

ACADEMIC SENATE MEETING March 16, 2012

In attendance: Julia Norrgard, Brian Bowen, Albina Balidemaj, Shpend Ahmeti, Edmond Muhaxheri, Besnik Bislimi

I. Call to Order

JNorrgard called the meeting to order at 11:06.

II. Welcome/Rules for Guests

JNorrgard welcomed guests and senate members to the meeting. Chair went over rules for guests.

III. Prior Meeting Minutes (February 16, 2012)

SAhmeti noted the mistake on the Prior Meeting Minutes (February 16, 2012) under the National Holiday Observance section (Page 1). "Public officials" from the second line in the first paragraph should be omitted.

BBislimi noted the mistake on the Prior Meeting Minutes (February 16, 2012) under the Grading Policy section (Page 2). "in regard to his own personal grading" from the first line in the second paragraph should be omitted.

Motion set forth to accept the Minutes of the February 16, 2012 meeting as corrected, by EMuhaxheri, seconded by SAhmeti at 11:07.

Motion carried.

IV. Comments by Vice President, RIT Academic Affairs Bowen

BBowen had no general statement or comment to announce

V. Old Business

National Holiday observance:

SAhmeti suggested that this is not a complicated matter; however, it should be discussed later. It only requires clarification to which holidays we fall into. JNorrgard proposed to pass this duty to the administration to check. SAhmeti postponed the motion for the next Academic Senate meeting in April.

JNorrgard informed the senate that there is no Academic Senate meeting scheduled in April. Senate agreed to hold the next meeting in the second week of April.

EMuhaxheri stated that make ups on Fridays are still possible after the semester conversion since there is a possibility for Monday and Wednesday classes lasting 75 Minutes in a Semester basis. JNorrgard stated that there is still need for a final approval

Grading Policy Summaries and Proposal:

SAhmeti motioned to approve the AUK Grading Policy of March 12, 2012 with the Faculty Meeting comments included, EMuhaxheri seconded.

Motion carried

FT Appointments 2012/13 Academic Year:

BBowen stated that the Memo did not require approval since it is administrative and is submitted for informational purposes.

Procedures for Grants, Research Proposals, Awards, etc.:

BBowen suggested postponing the matter to a later date.

VII. New Business

AUK Honors Program:

JNorrgard noted that the Honor Society document is a draft. SAhmeti further clarified that the doc should be approved in principle with a note that it could be further improved.

SAhmeti motioned to approve, ABalidemaj seconded.

Motion carried

VI. Additional Business

Transferable credits:

BBilsimi suggested that transferable credit criteria from outside Universities should be more transparent. Units should be informed and included in the decision-making process for the appropriate courses that may be replaced with current AUK courses.

ABalidemaj explained that it is RITs responsibility to determine what credits are transferred.

BBislimi further argued that the students are getting harmed due to replacement of substitute courses which are not appropriate, i.e., the *Development Economics* course in AUK and *Slovenia's Economy* course in Ljubljana Summer School should not be substitutes. ABalidemaj explained that it is impossible to do this on a course basis since this procedure has to deal with the entire individual study plans of the students who attend these courses.

JNorrgard suggested that this matter which could be discussed out of the Senate

New Faculty:

BBislimi asked for more information regarding the new faculty to be hired, and the vacancy advertisement. BBowen explained that the vacancies were advertised in AUK's website, local newspapers, and the US. BBislimi proposed that when AUK advertises an open vacancy, faculty should be informed by e-mail to make the matter more transparent.

BBowen expressed the need for new faculty in the General Education Unit (1), Media Unit (1), IT Unit (1), Management Unit (2), and English Unit (2). BBowen further explained that the Management Unit needs two new hires because of the MBA Program.

Taking of Senate Minutes:

EMuhaxheri suggested that there should be more consistency in the Minutes taker.

Absence of SG Representatives:

SAhmeti asked for clarification about the absence of SG representatives in the Senate meeting. JNorrgard notified the Senate that SBytyqi, the Vice-President of the Student Government, was not able to participate in the meeting because of his job. JNorrgard is going to clarify the issue with SBytyqi.

GPA comparison for non-declared and declared:

BBislimi asked for a comparison document of students' GPAs before declaring their concentrations, and after declaring their concentrations (with students' names hidden in order to respect the privacy and confidentiality of students' grades). ABalidemaj replied that the Academic Affairs office would be able to prepare such a document before April 1.

VII. Call to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the meeting by SAhmeti, seconded by EMuhaxheri at 11:29.

Motion carried.

R.B.