

# Meeting of the Villanova University Academic Policy Committee

Tuesday, October 2, 2012  
Mendel Science Center, room 103 9:00 am

## MINUTES

Present: Louise Russo (chair), JeanAnn Linney, Paul Pasles, Joyce Willens, Lesley Perry, Bob Styer, Sridhar Santhanam, Mark Doorley, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Craig Wheeland, Edwin Goff, Dennis Kuhn, Wenhong Luo, Catherine Warrick, Susan Jacobs (for Adele Lindenmeyr), Kelly Welch, Paul Hanouna, Christine Alizzi, Jack Chong, Ali Yousaf, Chris Marroletti

Not in Attendance: Wayne Bremser (NIA), Randy Weinstein (NIA), Fayette Veverka (NIA), Adele Lindenmeyr (NIA), Mary Ann Cantrell (NIA), Caroline Kemp, Aaron Moore

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

- I. The first order of business was to vote on the on the election of Louise Russo as chair of the committee. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- II. General introductions were made and new committee members were welcomed.
- III. New membership was provided an overview of the major action item form spring semester, the CATS data evaluation and the interpretation guide for faculty and administrators was presented. Craig Wheeland informed members that the APC CATS interpretation document was recently approved by the Council of Deans and that it will soon be posted on the Academic Affairs website in the same location as the current CATS guide for new faculty. Once that material is updated, an email will be sent to all department chairpersons and a notice will be posted on Campus Currents to direct faculty members' attention to this important information and its location on the Academic Affairs website.
- IV. A discussion of the CATS interpretation guide commenced. New members made inquiries and raised concerns about the data and its interpretation as well as the use of CATS data for faculty development and evaluation. Discussion centered on the overemphasis on CATS data in faculty performance evaluation. Members understood that while the CATS are only a single measure of teaching effectiveness, faculty members may not contribute sufficient supportive information in addition to CATS data. It is clear the CATS vehicle is deficient in providing a complex assessment of student learning and therefore faculty members should be better prepared to add supplemental measures of instructional effectiveness. Students should be made more aware of the purpose of the CATS in faculty evaluation and APC student members contributed valuable perspective and suggestions as to how learning measure could be more effectively addressed in the evaluation process.

Considering the importance of the CATS report, the committee dedicated the remainder of the meeting to a discussion of the questions and concerns that were raised. Of the issues raised, the committee will focus on

modifications to the CATS report including elimination of quartile data and replacement with another form of stratification information that would be more meaningful for faculty development as a major agenda item for fall semester 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Russo

Members of APC: Louise Russo (chair), Wayne Bremser, Fayette Veverka, Robert Styer, Adele Lindenmeyr, Edwin Goff, Kelly Welch, Mary Ann Cantrell, Louise Fitzpatrick (represented by Lesley Perry), Joyce S. Willens, Wenhong Luo, Paul Pasles, Paul Hanouna, Kail Ellis (represented by Craig Wheeland), Jean Ann Linney, Gary Gabriele (represented by Randy Weinstein?), Patrick Maggitti (represented by Dennis Kuhn), Catherine Warrick, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Mark Doorley, Sridhar Santhanam, Aaron Moore, Jack Chong, Christine Alizzi, Caroline Kemp, Daniel Troiano, Christopher Marroletti (non-voting member), Ali Yousef, Sophie Kagan (ex officio non-voting member)