economics; Mervyn Brockett, Assistant to the President; Dinah Dodds, Professor of German; Deborah Heath, Associate Professor of Anthropology; Elizabeth Safran, Associate Professor of Geological Sciences; and Terri Banasek, Executive Assistant and recorder.

**Announcements:**

- The new exhibition in the Hoffman Gallery opens January 18.
- The Ray Warren Multicultural Symposium is the January 31-February 2.
- There are many events being planned to celebrate Black History Month in February.

**Agenda Items**

1. Minutes of November 30 and December 7, 2006, were approved as written.
2. Dean de Paula reported that it has come to the attention of the Executive Council that we have a policy of not charging our students for overload credits (that is, beyond 19 credits). A financial analysis was made of the impact on the College, and we are not collecting in revenue in the range of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The president has asked Dean de Paula to do further study on the issue, investigating what the academic reasons might be for charging or not charging overload tuition. Dean de Paula would like to engage Faculty Council in that discussion with some others, including Tom Olsen (chair of the Curriculum Committee) and Elliott Young (chair of the Budget Advisory Committee). He will invite them for a future meeting. Dean de Paula asked Faculty Council to review the policy on overloads as stated in the CAS catalog – reasons for students taking an overload and the process for getting that overload approved.

Dean de Paula noted that Willamette has the same threshold of 19 credits and charges for an overload above 19. If there is a rationale for doing this, there needs to be an academic component. He went on to say that we are losing revenue because of a lot of students take advantage of this. Another part of the academic rationale is that overloading of students is an overload on faculty as well, as class sizes get larger. In departments with fewer majors and small classes, it is not felt as much; but there could be a significant impact on popular departments serving a larger constituency. Dean de Paula added that institutions that tend not to charge for overloads have much larger endowments.

3. The next issue coming up will be review of position requests. The requests are due to the Associate Dean on February 2. It was agreed that the requests would be discussed in divisional chairs meetings during the month of February.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 1, 3:30 p.m.