

Minutes, HSS CFC September 22, 2010

Attending: Charles Aust (for Deanna Womack), Anja Bernardy, Cynthia Bowers (Chair), Thomas Doleys, Melvyn Fein, Michael Firment, Mark Patterson, Gerrit Voogt.

1. Cynthia Bowers was elected Chair.
2. Discussion of Digital Measures

The Dean attempted to clarify the current state of the program. As of now, entering one's CV will not be mandatory. It is not completely clear, but the on-line student evaluations may be put into place this semester.

Concerns and possible solutions to the generally low response rate and concomitant lack of comparability with past measures that occurs when on-line course evaluations are first put into effect were discussed. These included:

- A competition won by classes with the highest completion percentage.
- Emphasizing student responsibility for filling out the evaluation.
- Not releasing grades for students until the evaluation is completed.
- Using a combination of on-line and in-person evaluations for the first year.

CFC members were asked to discuss this matter with their coworkers.

3. Discussion of educational equivalence of on-line and in-person degree programs.

The Dean stated that an attempt would be made to cause the formation of two on-line degree programs in the College. Departments will be given some assistance for the designing and running of the programs.

A discussion occurred on the advantages and disadvantages of on-line courses and programs.

A suggestion was made that any such program have equivalent opportunities for students to become research assistants or to receive other forms of mentoring.