

Committee on Academic Priorities

David Karen, *Sociology*, 2013-14 – 2016-17, *Chair* 2016-17

Michael Rock, *Economics*, 2014-15 – 2017-18

Janet Shapiro, *GSSWSR*, 2014-15 – 2017-18

Jonas Goldsmith, *Chemistry*, 2015-16 – 2018-19

Tim Harte, *Russian*, 2015-16 – 2018-19

Elizabeth McCormack, *Physics*, 2016-17 – 2019-20

BRYN MAWR

May 11, 2017

Addendum to the Annual Report to the Faculty 2016-2017

We offer this addendum for three reasons: to correct the rationale for our decision about the Spanish Department request; to report on our current thinking about the STEM position; and to report on our meeting with Haverford's Educational Policy Committee.

With respect to the Spanish Department request, in our Report to the Faculty, we indicated that:

The request for a multi-year appointment of a non-tenure track Visiting Assistant Professor in Spanish, as described, would eliminate the need to hire interim instructors, thus stabilizing the curricular offerings in Spanish. The proposed hire, however, would primarily teach at the advanced level, and therefore the request does not adhere to the current College policy on CNTT hiring, which is to meet the needs of skills-based high-enrollment introductory courses.

It is ambiguous from this statement whether CAP is referring to the Visiting Assistant Professor position (the original request) or to a CNTT (the request that emerged from the long process of proposal submission and subsequent discussion). We apologize for this ambiguity. In reference to the CNTT position, the Spanish Department did *not* expect that the CNTT “would *primarily* [emphasis added] teach at the advanced level.”

As discussed in last year's CAP Report and Addendum, there were quite a few considerations involved in specifying criteria for the STEM position. The dilemma last year revolved around whether the position should be directed explicitly to engineering or whether the position might be used to address severe enrollment pressures in a department with a STEM focus. This year, we attempted to address how engineering offerings might be integrated into our curriculum and we expect that the faculty will have rich conversations around this topic in the future. Curriculum

Committee will be discussing this as well. CAP had hoped this year to establish a direction for moving forward with the STEM position but was unable to do so. In addition to CAP's work on the engineering conversations, the CAP chair's unexpected illness constrained the Committee at a moment when other obligations took precedence. CAP expects to send a request for proposals in the Fall when we will gain the wisdom of three new members.

After we sent the CAP Report to the faculty, CAP met with Haverford's Educational Policy Committee. Although it has been our practice to meet at least annually with the Chair of the EPC, this year we met with two members of the committee and with the Haverford College Provost. Each committee reported on the requests it received and the decisions it made (EPC had not yet made its decisions). CAP impressed upon the HC Provost and the EPC how critical it was to move ahead expeditiously with Memoranda of Understanding regarding the proposed Bi-College Environmental Studies Department and Major. We look forward to continuing our cooperation with Haverford and the EPC in the future.