

# Minutes

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## Academic Matters Council Wednesday, February 1, 2006

**Attendees:** Mokhtar Atallah, Martha Baker, Robert Bernatzky, Lori Moss Bielek, Edward Golding, John Jenkins, Ernest May, Jennifer Normanly, Linda Slakey, Cecilia Trachy

### Minutes:

The minutes from the December 7, 2005 AMC meeting were unavailable and will be reviewed at a later meeting.

### Announcements:

- While Ginger Etinde is away, Lori Moss Bielek will be taking the minutes for the Council.
- Two new student members have joined the Council for the Spring semester as part of their participation in the Faculty Senate Practicum course. Their names are Eric Robbie and NaNa Hwang. They will be full voting members of the Council.
- Martha Baker agreed to be the AMC representative on the Ad Hoc Committee on Student Plagiarism if someone had not previously been assigned to the spot.

### New Business:

The topic of prerequisites for courses at the 300 level and above was brought up and discussed. Members of the Council were concerned that it wasn't always clear what the prerequisites were. Cecilia Trachy mentioned that prerequisites were specified in the course descriptions. Council members also expressed concern about whether students who registered for these advanced classes would be prepared to take them. Individual departments are usually responsible for determining prerequisites. The Council decided that the Chair of the Policy Subcommittee would draft a statement on the matter.

The request for "Minor Changes to English Department Classes" was discussed. The English Department wants to increase the number of credits for some of their writing intensive classes from 3 to 4 credits. The Course Subcommittee will take the matter up for review and will report back to the full Council. The guidelines for increasing the number of credits for a course is available on the Faculty Senate website at:

[http://www.umass.edu/senate/fs\\_docs/fs\\_docs-p3\\_I-P.html](http://www.umass.edu/senate/fs_docs/fs_docs-p3_I-P.html)

### Subcommittee Reports

#### Course (Robert Bernatzky – Chair)

SPANISH 266 "The Occult in Literature"	PASSED
JUDAIC 344 "Film and Society in Israel"	PASSED

#### Program (Dennis Hanno – Chair)

Nothing to report.

#### Policy (Mokhtar Atallah – Chair)

The issue of cross-listing of courses was re-visited. A working group had been formed based on the recommendations of the AMC on guidelines for cross-listing of courses. The working group will meet on February 13. The members of the working group are: Ernest May, Bryan Harvey, John Cunningham, Mokhtar Atallah, Linda Slakey, Jennifer Normanly, Dennis Hanno, Cecilia Trachy, and Arthur Kinney. The AMC cannot approve cross-listing requests until this matter is resolved. The Council revisited the guidelines that the Policy Subcommittee had created and saw no need to change them.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 @ 12:15 PM, Campus Center 904-908**