

MINUTES

BOR PHILOSOPHY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 30, 2013 (12:30pm EST)

In attendance: Robert Lane, chairperson (University of West Georgia); Ron Jackson (Clayton State University); Larry Peck (Georgia Perimeter College); Jack Simmons (Armstrong Atlantic State University); George Wrisley (North Georgia College and State University);

1. We approved the minutes from our March 30, 2012, meeting, as distributed.
2. Lane informed everyone that Dr. Michael Bradley (Georgia Perimeter College) had asked the USG to consider establishing an academic advisory committee on religion, and that the view of the USG is that religion should be incorporated into the existing philosophy committee. We discussed the pros and cons of doing so and agreed that it would be fine for our committee to include religion within its purview. Lane will inform Felita of our view and ask that she advise us about next steps, especially about whether schools at which religion and philosophy are both represented in robust ways (e.g., UGA and GSU, each of which has separate, degree-granting departments for philosophy and for religion) should have two members on the committee rather than just one.
3. We discussed the ongoing project of standardizing prefixes and numbers of philosophy courses that are in the Core at USG institutions and of Area F standards for philosophy. Changes have been completed at many campuses but are still in progress at the following schools:
 - Atlanta Metropolitan College
 - Fort Valley State University
 - Georgia Southern University
 - Kennesaw State University
 - Middle Georgia College [the standardization has been put on hold here, due to MGC's pending merger with Macon State]
4. Simmons updated us on the status of the proposal to establish a degree program in philosophy at Armstrong Atlantic. As he told us during our previous meeting, the proposal met support on campus at every level, including the Faculty Senate, until it reached the desk of Armstrong Atlantic's president, who chose not to send it forward to the BOR at this time. Since the last meeting, he and his colleagues have begun working on a proposal to add three tracks within AASU's liberal studies degree, one of which would be in philosophy. The committee expressed support for this move.

5. Lane updated everyone on the issue of the requirement set by the BOR that degree programs graduate at least 10 students each academic year or else be “triggered” for review. During the last year, Lane contacted Felita about this, and she let him know that the BOR no longer tracks graduate rates from individual degree programs and that this is left up to each campus to monitor for itself.
6. Peck was elected as chairperson of the committee, to serve until our spring 2014 meeting.
7. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:20pm EST.