

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 3:25.

Old Business

The motion to adopt the revisions to the teaching evaluation form was on the floor.

Professor Rohrbaugh: Several suggestions have been incorporated into the form since last time.

Q: Is the motion that the new form replace the old form and be required of all?

A: Yes. If this form is not adopted, we keep the current form, which is required of all.

Discussion centered around two issues:(1) requiring separate evaluations of the course and the instructor, and (2) eliminating the spaces for written comment following the numerically ranked items. Two people were concerned over the former issue; it was suggested, but not moved that items 6 and 11 be removed. Three people supported the division, arguing that for some common syllabus courses (IA, intro science courses, courses with labs) a useful distinction could be made; moreover, even if it was not possible to separate out the course from the instructor, the groupings still provided useful feedback about course structure issues versus teaching style. In response to the latter concern, three people felt that a single space for comments generated a better response rate from students. In addition, it was argued that for practical reasons the form needed to be reduced to a single page. Finally, departments remain free to hand out supplemental course evaluations.

The question was called, and seconded; debate was closed by a voice vote.

In response to a query, Professor Rohrbaugh noted that no time limit was specified for the use of this form.

The motion carried by a voice vote.

Klaus Englehardt stated that he wanted to go on the record as having abstained from this vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

respectfully submitted,

Eban Goodstein

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