

2/5/26 AAC Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Tiffany Tsantsoulas (Chair), Atieh Poushneh (BPA), Alice Hays (SSE), Qiwei Sheng (At-Large), Jahyn Kim (At-Large), Emelia Reed (ASI Executive VP), Elizabeth Adams (Academic Affairs), Eduardo Montoya (GE Faculty Director), Angelica Mendoza (Enrollment Systems)

Guests: Department of Geological Sciences - Matthew Herman, Anthony Rathburn, William (Chris) Krugh

Members Excused: Heidi He (NSME), Joe Ren (At-Large)

Approval of Minutes – Yes

Old Business

Referral #3

First feedback received from the Sente. The committee discussed issues with faculty access to certain databases and the need for better coordination between faculty and staff advisors and revised the resolution. The chair of AAC will send updated resolutions to AS and SS for feedback.

The chair of AAC also mentioned the president and other administrators also seeking more training program to improve faculty advising training and structure.

The committee edited resolution and all agreed to send it to the senate.

Referral #8

It was sent back to the department and the NSME Curriculum Committee to ask for re-review and to update with more information.

Referral #16

As the committee discussed before, we believe that at least 40 upper division unit should still be required for both BA and BS degree. The chair of AAC and the committee drafted a memo to address this matter.

Resolution For referral #19

The chair of AAC and Dr. Zenko from FAC decided to seek feedback from the distributed learning committee before making policy changes, as the current policy dates back to 2013 and needs significant updates.

Visit from faculty proposing new Environmental Science degree program.

The geology department chair and faculty visited the meeting and addressed the questions from the committee. The chair addressed its curriculum structure and interdisciplinary approach. Jahyun asked why the core courses are all from geology department and concerned about other important courses for environmental science major. The geology department addressed the limitation of prerequisite on biology and other upper division courses. They also addressed that once this major got approved, there will be a new course code introduced.

The committee member from ASI also asked about potential career paths for graduates. The department chair addressed strong demand in environmental fields and partnerships with local agencies. Dean Adams asked about advising structure of this program. The department chair addressed that faculty of their department will engage to educate academic advisors to address their career path based on their interests.

The geology department chair asked the timeline and the chair of AAC suggested to contact BPC chair for their review.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am