Armstrong Atlantic State University
Faculty Senate Bill 058.11/12: Philosophy B.A. Program

Presidential Action

Delivered: 

Signature

1/25/12
Date

Approve: ___

Disapprove: ___

Remand: √

Comments: (please attach an additional sheet if necessary)

Signature: Linda Bleicken

Date: 2/17/12

Dr. Linda M. Bleicken, President
Armstrong Atlantic State University
Armstrong Atlantic State University Faculty Senate Actions

January 2012 Meeting

Response from Dr. Bleicken

Faculty Senate Bill 058.11/12 Philosophy B.A. Program - response

This bill requests that the President “reconsider and approve the Philosophy B.A. Program proposal and hold it for forwarding to the Board of Regents later when the time is favorable.”

The Philosophy B.A. Program proposal was developed in early 2011. Since that time, the Board of Regents has instituted new processes and formats for program proposals, including extensive documentation of program viability and outcomes. The guidelines are posted at this site:

http://www.usg.edu/academic_programs/new_programs

The Philosophy B.A. Program should be remanded for these necessary revisions and review through the necessary administrative channels on campus. However, all departments who wish to develop a prospectus must be aware that the BOR requires that “the prospectus must meet a clear need for the University System, state, and service region of the institution and should be tied to the state’s economic development and other major statewide initiatives (e.g., Complete College Georgia). The prospectus requires institutions to provide evidence of how a proposed degree and/or major meets various needs and does not warrant unnecessary program duplication.”

(http://www.usg.edu/academic_programs/documents/Criteria_and_Procedures_for_New_Prgms.pdf)

This remand should not be misinterpreted as a lack of support for this proposal, the faculty, students, or department. The processes by which proposed programs are submitted and evaluated have been changed in significant ways, and we must abide by the guidelines that are now in place.
Faculty Senate Bill 058.11/12: Philosophy B.A. Program

Regarding the rejection of the Philosophy B.A. Program proposed and approved by the faculty in the FACULTY SENATE BILL 052.11/12: UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE and NOT APPROVED by the President in the “presidential action” form.

Given that the president indicated that this is “not the optimal time” to be sending the Philosophy B.A. degree program to the Board of Regents based on a memo from the Board and given that no other explanations or rationales for rejecting the Philosophy Major Program were given, we move that the President reconsider and approve the Philosophy B.A. Program proposal and hold it for forwarding to the Board of Regents later when the time is favorable.

Rationale
No academic explanation was given for the rejection of the Philosophy proposal, only a memo from the V.P. and the Board of Regents was attached. The B.A. Philosophy Program clearly supports Armstrong’s currently stated mission. This suggests that the Philosophy B.A. Program Proposal which has been approved by the Faculty Senate and rejected by the president should be approved by the President and held on the President’s desk until the political climate for forwarding it up to the Board of Regents becomes less obstructive.