

Subject: Minutes of Faculty Meeting

Date: Thursday, April 5, 2012 11:59:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: David Wolgin

To: David Wolgin

Dear Colleagues:

The following is a summary of yesterday's faculty meeting.

1. The Dean provided an overview of the current budget situation and announced new minimum enrollments for undergraduate and graduate courses, which are 24 and 11, respectively.
2. A motion to renew Howard Hock's appointment as a Research Professor passed unanimously (16-0).
3. A motion to re-approve the department's current criteria for promotion and tenure passed unanimously (16-0).
4. A motion to approve the recommendation of the Graduate Committee regarding comprehensive exams (see text below) passed 8-5.
5. Chairs of the area assessment committees presented summaries of their analyses of the assessment data for Biological Bases of Behavior 1, Human Development, Social Psychology, and Cognition. Written reports were submitted to the Chair. In general, students are meeting the learning objectives developed for each course, but the data are often variable. To improve the reliability of the data, each area is adopting a uniform set of assessment questions that all instructors will use. Several area groups are discussing ways to improve performance for specific learning outcomes.

Text of the policy on Comprehensive Exams approved by the faculty 4/4/12:

Comprehensive exams must be completed before a doctoral student is admitted to candidacy. Comprehensive exams are designed to demonstrate a breadth of knowledge in the student's area. A student's comprehensive exam committee must include at least 3 members of the graduate faculty in the FAU Department of Psychology. The comprehensive exam committee will be chaired by the student's advisor. The minimum comprehensive exam will include an 8 hour, closed book essay exam, which may be spread across two separate days. The student must complete at least two written essays for each member of the committee. Additional evaluation material (e.g., more essays, short answer questions, oral questions) may be requested by the comprehensive exam committee. Exams will be graded as follows: Pass; Fail; or Conditional Pass (a Pass grade contingent on successful demonstration of competence not evident in the initial exam). A unanimous Pass vote from the committee is required to complete the comprehensive exam degree requirement.

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