

University of Massachusetts Amherst
RULES COMMITTEE
November 15, 2002, 10:00am

Present: May (acting chair), Mileur, O'Connor, Deschamps, Wilson, Spencer
Guest: R. Schwartzwald

The minutes of the meeting of 11/1/2002 were accepted as presented.

“Executive Chair” R. Schwartzwald presented some summary history relative to the attempts of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts to coordinate its departments of languages, literatures, and cultural studies. These attempts date back to at least 1987. More recently (middle 1990’s), there was a Committee “A” (concerned with research) and a Committee “B” (concerned with everything else including teaching) chaired by R. Schwartzwald. It produced a 50-60 page report recommending more cooperation, which went to the Departments concerned, but, beyond that, was not acted upon. (However, it did not contain a recommendation for one single language department—even though that was the desire of a former Provost.) Then, the Dean demanded that the language departments cooperate. They essentially refused, and she “starved” them. Some faculty in these departments favored a “division of languages, literatures, and cultural studies.” And then there was ERIP! All departments are now in the range of 8-10 faculty:

	Fac.	Majors
Comp Lit	8	50
German	8	14
Spanish	8+5	175
Italian	1	20
French	6.5	40

Issues of the EU and post-colonial studies were mentioned.

Smaller departments are getting smaller, Italian and German are deemed to be at risk. Dean Edwards is not pursuing a merger *per se*. (But there is concern about “a merger by another name.”) However, she wants to aggregate the budgets (but not the academic units). There exists an “executive committee” of the 5 department chairs—R. Schwartzwald is the “executive chair.”
(Exit R. Schwarzwald.)

After some discussion, the Rules Committee addressed the question of whether this administrative arrangement constitutes a violation of the Wellman Document. By unanimous vote of those present, the Rules Committee expressed the opinion that it was not a violation. Ernie May was delegated to compose a letter (attached) expressing the reasoning underlying this opinion.

The agenda for the meeting of Dec. 5 was set.

The issue of SGA representation at Faculty Senate was raised.

Also, the issue of FBI presence on campus was discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19am

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie May, Scribe