

**Faculty Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities (FRPR) Committee
November 4, 2014
Minutes**

Present: Laura Hines, Mario Medina, Kirk McClure, Amalia Monroe-Gulick, Jan Sheldon, and Jerry Mikkelson

Absent: Rick Hale, Nancy Kinnersley, Jim Thorp,

I. Approval of October 21, 2014 minutes

Kirk moved and Amalia seconded that the October 21, 2014 minutes be approved. They were approved unanimously.

II. Core Curriculum Survey

The committee discussed issues that should be included in a survey to be sent to faculty regarding the Core Curriculum. They include the following:

Has the implementation of the Core Curriculum had an adverse effect on your enrollment in any of your courses?

Are you satisfied with the way courses are selected for inclusion in the Core?

Do you feel that the core has had an impact on your academic freedom in developing and teaching courses?

Does the Core infringe on your ability to assess students in the manner that you think is appropriate?

**Did you submit any course for approval in the Core that was rejected?
If so, was there pressure to change your course so that it could be included?**

**Have you had to restructure any of your courses to meet the requirements of the Core?
If so, would you describe this experience as positive or negative?**

The committee suggests that a comment section be added under each of these issues.

III. Excused absences for university activities

There was much discussion about this topic. The committee strongly believes that requiring faculty to excuse absences for athletes or any student who is in a university-sponsored activity infringes on the faculty member's academic freedom to determine how student performance in a course is evaluated. Requiring this overrides the faculty member's ability to determine what constitutes an excused or unexcused absence. The committee feels that there should be no university rule that requires this. Moreover, the committee notes that the majority of KU's AAU and in-state peer universities have reached the same conclusion. Additionally, the committee feels that athletes should be treated in the same manner as any student involved in a university-sponsored activity.

IV. Faculty responsibilities regarding sexual harassment and discrimination

Jan gave some background on this topic, and the committee will discuss this at the next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

V. Next Meeting: November 18, 2014 at 2 pm in 4001 Dole