

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

226 UNIVERSITY HALL

July 16, 2008

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Present:

Professors: Lawrence A. Baum (Political Science); Lora G. Dobos (Music); E. Kay Halasek, (English), Chair; Michael Ibba (Microbiology); Daniel A. Mendelsohn (Mechanical Engineering); John M. Robinson (Physiology and Cell Biology); W. Randy Smith, (Office of Academic Affairs), Vice Chair; and Brian L. Winer (Physics)

Student Members: Sean A. McKinness (Council of Graduate Students)

Guests: Professor Robert J. Birkenholz (Chair, Department of Human and Community Resource Development); Professor Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost); Dr. Kathleen M. Hallihan (Director, Curriculum and Assessment Office, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences); Jill A. Pfister (Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences); William M. Randle (Chair, Department of Horticulture and Crop Science); Michael A. Shearer (Office of the University Registrar); and Dr. John D. Wanzer (Assistant Provost).

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR E. KAY HALASEK

The Office of Academic Affairs is now making all proposals for Council review available online as they are assigned to subcommittee. The url providing direction to the proposals will be sent via email when they are assigned to subcommittee. This should facilitate committee members' access to the council's materials.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR — PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

All proposals discussed at the June 4, 2008 Council meeting were approved by e-mail ballot on June 6, 2008.

The Board of Trustees approved the changes to the centers rule at its meeting on June 6, 2008. On July 11, 2008 the Board approved the proposal for regular clinical track faculty in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences; the Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning; and the Master's in Business Operational Excellence degree program. The two degree programs still require Board of Regents' approval – expected some time in Autumn 2008.

Smith is serving as Interim Executive Dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences until August 3, 2008 when Joan Leitzel will assume that position. He gave a brief update.

Smith met with a group of faculty who wish to propose a Center for RNA Biology. In the near future they will ask for use of the term “center” until the full proposal can be submitted.

PROPOSAL TO REVISE THE AGRICULTURAL AND EXTENSION EDUCATION MAJOR, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT – PROFESSOR DANIEL MENDELSON, CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE A

Mendelsohn introduced the proposal to revise the Agricultural and Extension Education major. The proposal includes two changes. The first formalizes the three options within the major—Teacher Education, Extension Education, and Leadership. The second change involves changing the name of the General Studies option to Leadership. The proposal includes three separate curriculum sheets, including the three options as separate degree audits, and a few course changes.

Smith addressed the issue that this proposal prompted a campus-wide discussion of use of the term “leadership.” Nearly all of the colleges offer courses or tracks in leadership that are specific to their disciplines. The Office of Student Life offers leadership programs for students. The Office of Human Resources offers leadership programs for faculty and staff. The Provost has asked Vice Provost Martha Garland and Smith to convene a meeting of representatives from units on campus that use the term to talk about the term and what they are doing. The meeting’s goal is to address the tensions that are arising around campus over the term and next steps in program development.

Smith indicated that he had no problem with the proposal going forward but that he would ask that the department hold using the term “leadership” until after this university-wide discussion of leadership has occurred.

Mendelsohn moved approval of the proposal. Dobos seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS E. KAY HALASEK AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Proposal to Revise the Graduate Program – Department of Horticulture and Crop Science**

Halasek introduced the proposal to revise the Horticulture and Crop Science (HCS) graduate program. The goal is to enhance the educational experiences for diverse populations through a core background, increased emphasis on HCS courses, and increase in quality of doctoral curriculum.

Halasek moved to approve the proposal; Mendelsohn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Proposals to revise the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Undergraduate Major Programs – Colleges of the Arts and Sciences**

Halasek introduced the proposals collectively. Students are required to take courses across multiple categories. New curricular options were added to all categories as well as to electives. Halasek observed that these proposals both broaden and deepen the major without changing the total number of hours required.

Halasek then introduced the proposal to revise the Chinese major. Two courses were added to D, one to E, and they deleted, added, and replaced several courses in the electives category. Deletions were the result of courses not being offered for several years.

Halasek raised a question about both the Chinese and Japanese proposals. Different categories within each major had the duplication of terms (Chinese: A Language, B Culture, C Literature, D Language, Literature, and Linguistics). The Council discussed the reasons why this might be the case, but was unable to determine on its own why this duplication occurred. The Korean major has no such overlap among its categories.

Hallihan mentioned that Arts and Sciences anticipates a revision to the Chinese major.

Council members had additional questions regarding concurrence on the new courses and details on electives for the Chinese and Japanese proposals.

Halasek will follow up with the proposal initiators. She will ask for three parallel documents with greater clarity in the details.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Smith reported that three new Council members will be appointed by Faculty Council and two by the president. Two of the Faculty Council appointees have been identified as has one of the presidential appointees.

The council adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
J. Briggs Cormier