



Minutes from September 14, 2016

David Bell
Wayne Bequette, co-chair
June Deery, co-chair
Connie Grega
Aparna Gupta
Mike Kalsher
Sharon Kunkel

Chris Perry
Bruce Piper
Wayne Roberge
Linda Schadler
Spencer Scott
Josie Seddon
David Spooner

Guest: Rhett Russo

- 1) Co-chairs Wayne Bequette and June Deery welcomed the new committee members. Each encouraged the elected faculty members to consider co-chairing the committee. Co-chairs share responsibility for the Committee's activities for the year. This structure provides continuity from year to year and balances the work load. Both W. Bequette and J. Deery are ready to hand over the reins to faculty who are interested.
- 2) **The minutes from May 11, 2016 were approved** with the correction of the minor typos.
- 3) **The minutes from June 7, 2016 were also approved with one abstention and with a minor correction.** David Bell asked for clarification on the Summer Arch calendar. The Architecture courses will probably be offered for 12 weeks. His concern is how they will compress a design studio which is already very intense into 12 weeks. Linda Schadler thought Mark Mistur had worked some of these details. The fall-spring calendar, at the request of the faculty, will stay at 14 weeks. B. Arch students will participate as rising seniors. BS Building Sciences students will participate as rising juniors.
- 4) Core Curriculum Proposal- June Deery led the discussion by presenting a proposed timeline of the process for review, approval and implementation of the core for the 16-17 academic year. She provided a summary of the newly proposed core. What is very different in this core are the requirements for co/extra-curricular activities. The FSCC will be involved in the approval process. This is a new area for the committee so she wanted the FSCC to be aware of what will be coming our way. What is the role of FSCC? It will establish standards, preapprove standing options and review one-off proposals. Per Linda Schadler, Student Life will approve some of the outside of class or "Rensselaer After Class" components. J. Deery suggested the FSCC decide on what further information is needed and what we want to take on.

She asked how the Communication Intensive Committee was formed and where the recommendations came from for the criteria for Communication Intensive (CI) courses. J. Deery thought this might be a model for establishing a Data Intensive Committee. What should the Data Intensive (DI) Committee look like? Linda suggested a protocol for the FSCC that at the beginning of the year they review the CI and the DI membership to make sure it's up-to-date. Bruce Piper suggested that data is viewed differently and it may require more consensus and wider circulation among the faculty. Professor Kristin Bennett has studied this area so one approach is to provide

each department information from her on this topic and have them provide their feedback. J. Seddon volunteered to coordinate the feedback received from the department. A list of the topics the departments should consider will be given to the Associate Deans to distribute within their school.

Members of the Core Curriculum Task Force have been meeting with the schools. The School of Science raised several issues; how is interdisciplinary defined? Collaborative? Hands on? A culminating experience? Wayne Roberge indicated that his department defines an internship as an experience on campus not away from campus. L. Schadler will have to approve any on-campus internships. The intent is to have the student participate in a true professional development experience and that should be off-campus.

J. Deery will send out some ideas for the Committee to think about before the next meeting. She'll invite some members of the Core Curriculum Committee to the next meeting on September 21. She asked FSCC members to please read the report and come prepared to discuss it.

- 5) Summer Arch Discussion- There is a draft of the summer 2017 schedule on-line (<https://sis.rpi.edu/reg/facshrschd.htm>) . Matt Oehlschlaeger has spent quite a bit of time looking at the schedule from a student's perspective. Some problems have been identified and changes made as needed. There are still a couple of issues under discussion.

June asked about staffing for the Summer Arch initiative. L. Schadler reported that many administrative staff and lecturers have been hired and other searches are in progress. In addition to the hiring that has been done, other investments include: upgrades and renovations in undergraduate labs and classrooms; North and East residence halls are back on-line; the Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD) has been refurbished and additional staff have been hired; they will be recruiting for someone to act as a liaison for government/assembly areas; a CCPD staff member will spend time in the School Advising Hubs; 3 Summer Arch webinars have been offered for parents and students with CCPD staff attending.