

AARC Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2009
12:40-2:00

Present: Lynnyonne Cotton, chair; Rosemary Graham, Joe Lupino, Mary McCall, Tom Poundstone. Ed Tywoniak, Co-Chair of the Academic Advising Task Force, attended as an invited guest.

I. FYAC Assessment. The Committee discussed the AATF's plan to have the AARC evaluate/ assess the new First Year Advising Cohorts.

A joint meeting of the AATF and the AARC will happen on May 20th. The goal is to have an evaluation plan in place before the end of the year. Specific questions that need to be addressed for the design of this assessment include:

- What will be asked of the students?
- What will be asked of the faculty?
- How will success be defined and measured?

II. Report from AATF.

Ed Tywoniak, co-chair of the Academic Advising Task Force, met with the AARC to discuss the plan for the new First Year Advising Cohort .25 course designed by the AATF. The AARC expressed its concerns to Professor Tywoniak about the process that produced the FYAC plan. Specifically, members of the AARC expressed concerns about the speed with which the course had been designed, scheduled and approved as a requirement for all incoming freshmen. The AARC was especially concerned with the staffing of these courses. The 12:40-2:10 time slot on Mondays and Fridays has been blocked for all freshmen, and freshmen classes have not been scheduled for this time. But as of this date (4/15) the faculty have not yet been invited to participate in the project nor informed of its particulars. A list of freshman advisor volunteers exists, but volunteers had not been asked to teach a .25 course. They had only signed on to advise freshmen. Professor Tywoniak informed the AARC that a letter describing the faculty expectations and responsibilities was forthcoming from the AATF informing the faculty of the new model for freshman advising and the planned information sessions.