

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 BRICKER HALL

AUGUST 22, 2007

11:30 AM -1:30 PM

MINUTES

Present:

Professors: Sheryl Barringer, Lora Gingerich Dobos, Marcia Farr, Richard Gunther, E. Kay Halasek, Nancy Reynolds, W. Randy Smith (Vice-Chair), George Valco, Brian L. Winer (Chair),

Student Members: Robert Calhoun (Council of Graduate Students), Rose Babington (Undergraduate Student Government)

Guests: Professor Edward H. Adelson, Associate Executive Dean, and Kate Hallihan, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences; Jed Dickhaut, Associate Registrar, Office of the University Registrar; David Roy, Senior Assistant Director, Enrollment Services; Professors Don Eckert, Associate Director, and Neil Andrew, Academic Affairs Chair, and Mark Geise, Academic Administrative Officer, School of Environment and Natural Resources; Professor Chul Lee, Department of Aviation and Dr. Edward McCaul, College of Engineering; Professors Carol Gill, Curriculum Chair, Department of Industrial, Interior, and Visual Communication Design, and Valarie Mockabee, Assistant Dean, College of the Arts; Dr. John Wanzer, Senior Assistant Dean, Enrollment Management; and Professor Elliot Slotnick, Associate Dean, Graduate School.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF May 30, 2007

- Winer moved to table approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 30, 2007 to allow Council members time to review them again. Smith said the Minutes for the June 20, 2007 meeting will be ready for Council action on September 6, 2007.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR BRIAN L. WINER

- There were no comments from the Chair

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- The final Summer 2007 Council meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2007, 11:00-1:00 in 200 Bricker Hall. The first meeting for 2007-2008 will be on October 3, 2007, 3:00-5:00 in 200 Bricker Hall.
- All new Council faculty members have been identified as have two out of three student members. The Inter-professional Council has yet to name a student.
- This will be Nancy Reynolds's last Council meeting. Council members congratulated her on her new position at Yale University and thanked her for her excellent service to Council. Smith noted that Jane Evans graduated in Spring 2007 and has accepted a position at Sinclair Community College.
- Lakshmi Dutta successfully completed the leadership institute, the Leading Edge in August, and is ready to assume independent responsibilities for projects.
- Professor Joseph A. Alutto, Dean of the Fisher College of Business is serving as interim President and Provost. Dr. E. Gordon Gee is returning as the next University President effective October 1, 2007. Former Provost Barbara R. Snyder is enjoying her position as the President of Case Western Reserve University. Smith and others will attend her investiture on August 29, 2007.
- A meeting was held with all the curricular Associate Deans of the professional colleges to follow up on the new general education curriculum (GEC) implementation. All colleges are now ready to implement the new GEC except the Education component of the College of Education and Human Ecology. Halasek and Smith will continue to work with that College in the weeks ahead to bring a new proposal to Council. The College of Nursing has had some issues about implementation. Smith and Professor Martha Garland, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management and Dean of Undergraduate Studies have now met with the College of Nursing to address/correct those issues. In a related way, Smith will be working with the new Director of the Knowlton School of Architecture who begins September 1, 2007.
- Professor Edward H. Adelson and Smith are working with Professor Alexis Collier, Chair of the University-wide GEC Advisory Committee, to draft the charge for the committee.
- In January 2007, Former President Holbrook convened an International Programs Task Force. It has issued a report and already met with Interim President and Provost Alutto. Copies of the report were provided to the Council.

- Garland and Smith will be co-chairing the committee reviewing the Federation of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences (ASC). The committee has been established and will begin meeting soon. A Self-Study compiled by ASC Executive Dean Jacqueline Royster is available. A web site will be established.
- An Ad Hoc Committee to review current Center and Institute guidelines met several times in Spring and is proposing substantial changes. Smith will bring this proposal to Council soon.
- All academic units have been given a list of their courses not offered in more than 5 years and are being asked to withdraw them formally unless a legitimate reason to keep them can be provided. In 2005 when this process last occurred, nearly 1000 courses were withdrawn.
- Dutta and Smith will be visiting each college this Autumn to discuss current and planned curricular change and related matters.
- The Undergraduate International Studies Program, now housed in the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, is currently undergoing program review that will include, in October 2007, an external team visit and report
- Gunther asked when the non-controversial aspects of the GEC approved by the ASC Faculty Senate will be discussed and acted upon by Council. Smith suggested that they could be brought forward when the full new Council resumes meetings on October 3, 2007. Council members suggested that every effort to act on them should occur at the next Council meeting before several members who were a part of the broad discussions, leave. Winer agreed and they will be on the agenda for the September 6, 2007 meeting.
- Professor David Tomasko, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Director of the Collegium, and Professor Susan Olesik, Department of Chemistry, in a manner similar to requests for use of the term center/institute, are proposing the establishment of the **Ohio House of Science and Engineering**, an umbrella organization that will pull together many ongoing related initiatives on campus; seek external funding; and develop partnerships with industry. In effect they request the use of the term “house” as synonymous with center/institute. Olesik will be the main point of contact. The deans of several colleges (Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Engineering, Biological Sciences) will play a leadership/advisory role. Smith asked if there were any objections to use of the term “house” in this way and there was none.

- **PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A PROFESSIONAL MASTER'S DEGREE IN ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES – SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

This proposal was tabled in January 2007 pending broader discussion with, and receipt of concurrences from, related colleges such as Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Biological Sciences among others. Smith convened representatives from those colleges on March 15, 2007. Then, and through subsequent interactions, it was decided that there were no major objections to this proposal itself, but there needs to be a mechanism established for routine interaction of the units that use the term 'environment' to update each other on the status of various programs and plans for future developments. The Office of Academic Affairs should convene those meetings and ensure that a formal statement about concurrence for all subsequent proposals on this theme be clearly articulated in the Office's Academic Organization and Curriculum Manual.

Given these considerations, Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Dobos. The motion passed unanimously. This proposal will need action by the University Senate at a forthcoming meeting.

Gunther informed Council members that he is working with the University Registrar to develop an instrument to collect Student Evaluation of Instruction (SEI) data and eventually publish it to make course selection easier for students.

PROPOSAL TO SPLIT THE HUMAN DIMENSIONS MAJOR INTO TWO MAJORS: ENVIRONMENT POLICY AND MANAGEMENT, AND PARKS, RECREATION, AND TOURISM - SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES – PROFESSOR NANCY REYNOLDS, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE A

Reynolds summarized the proposal. The school proposes splitting the current major, Human Dimensions in Natural Resources, into two majors: Environmental Policy and Management, and Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. The objectives for the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism major are to understand public land management at all levels of government. There are several courses - ENR 119.01, 400, 545 - that expose students to career opportunities at the federal, state, and local government levels, federal, state, local, and international laws, and administrative functions of government agencies at federal and local levels. The international component is fostered through the encouragement of students to study abroad and to participate in study tour opportunities.

Reynolds said that Subcommittee A reviewed and discussed the proposal and submitted a set of questions and received written response from the School of Environment and Natural

Resources. Subcommittee A was satisfied with the response and recommends approval of the proposal.

DISCUSSION WITH GUESTS, PROFESSORS DON ECKERT, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, AND NEIL ANDREW, ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CHAIR, AND MR. MARK GEISE, ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER - SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Giese gave an overview of the proposal. The purpose of the two proposed majors is to provide undergraduate students with an improved understanding of environmental and natural resource issues within the state of Ohio, the United States, and elsewhere. This base will serve as a foundation for many undergraduates who are seeking either careers in this field or placement within related programs for graduate study.

The most significant change from the existing Human Dimensions major involves a reduced emphasis on environmental education and communication that is necessitated by a loss of faculty expertise in this area. An attempt will be made to maintain an essential component of communication and education in the environmental interpretation aspect of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.

The Environmental Policy and Management (EPM) and the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) are a reconstitution of previous academic programs that have been offered by the School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR) since the 1970s. The proposed EPM major, was previously known as Natural Resource Development, Sustainable Resource Management, and the Integrated Resource Policy and Planning option was incorporated into the Human Dimensions major. The PRT major was previously known as Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Administration, until Winter Quarter 2000, when it was incorporated into the Human Dimensions major as the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Administration option. This action reduced the visibility of the academic program and did not serve the students in this major. This revision will restore the visibility of these majors substantially.

It was well recognized among student, alumni, and stakeholders that the re-establishment of these two majors will best serve the students and professionals engaged in these prominent areas of natural resources management, and will clearly identify and reposition SENR's role in these undergraduate academic programs.

There were no further questions.

Subcommittee A moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Barringer. The motion passed unanimously.

**PROPOSAL TO CREATE A NEW UNDERGRADUATE TRACK IN AVIATION,
DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION - PROFESSOR E. KAY HALASEK, CHAIR,
SUBCOMMITTEE, B**

Halasek summarized the proposal. The Department of Aviation requests the addition of an undergraduate track in Air Transportation Systems (ATS), noting that such track will better prepare undergraduate students for careers in the critical and growing field of ATS by emphasizing organization design, systems, engineering, operations management, and implementation of technological innovations; create a program that anticipates and meets the requirements for possible ABET (Accrediting Board of Engineering and Technology) accreditation in systems engineering; and better align the academic program in the Department of Aviation with the mission of the College of Engineering. Eight new courses in the ATS track are added, and additional courses in Materials Science and Engineering (MSE), and Statistics are intended to strengthen the basic engineering and science cores. Subcommittee A recommends approval of the proposal.

Calhoun noted that the information about the total credit hours to graduate with this degree program is missing from the proposal.

**DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSOR CHUL LEE, DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION
AND DR. EDWARD McCAUL, PROGRAM DIRECTOR, COLLEGE OF
ENGINEERING**

Professor Lee gave an overview of the proposal. Aviation eliminated the Human Factors track/area of concentration due to low enrollment. An Aviation Task Force established by then-Dean James Williams not only recommended Aviation again be made a separate and independent program, but that there be the establishment of this proposed new track/concentration in Air Transportation Systems. This was predicated on NASA Langley's having looked for such a program and not finding one anywhere in the United States. Also, the current Dean, William Baeslack, asked that the Department take steps to attract more engineering students into the Aviation program and better align the curriculum to the vision and mission of the College. Eight new recommended courses are created in the ATS track. Courses were also added in MSE and Statistics to strengthen the basic engineering and science cores.

How many total credit hours will be needed in order to graduate from this program? McCaul responded that although this is not on the curricular sheet, the major required 191 credit hours prior to the recent GEC revision. With implementation of the new GEC, 186 hours will be needed to graduate - a reduction of 5 hours of GEC.

Subcommittee B moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Calhoun. The motion passed with one abstention.

**PROFESSORS BRIAN L. WINER AND W. RANDY SMITH –
SUBCOMMITTEE D**

- **PROPOSAL TO RECONFIGURE THE CORE CURRICULUM -
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL, INTERIOR, AND VISUAL
COMMUNICATION DESIGN**

Winer noted that the proposal was discussed at the June 20, 2007 meeting and there was a concern about replacing Engineering Graphics 121 and 122 with new Design courses 201, 202 and 203 per the suggestion from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). What is not clear is whether they have informed the Engineering Graphics program of this change.

**DISCUSSION WITH GUESTS - PROFESSORS CAROL GILL,
CURRICULUM CHAIR, AND VALARIE MOCKABIE, ASSISTANT
DEAN, COLLEGE OF THE ARTS.**

Gill gave an over view of the proposal. As a result of the changing curriculum within the Department of Design, as well as curricular changes across campus, it is necessary to rework the requirements to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Design in the three major areas of Industrial, Interior, and Visual Communication Design. The core foundation course Design 160 has been expanded from 3 to 5 credit hours by adding significant coverage of design sustainability and environmental issues; Design 199, and Engineering Graphics 121 and 122 were replaced by new courses of Design 201, 202, and 203; a 3-D modeling course, Design 603 which replaced Art 205 is added to the core; and there is greater flexibility in the “other” category for the major by allowing students to choose from a variety of suggested free electives.

Winer asked if the program in Engineering Graphics was informed of the changes related to its courses. Mockabee noted that Professor Wayne Carlson, who has a courtesy appointment in Engineering, had communicated with Engineering Graphics (EG). EG does not have the means to accommodate the Department’s needs. There were no further questions.

Gunther moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Barringer and passed unanimously.

Winer noted that it was agreed at the June 20, 2007 Council meeting, that effective this meeting, there will be initial discussion of proposals brought forward by Subcommittee D. Guests will be invited only if Subcommittee D believes that there are questions that need to be answered. Should questions arise at the meeting with no guests present, the proposal will be tabled until the next meeting. Each of the following proposals adheres to that process.

- **PROPOSAL TO CHANGE PREREQUISITE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RN-TO-BSN PROGRAM –COLLEGE OF NURSING**

Winer gave a summary of the proposal. The RN-to-BSN Nursing Program is designed for students who have an associate degree in nursing and are licensed registered nurses. This is a one year program and didactic and clinical courses lead to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. The College of Nursing is proposing a reduction in the overall number of required credit hours, courses, and simplification of the manner in which prerequisites are applied to the program requirements because the current prerequisites for entry are not predictive of success in the program. Most RN-to-BSN students enter the program with over 100 college credit hours and they have professional work experience as a registered nurse. There were no questions.

Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Gunther. and passed unanimously with one abstention.

- **PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR STUDENTS SELECTED TO ENTER THE PRE-MAJOR PROGRAM – COLLEGE OF NURSING**

Winer summarized the proposal. At its January 17, 2007 meeting, Council approved increasing the GPA requirement for admission to the Nursing major from 2.75 to 3.0 effective autumn 2008. Now the College of Nursing is proposing to increase the entrance criteria to the Pre-Nursing program. The entrance criteria they are proposing are an ACT score of 25 or higher, or SAT score of 1130 or higher for admission effective Autumn 2008. The College of Nursing anticipates that the implementation of these admission criteria will reduce the number of new Pre-Nursing students by about 35%. In 2007, 178 NFQF were admitted to Pre-Nursing. 34% had ACT or SAT scores below this criteria. Students admitted below the threshold did not make it into the major. Students who did not get into the major will need to identify another major.

Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Barringer and was approved with one abstention. Smith indicated the need to consult with Vice Provost Garland on this form of enrollment management, and will report back to Council at its next meeting before the College is given official notice of this action.

- **PROPOSAL TO INCREASE MINIMUM CUMULATIVE POINT HOUR RATIO - SCHOOL OF ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONS.**

Winer gave an overview of the proposal. The School of Allied Medical Professions (SAMP) has experienced tremendous growth since pre-major students were directly admitted to SAMP in 2001. Consequently, the Student Affairs office has expanded services provided to those students. SAMP is requesting that the minimum cumulative point hour ratio (CPHR) be increased from 2.2 to 2.5 for

- (a) admission to the eight undergraduate programs;
- (b) intra-University transfer students; and
- (c) CPHR of external transfer students

The increase in GPA will not have an impact on a large number of students, but help those whom they know will never get in to the program.

If the increase in GPA does not have an impact on a large number of students, why request this change? What are the programs in SAMP on which there will be the greatest impact?

The proposal was tabled until Council can discuss it more fully with regard to differential impact. A guest will be invited to the next Council meeting on September 6, 2007.

- **PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE REQUIRED FREE ELECTIVE HOURS FOR BOTH THE B.A. AND B.S. DEGREES AND ENCOURAGE DIVERSE CHOICE IN STUDENT ELECTIVES THROUGH ADVISING – COLLEGES OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Faculty Rule 3335-8-06 states “every undergraduate curriculum must provide for a minimum of 15 hours of free electives”. The ASC Faculty Senate passed the following resolution. “Eliminate required free elective hours for both the B.A. and B.S. degrees and encourage diverse choice in student electives through advising”. Faculty Rule 3335-8-06 is not currently enforced. Students are not held back from graduating if they do not have 15 hours of free electives. Professional colleges do not have room for 15 free electives. If a student has completed all major requirements and GEC requirements, they are certified to graduate.

Smith noted that he and Halasek (incoming Council Chair) had met with ASC Associate Executive Dean Edward Adelson and John Wanzer, Senior Assistant Dean, to discuss the proposal and supported it. If this resolution is approved, it needs to go to University Senate for a formal rule change.

Halasek moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Babington. The motion passed unanimously.

- **REMOVE MATH PLACEMENT ‘L’ - COLLEGES OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES**

For informational purposes only, Smith and Halasek announced an action taken by the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences - to remove Mathematics Placement ‘L’ to satisfy item ‘B’ of the GEC Skills Areas. They had discussed it with Adelson and Wanzer and were supportive.

Wanzer noted that students with mathematics placement of ‘L’, receive EM credit for Mathematics 150. Mathematics placement was administered online and it was found that students might have been cheating on the placement test. So, the Department of Mathematics withdrew the award of ‘L’ based on the placement test. Similarly, Humanities had waived the ‘B’ requirement based on mathematics placement of ‘L’. Thus students were receiving a B.A. degree with different requirements. Adelson noted that by removing Mathematics Placement ‘L’, about 200 more students may have to take Mathematics 150 who otherwise may not have had to take this course.

There were no further questions.

- **REMOVE THE RULE LIMITING PERMITTED HOURS IN A SINGLE REGISTRAR’S LISTING TO 80 HOURS – COLLEGES OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES**

For information purposes only, Smith and Halasek announced an action taken by the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences – to remove the rule limiting the “permitted” hours in a single Registrar’s listing to 80 hours. They had discussed it with Adelson and Wanzer, and were supportive.

Wanzer noted that this rule was put in place within the Arts and Sciences in order to ensure breadth of study. The rule prohibiting more than 80 hours in one Registrar’s listing predates the current GEC model, which mandates study across all disciplinary areas of the arts and sciences. Today the GEC itself ensures sufficient breadth and this rule is a relic from a different curricular era. Currently, very few students are penalized for not following this rule, and it was never an effective way to implement breadth. The Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate approved this change following an April 13, 2007 vote by the Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instructions (CCI). The CCI discovered that there are frequent exceptions granted to this rule because students with certain combinations of majors are not able to adhere to the prohibition against using more than 80 hours in a registrar’s listing. For example students double majoring in Sociology and Criminology can never adhere to this prohibition.

There were no further questions.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Lakshmi Dutta