

Minutes
 Eighty-fourth Meeting of the Faculty of the SAS, December 12, 2013
 Voorhees Hall, Room 105—College Avenue Campus

Last name	First Name	Department
Allamand,	Carole	French
Allender,	Eric	Computer Science
Arrington,	Jeanette	Sociology
Ashley,	Gail M.	EPS
Bathory,	Dennis	Political Science
Beals,	Michael	Mathematics
Behrmann,	Nicola	German
Bell,	Rudy	History
Blair,	Douglas	Economics
Boikess,	Robert	Chemistry
Brennan,	Corey	Classics
Campbell,	Colin	Economics
Clemens,	Paul G.E.	History
Connolly,	Serena	Classics
Cornilliat	Francois	French
Cotter,	Martha	Chemistry
Cronk,	Lee	Anthropology
Davidson,	Harriet	English
Davis,	Belinda	History
Dayal,	Veneeta	Linguistics
Dennis,	Karen	OUE

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Eisenzweig,	Uri	French
Evans,	Brad	English
Figueira,	T. J.	Classics
Galili,	Ziva	History
Gambarota,	Paola	Italian
Gang,	Ira	Economics
Gelfand,	Marina	Psychology
Gerson,	Judith	Sociology/WGS
Ghertner,	D. Asher	Geography
Glass,	Arnold	Psychology
Gliserman,	Martin	English
Goldstone,	Andrew	English
Haviland,	Martha	DLS
Helfer,	Martha	German
Hughes,	David	Anthropology
Ikeya,	Chie	History
Israel,	Paul	Edison Papers
Issac,	Allan	American Studies
Jager,	Colin	English
Jiang,	Tao	Religion
Killingsworth,	Mark	Economics
Kim,	Suzy	Asian Lang. and Cultures
Klein,	Peter	Philosophy

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Kolbaba,	Tia	Religion
Kucich,	John	English
Levao,	Ronald	English
Levine,	Michael	Comp. Lit/German
Liu,	Xun	History
Maldonado-Torres,	Nelson	LHCS
Mani,	Preetha	AMESALL
Marcone,	Jorge	Comp. Literature
Martinez-San Miguel,	Yolanda	LHCS/Comp. Lit.
Mascia-Lees,	Fran	SAS Deans Office
Masschaele,	James	SAS Deans Office
Matsuda,	Matt	History
McGlew,	James	Classics
McLean,	Paul	Sociology
Moehling,	Carolyn	Economics
Murphy,	Andrew	Political Science
Otero-Torres,	Damaris M.	Spanish & Portuguese
Palombit,	Ryne	Anthropology
Parveen,	Shaheen	AMESALL
Reed,	James	History
Robolin,	Stephanie	English*
Romsted,	Larry	Chemistry

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Scanlon,	Larry	English
Schneider,	Laura	Geography
Schrepfer,	Susan	History
Schroeder,	Rick	Geography
Schwarzchild,	Roger	Linguistics
Scott,	Kathleen	Cell Biology & Neuroscience
Scott,	Robert	Anthropology
Shandler,	Jeffrey	Jewish Studies
Shapiro,	Joel	Physics & Astronomy
Sheflin,	Neil	Economics
Sidlauskis,	Susan	Art History
Siegel,	Jonah	English
Sifuentes,	Ben	American Studies
Simmons,	Richard V.	Asian Lang. and Cultures
Song,	Weigie	Asian Lang. and Cultures
Sopher,	Barry	Economics
Stevens,	Camille	LHCS/Spanish
Syrett,	Kristen	Linguistics
Takacs,	Sarolta	History
Taylor,	John	Chemistry
Tesar,	Bruce	Linguistics
Thompson,	Karen	English Writing Program
Van Buskirk,	Emily	German

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Vesterman,	William	English
Vettori,	Alessandro	Italian
Walker,	Janet	Asian Lang. and Cultures
Wasserman,	Emma	Religion
Wasserman,	Mark	History
Weingart,	Michael	Mathematics
White,	Eugene	Economics
Xu,	Peng	Asian Lang. and Cultures
Yanni,	Carla	Art History

Richard S. Falk (Mathematics), Acting Executive Dean of SAS, called the meeting to order at 1:08 pm.

1. Dean Falk's motion to accept the agenda (previously circulated) passed unanimously.
2. Dean Falk's motion to accept the minutes from the SAS Faculty Meeting of May 7, 2013 (available at <http://sas.rutgers.edu/faculty-a-staff-migrated/1611-sas-faculty-meeting-minutes>) passed unanimously.
3. Dean Falk thanked Jim Reed (History) for his long and distinguished service as Secretary of SAS and proposed a motion to approve James McGlew (Classics) as Acting Secretary. The motion passed.
4. The dean remembered recently deceased faculty of Arts & Sciences:

Seymour Rosenberg: Emeritus Professor II of Psychology, died on November 20, 2013. He was 87. Seymour moved to Rutgers from a research position at Bell Labs to Rutgers in 1966. He was well known for his mathematical models, especially Hierarchical Class Analysis or HiClas. Seymour was a founding father of Livingston College and a primary figure in Livingston's Department of Psychology. He cared deeply about the department and throughout his career was regarded as a unifier. In fact, he was the first chair of the "reorganized" FAS Department of Psychology in 1981. He served as chair again in 1994 and retired in 2000.

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Michael R. D'Amato: Emeritus Professor of Psychology, died on November 11, 2013. He was 91. In 1964 he left NYU to join the faculty of Rutgers. Mike was an academic pioneer in the field of experimental psychology. In 1975 he served as chair of the Rutgers College psychology department, and post reorganization, as a dean of FAS. He retired in 1990 at a youthful 68 and declined to remain involved in the field, pointing to what he said was an increasingly lack of opportunities for younger academics due to older tenured faculty hanging on to their positions!

Alan Rosenthal: Distinguished Professor of Political Science, and former longtime director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics, died on July 10, 2013. In addition to his roles at Eagleton and in the Department of Political Science, he also served on the graduate faculty of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. A Rutgers faculty member since 1966, Alan was the nation's leading scholar of state legislatures, renowned both for studying and teaching about their workings and for consulting in at least 35 states to improve their functioning. In New Jersey, he took on prominent public service roles, including serving in 2011 as the tie-breaking member of the New Jersey Redistricting Commission.

3. Martha Cotter (Chemistry), Vice-Chairperson of Rutgers University Senate, reported on the senate's activities for the semester. (Senate minutes are available at <http://senate.rutgers.edu/minutes.html>.) Among its activities this year, the Senate urged the adoption of a robust element of faculty governance in the university strategic planning document. The recommendation, after being endorsed by faculty and student councils throughout the university, was accepted by President Barchi, and is reflected in the strategic planning document now before the Board of Governors.

4. Martha Cotter also reported on the activities of the New Brunswick Faculty Council as Chair Person of the NBFC. (Minutes are available at http://nbfc.rutgers.edu/year13_14/minutes.html.) The university's planning for a new Honors College at Rutgers New Brunswick has played a prominent role in the Council's discussions: the Council passed a resolution urging the administration to follow principles of shared governance and include the Council as a partner in planning the new Honors College.

5. Larry Scanlon (English), Chair of the Core Requirements Committee, reported that the committee, while continuing to seek new submissions in particular areas (such as multi-disciplinary courses), is now shifting its primary focus to administrative issues. One issue that the committee is now discussing is the Core's role in SAS enrollment patterns. A motion to approve the CRC's report (see <http://sas.rutgers.edu/custom/FacMeetingDec2013/>) passed unanimously.

6. Dennis Bathory (Political Science), Chair of the Curriculum Committee, reported that the committee is discussing online and hybrid courses. A motion to approve the CC report (see <http://sas.rutgers.edu/custom/FacMeetingDec2013/>) passed unanimously.

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7. Dean's Report

Dean Falk reported that the SAS Executive Dean search committee has now been formed and the job description written (see <http://www.rutgers.edu/about-rutgers/dean-school-arts-and-sciences>). On the school's financial situation, Dean Falk reported that SAS is moving forward in implementing the 5-year plan sent to Interim Chancellor Edwards and President Barchi to reduce the 15.3m deficit. Since most of our budget is in salaries, the school must hire fewer tenure/tenure-track faculty than leave the school (by retirement or resignation). The school continues to look for savings by reducing the number of PTLs, NTTs and support staff where possible, and also by growing revenues through the SAS Entrepreneurial program and online and offsite courses. (Successes to date: the dramatic increase in the number of revenue-generating online courses and MA programs, such as the Math finance program, which grosses over 2m annually). Administrative changes play an important role as well, such as the revision in the revenue split between enrolling school and teaching schools in the distribution of tuition revenue and changes in the share SAS receives of the differential tuition (when we teach students from other schools with larger tuitions). Dean Falk also reported that the SAS is presently reconfiguring teaching assistantships and fellowships in an effort to rationalize the costs of graduate education, and he briefly reviewed the new SAS buildings plans, the new structure of the SAS Development Office, and the next steps in the ongoing strategic planning process.

8. New Business

a. MOTION on the Rutgers-Pearson Inc. contract:

Whereas the administration of Rutgers University signed an agreement with Pearson, Inc. (then acting as "eCollege.com") on September 17, 2012, allowing that corporation to manage online degree programs of the University in exchange for 50% of initial gross revenues from tuition;

Whereas the administration took this step without proper consultation of the faculty, many of whom have taught successful online courses in other formats and under other financial arrangements;

Whereas the agreement with Pearson — along with ancillary contracts drafted by Rutgers — raises serious questions regarding the rights of faculty to their intellectual property, permitting the outsourcing of a course without the consent of the faculty member who created it;

Whereas the same outsourcing threatens to generate a cadre of poorly paid and poorly supported faculty at our campuses and beyond;

Whereas the agreement with Pearson may eventually facilitate the migration of students from classroom-based courses to online courses to the detriment of on-campus learning and culture;

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Whereas the Pearson contract censors – without ever defining - “obscene, threatening, indecent, libelous, slanderous, [or] defamatory” content or “material that is harmful to children” (p. 7), a clear infringement upon academic freedom, upon free speech, and upon the diversity of instruction offered to adults;

BE IT RESOLVED

- 1. That the faculty of the School of Arts and Sciences rejects all current and future proposals for degree programs managed under the Pearson agreement and ancillary contracts of 2012; and that the same faculty also rejects any transfer of existing online programs to Pearson’s management under that agreement.**
- 2. That the University decline to renew the agreement with Pearson, Inc. when it expires on December 31, 2019.**
- 3. That the faculty of Rutgers University, through our representative bodies, holds final authority over contracts signed with outside firms when those contracts alter the curricula, conditions for instruction and/or the educational mission of the University.**
- 4. That the Rutgers AAUP-AFT, our faculty union, holds the right to bargain collectively over the impact of contracts with outside firms when those contracts affect the terms and conditions of employment for current and future employees of the University represented by Rutgers AAUP-AFT.**

David Hughes (Anthropology) summarized support for the motion, reiterating and explaining various points indicated in the initial section of the resolution. He stressed in particular that very few faculty and no representative faculty bodies reviewed the contract, which is a violation of principles of shared governance, and that the contract effectively censors academic content of the online classes that are offered in partnership with Pearson.

Richard Novak, Vice-President of Continuing Education, spoke against the resolution. He argued that Rutgers entered into a partnership with Pearson primarily in order to encourage non-New Jersey students to take Rutgers courses. Rutgers remains in charge of staffing and content; Pearson is solely responsible for technical and student support. The contract has nothing to do with intellectual property rights, which are covered by existing Rutgers policies. Moreover, faculty were involved in the decision to accept the partnerships: seven members of the committee that reviewed the contract hold tenure at

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Rutgers. Finally, there is no censorship as a result of the contract: what has appeared to the contract's opponents as censorship is nothing more than standard non indemnification language.

Uri Eisenzweig (French and Comparative Literature) also urged the faculty to vote against the resolution. The contract gives departments a valuable resource in creating online courses and programs; there is no coercion to use Pearson's services. The role of the union in drafting, and advocating for, the resolution, he added, is disconcerting.

Rudy Bell (History) responded as a member of AAUP-AFT Executive Council (New Brunswick) that the union has taken no position on the resolution.

The resolution passed with 71 in support and 10 opposed.

2. That the SAS faculty authorize the addition of designations of mode of instruction -- Classroom, Hybrid, Online (C,H,O) -- on student transcripts for all courses offered under the aegis of SAS. Placement of this additional information on official transcripts for all SAS students and all students taking SAS courses shall be implemented as soon as feasible but no later than for fall 2014 semester courses and beyond.

The motion was introduced by Rudy Bell (History). The resolution passed with a vote of 50 in support and 12 opposed.

c. That the SAS faculty require that online courses offered by SAS carry the same expectations and requirements for student/instructor interaction in the learning and evaluation process as exist for classroom and hybrid courses.

The motion was introduced once more by Rudy Bell. The motion passed by an overwhelming majority.

9. The meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James McGlew (Classics)
Acting Secretary of SAS