

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 BRICKER HALL

May 7, 2008

3:00-5:00PM

MINUTES

Professors: Sheryl Barringer, Larry Baum, Lora G. Dobos, E. Kay Halasek (Chair), John M. Robinson, W. Randy Smith (Vice Chair), Brain L. Winer.

Student Members: Bradley Cromes (Inter-Professional Council); Sean McKinniss (Council of Graduate Students).

Guests: Jed Dickhaut, Associate Registrar, Office of the University Registrar; David Roy, Senior Assistant Director, Office of Enrollment Services; Dr. John Wanzer, Assistant Provost, Office of Academic Affairs; Professors Peter Ward, Department of Management Sciences and Steve Mangum, Interim Dean, Fisher College of Business; Professors Kenneth Pearlman, Section Head, Jean-Michel Guldman, and Burkhard von Rabinau, City and Regional Planning, Knowlton School of Architecture; Dr. Ed McCaul, Program Director, College of Engineering,

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF APRIL 16, 2008

Barringer moved approval of the corrected Minutes of the meeting of April 16, 2008. Seconded by Winer, the motion passed with one abstention.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR E. KAY HALASEK

Halasek met with research officers from all of the colleges and Associate Vice President Jan Weisenberger, Office of Research, and explained the proposed revision to the Centers Rule. There were no major concerns except that the Comprehensive Cancer Center representative wanted to know how its current five year review process would be affected by the proposed four-year cycle in the proposal. Halasek provided assurance that a new expectation will not be imposed.

Halasek presented the Center Rule at the Faculty Council on May 1, 2008. Concerns were expressed about the nature and rigor of review of the college centers. Halasek and Smith have met with Professors Robert Coleman, Chair, University Research Committee, and Richard Gunther, Chair-elect, Faculty Council, and drafted a set of procedures. An edited version is currently under review, and will be brought to Council for consideration.

Smith said that once the Center Guidelines and Rules are passed by the Senate and Board of Trustees, the new rules and guidelines will apply effective July 1, 2008. The current 65-70 centers/institutes will be classified into “university” and “college” centers for review purposes.

Two proposals will be coming forward from the Council on Enrollment and Student Progress (CESP). These proposals will need to be reviewed by this Council soon. One is a proposal for Amendment to Faculty Rule 3335-8-02. The amendment focuses on the addition of language pertinent to syllabus requirements. An operational syllabus for every course must be made publically available. An operational syllabus is a description of a course sufficient to inform students, colleagues, and administrators as to the learning objectives, topic coverage, events schedule, and evaluation scheme used in the course offering. Professors Anne Smith and James Kinard are drafting a rule on a syllabus requirement.

Smith questioned whether there has been broader discussion of the proposal or whether it had been within CESP. Council members asked whether it is public within the University or to everyone outside the University? The understanding is that it is open to everyone within and outside the University. For other purposes, the University Registrar is working on posting generic syllabi on the web.

The second proposal - presented here for informational purposes only - is to change the current guaranteed admissions for transfer students with a GPA of 2.0 and 45-49 credit hours (or equivalent), to a process of competitive admissions to be managed by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions in concert with the Faculty Committee on Admissions, beginning Summer 2009.

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

The General Education Curriculum (GEC) Advisory Committee has met three times with one more meeting on May 23, 2008.

At the next Council meeting, the Deans from the Colleges of Business, Engineering, and Law will give a status report on their Clinical Track Faculty. In the second hour, the current director, Dr. Charles Wise, is scheduled to give a status report on the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. Halasek and Smith recently met with the Oversight Committee of the School. Council is scheduled to review the new School in its fifth year of operations.

Smith urged Council members to be familiar with three important documents that have been issued in the last five weeks: a Plan for the University System of Ohio (available on the Board of Regents web page); the Doctoral Program Review report from the Graduate School, and the Final Report of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences Review Committee (both available on the web site of the Office of Academic Affairs). The response period

for the Arts and Sciences Report ends on May 12, 2008. The response period for the Doctoral Program Review report ends May 15, 2008.

Winer asked if any structural change that might emerge from the Arts and Sciences Report would have to come to this Council. Smith indicated that such proposals would need to adhere to the abolition and alteration rule/guidelines.

Smith informed the Council that Lakshmi Dutta has accepted the position of Director of Student Affairs in the College of Dentistry, effective June 2, 2008, an important career advancement for her.

Smith added that only four Council faculty members are scheduled to return next year: Collins, Farr, Ibba, and Mendelsohn. Summer meetings will be scheduled soon.

PROPOSAL FOR A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING DEGREE PROGRAM, KNOWLTON SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING – PROFESSOR LORA G. DOBOS, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE C

Dobos gave an overview of the proposal. City and Regional Planning (CRP), a section within the Knowlton School of Architecture (KSA), wants to establish a new tagged Bachelor of Science degree. CRP has had an undergraduate minor but with modest enrollment. Subcommittee C was satisfied with the response from CRP to its initial questions.

A major issue is that the Department of Geography submitted a letter indicating that it did not support the proposal. Smith noted that Geography has had a track in urban analysis in its undergraduate degree for the past forty years, and is home for Center for Urban and Regional Analysis. Dobos added that the conflict basically is related to theoretical (Geography) versus practical (CRP) content.

Subcommittee C met with CRP and received a revised proposal in response to its questions. Geography believed strongly that CRP students would benefit from being required to take some core geography courses to provide theoretical background regarding urban and regional systems.

Despite a long-term strong working relationship with CRP, Geography could not support the revised proposal. Initially it wanted Geography courses as an absolute requirement in the core. CRP was unwilling to do so. Subcommittee C then met with the Department of Geography. The proposal submitted by Geography included a 10-hour (two course) set of “required electives” in Geography for students in the CRP major. CRP was not agreeable.

It was then decided to convene a meeting with Subcommittee C, individuals from City and Regional Planning and Geography to sort out issues. On April 24, 2008 a compromise was reached.

Wanzer added that students in CRP have been doing the CRP major under a Personalized Study Program, through Arts and Sciences, taking interdisciplinary courses .

DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSORS KENNETH PEARLMAN, JEAN-MICHEL GULDMANN, BURKHARD VON RABINAU, CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING, AND DR. ED MCCAUL, COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Pearlman gave an overview of the proposal. The proposed BS in CRP complements its Master's and Ph.D. programs, and will provide benefits and opportunities to students in the Knowlton School of Architecture (KSA) and the University. The key reason for introducing the program is that it responds to an existing demand at the undergraduate level for a planning major. It provides significant benefits to the Master's students in the form of the diversity and stability of course offerings, and to Ph.D. students in the form of support mechanisms and teaching experience. It offers significant benefits to students in KSA and the University at large. In general, the traditional trio of bachelor, master, and doctoral programs will make for stronger and more stable course offerings, a more diversified faculty, and better mutual support mechanisms than the current two programs can offer on their own. The program is driven by student demand for undergraduate degrees that have a professional outlook, and offers study opportunities relevant to the market place. There is a strong rising demand by local government and consulting firms for planners with an undergraduate degree. Two thirds of all planning jobs are open to planners with a BS degree. CRP already has experience with an undergraduate Minor in CRP, and there is strong demand among these students for taking CRP as a major.

Rabinau gave a summary of the curriculum.

The curriculum consists of 180 credit hours plus 1 unit for the University required survey course. Of the total 181 credit hours, 81 represent GEC requirements, but this can be reduced by 5 hours if a student takes courses such as Landscape Architecture 367 which double-counts toward more than one GEC requirement. There are 65 credits required in the CRP major that includes 49 CRP core courses, plus 16 CRP electives that includes Geography courses. The remainder represents 15 credit hours of directed electives that consist of courses in other departments with a close disciplinary relationship to CRP, plus 20 credit hours of free electives that can be taken in any department within the University. A sub group of eight courses among the directed electives deals with social relations and multi-cultural experiences. Students are required to take one out of these 8 courses.

Winer wanted to know their plan for a minor in this area and whether they will revise the minor. They have specific courses that represent the core of the minor. They will have greater choice of undergraduate courses with the establishment of new BS degree in CRP. Now courses that are designed for graduate students are used in the minor. The minor will be strengthened and this will give students professional entry into the job market.

How many students are expected to enroll in the new major? They expect 30 students initially, and in four years they expect to enroll 120 students. They expect to attract students that are undecided, and those with physical planning/design interest interests from Landscape Architecture.

Smith asked if there are any accreditation issues? The Master's program is accredited. Students with a BS in CRP can be certified without accreditation.

Subcommittee C moved approval of the proposal, seconded by Winer. The motion passed unanimously.

Smith added that this proposal will be on the University Senate agenda for action on May 29, 2008, and if approved there, will go to the Board of Trustees agenda on July 11, 2008.

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE MASTER OF BUSINESS OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE DEGREE PROGRAM, FISHER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS – PROFESSOR SHERYL BARRINGER, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE B

Barringer gave a brief summary of the proposal. The Fisher College of Business proposes a new professional master's program, the Master of Business Operational Excellence - a distance learning program modeled after the Executive MBA program. The Subcommittee did not have any serious concerns. All questions were answered to their satisfaction. The Subcommittee was most concerned with the program's reliance on distance learning. They were satisfied with the response.

DISCUSSION WITH PROFESSORS STEVE MANGUM, INTERIM DEAN, FISHER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS, AND PETER WARD, DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE, FISHER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Mangum gave an overview of the proposal. This program is designed for high potential managers in manufacturing and service organizations who are leaders in implementing operational excellence in their firms. The proposed delivery mechanism of the program will be to bring such professionals to campus for a week. They will be assigned faculty mentors. Students will be communicating with faculty mentors when they are working on related projects, approved by their employers, during the inter-sessions between on-campus experiences. Building on a teaching model developed for the executive MBA program, classroom teaching will be treated as exceptionally high value time. Much of the more routine learning will be covered out of class using web-based tutorials and other materials to self-teach assigned topics. The expectation will be that students will arrive at class well prepared and ready-to-learn. Each week of classroom training will be followed by several weeks of distance learning that will reinforce the material learned during the previous week and will introduce material to be covered in the subsequent week on-campus.

Smith noted that this is one of several new master's programs from the College this decade. Are there others planned in the future? They are planning additional tagged master's degrees in marketing, and financial engineering, building on the executive MBA format for a population that is international and for those with Wall Street-type employment.

The College Ph.D. programs have been downsized and more masters programs will be developed in the future. They plan to charge differential tuition for these tagged master's programs.

How will students in the MBOE be evaluated? Students will be evaluated through their mini projects – evaluation of their progress every quarter, with presentations of their work at the end of the year. Their projects will be evaluated by the company with certain objectives, and a set of criteria. Accreditation criteria will be used in the evaluation.

When is the next accreditation for the college? It is scheduled for February 2009. Accreditation is for the College and not for individual programs. The college has communicated with the accreditation team about the MBOE proposal, for its reaction.

Subcommittee B moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

The proposal will go the University Senate for action at its meeting on May 29, 2008 and if approved there, to the Board of Trustees for action on July 11, 2008.

PROFESSORS E. KAY HALASEK AND W. RANDY SMITH, SUBCOMMITTEE D

- **Proposal for a Graduation with Honors Research Distinction, College of Social Work**

Halasek gave an overview of the proposal. The College of Social Work had a very limited Honors Program some time ago. It is now seeking to revitalize it because there is a demand for such a program as evidenced by repeated inquiries from students and parents alike. The University is attracting a greater number of academically stronger and more intellectually-driven students of honors caliber. Not being able to offer Honors status to interested and academically inclined social work students subjects the College to preventable losses. The objectives for the honors program is to promote significant enhanced interaction between faculty and a select number of students, to develop creative abilities of Honors students, require higher standards of academic achievement, include honors and honors-embedded courses that require enhanced breadth and depth of material, and promote interdisciplinary contact and study.

Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Proposal to Require C- or Better Grades in the Human Nutrition and Nutrition Majors, College of Education and Human Ecology**

Halasek gave a summary of the proposal. The Faculty in the Department of Human Nutrition requests approval to set a requirement of C- or better grades in course requirements in Human Nutrition for Human Nutrition and Nutrition majors (BS in Human Ecology with the major in Human Nutrition or BS in Nutrition). This request is based on the standards and expectations of professional and graduate school programs, internships, and employers of students graduating from the program. Grades of C- or better in Human Nutrition course requirements will increase the likelihood of overall GPAs that are competitive for admission to dietetic internships, graduate programs and professional schools. The department recently increased the GPA required for admission to a major in the BS in Nutrition or BS in Human Ecology with the Human Nutrition major, to a 2.5 based on the same rationale provided for this proposal. Requiring a C- or better in human nutrition courses will help maintain student academic performance to be competitive for the advanced training required for the majority of meaningful career opportunities associated with the discipline of nutrition career goals.

What happens if a student gets a 'D'? It is assumed that the student has to retake the course.

Subcommittee D moved approval of the proposal. It was seconded by Dobos. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Proposal to Establish an Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Minor in Critical Cultural Theory, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences**

Halasek gave a summary of the proposal. The development of this minor arose from faculty interest and concern. The proposed minor requires students to complete the core course (Arts & Sciences 331) along with 20 additional credit hours of coursework drawn from a list of approved elective courses, all at the 300-level or above, including the optional capstone course, Arts & Science 531. Students must take at least one course from the three categories: Category A, Disciplinary Theory, consists of courses that focus on the theory inherent to particular intellectual disciplines; Category B, Theory in Practice, consists of courses that link the study of theory with particular cultural or social issues or problems; and Category C, Trans-disciplinary Theory, consists of courses that focus on theory that cut across disciplinary boundaries.

Halasek added that there was inconsistency in the use of the title of the minor that was rectified by Professor James Phelan, Department of English, and it was

changed all through the proposal to Critical Cultural Theory. A sample syllabus of Philosophy 640 that was missing was sent. Stipulation about potential overlaps between the major and the minor was reworded.

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

- **General Discussion on Minors at the University**

There were questions about the Minor Guidelines Comparison table and Dutta agreed to revise it. Discussion on Minors at the university will continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Lakshmi Dutta