

BOR Philosophy/Religion Advisory Committee
Minutes of the March 29, 2014 Meeting

Introductions. The following attended:

Jackson, Ron (Philosophy, Clayton State University)
Mausek, Ed (Philosophy, Religion, Atlanta Metropolitan College)
McClymond, Kathryn (Religion, Georgia State University)
Medine, Carolyn (Religion, University of Georgia)
Peck, Larry (Philosophy, Georgia Perimeter College)
Winchester, Jim (Philosophy, Georgia College and State University)
Woller, Ray (Philosophy, University of Georgia, filling in for Vicky Davion)
Wrisley, George (Philosophy, University of North Georgia)

Minutes from the November 16, 2013 meeting were approved as distributed. [Note: since the meeting they have been posted on the committee's web site, http://www.usg.edu/academic_planning/committees.]

Announcements:

Georgia Southern is now in compliance with the USG mandate for Philosophy Area F. This means that all USG institutions are now in compliance with that mandate.

The new purview of this committee (religion, as well as philosophy):

Bylaws will need to be written for the newly constituted Philosophy and Religion Advisory Committee (PRAC). Larry Peck will write a draft and send it to the PRAC members.

Members present favored allowing any USG institution that offers at least one philosophy course to provide a philosophy representative to the committee, whether or not that institution has a philosophy program; and allowing any institution that offers at least one religion course to provide a religion representative to the committee, whether or not that institution has a religion program.

Kathryn McClymond and Carolyn Medine agreed to survey the USG institutions and draw up a list of those with religion courses. Next, they will contact Felita Williams at the USG central office and ask her to contact the provosts of those institutions that did not already have a religion representative on the PRAC, and invite those provosts to appoint one to it. Once those representatives are on board, they will be constituted into a Religion Subcommittee (RS) of the PRAC. The RS will have its first meeting in early Fall, 2014, before the Fall, 2014 meeting of the PRAC.

One of the first tasks of the RS would be to draw up a USG system-wide Area F for religion.

It was suggested that there may also need to be a Philosophy Subcommittee of the PRAC, although that seemed less urgent.

The committee then discussed the BOR policy that recommends review of all programs that fail to graduate ten students per year. Members reported some concern about this at various USG campuses. It was pointed out that failing to meet this threshold does not necessarily mean the elimination of these programs.