



Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2026

Time: 10:33 a.m. – 11:12 a.m.

Location: Library, Room 141

Attendees: David Rohrbacher, Rob Zamsky, Manuel Lopez-Zafra, David Harvey, Carrie Benes, Sandra Gilchrist, Ryan Buysens, Hui-Min Wen, Nova Myhill, Rebecca Noss, Joe Moore, Deja Rowe, Melinda Ball

Space Event Use (SG):

Discussion:

- Concerns raised regarding there being few academic spaces designated during the State Debate Finals as well as attendees using labs that were notably marked off limits.
- Discussion regarding policies in place written by General Counsel that those not enrolled in a class cannot be in any lab.

Action Items:

- Enforce policy to protect the community and public.

Dates for MSPR AY 2026-2027 (ML):

Discussion:

- Consultation with chairs on dates discussed.
- Discussed response rate and moving the open window for reports to be due from Monday – Monday to Friday to Friday to obtain more responses.
- Decision was made to keep it as is due to the probability of obtaining last minute responses regardless of the window.

Simple Syllabus (RZ):

Discussion:

- Provided update on Simple Syllabus on how it is not designed for our type of university yet can still be used for reporting and state tracking purposes.
- Discussion on how faculty it will affect faculty and that it is planned to be used this fall
- RZ is still in training and will know more after he's completed the course.

Action Items:

- RZ to share more information once he has completed the course.

Gen Ed Selection Criteria (DH):

Discussion:

- Discussion regarding how courses based on great books address enduring human questions and working through those questions with the President.
- Concerns of faculty applications being turned down without feedback raised and discussed.
- Discussion of the accepted applications.

Action Items:

- Provide more follow up with those whose applications were rejected.

Wednesday Lab Schedule Conflicts (ML):

Discussion:

- Discussion about unintended scheduling conflict among lab courses, where students cannot enroll in certain courses because desired labs are scheduled at the same time.
- Questions were raised on what exact labs are conflicting and that there may be other sessions offered.

Action Items:

- Have students bring their concerns to the chairs instead of professors.
- RZ to provide more details on what classes are conflicting.

Survey Participant Compensation (CB):

Discussion:

- Discussion held regarding providing gift cards to survey participants and the lack of instruction on how to use it.

Action Items:

- RZ to obtain information and share the process with the committee.