

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

October 7, 2009

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Lawrence A. Baum (Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. Neelima M. Bendapudi (Marketing and Logistics)
- ✓ Dr. Marilyn J. Blackwell (Germanic Languages and Literatures)
- ✓ Dr. James W. Cogdell (Mathematics)
- ✓ Dr. Jay S. Hobgood (Geography)
- ✓ Dr. Daniel A. Mendelsohn (Mechanical Engineering)
- Dr. Robert J. Ward (Music)
- ✓ Dr. John W. Wilkins (Physics)
- ✓ Dr. Kay N. Wolf (Allied Medical Professions)

Students:

- Ms. Sarah K. Douglas (CGS, History)
- ✓ Ms. Olga A. Isenberg (CGS, Business)
- ✓ Mr. Benjamin T. Reinke (USG, Physics)
- Ms. Meghan Offenberger (IPC, Pharmacy)
- ✓ Mr. John D. Tannous (UGS, Political Science)

Administrators:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith, (Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

- Dr. Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost)
- Dr. Terry L. Gustafson (Associate Dean, Arts and Sciences)
- Dr. Kate Hallihan (Director, ASC Curriculum and Assessment Office)
- Mr. Jay Johnson (Assistant Provost)
- Mr. David L. Roy (Asst. Director, Enrollment Services)
- Ms. Sarah Tokar-Lang (Academic Planning Specialist, College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Dr. John Wanzer (Senior Assistant Vice Provost, Enrollment Services and Undergraduate Education)
- Prof. Valarie Williams (Associate Curricular Dean, Arts and Humanities)

The Council came to order at 3:05 PM

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2009 MEETING

Hobgood moved approval of the Minutes of the August 18, 2009 meeting; the motion was seconded by Reinke and approved unanimously. The Minutes from the August 25, 2009 meeting will be voted upon at the next Council meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR JAY S. HOBGOOD

- The Faculty Cabinet held its first meeting of the year and reported that the Rules Committee is looking at which rules need to change as part of the conversion to semesters. They have identified 140 such rules – most due to the appearance of the word “quarters.”
- The roster is nearly complete for the special ad hoc committee that will review the proposal to restructure the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences (ASC). The proposal seeks to abolish the five separate colleges that currently make up the Arts and Sciences and create one College of the Arts and Sciences.

The final report and recommendation of this subcommittee will be brought to Council.

- The 2009-2010 Chairs for Subcommittees A, B, C, and D are: Larry Baum, Dan Mendelsohn, Neeli Bendapudi (substituting for James Cogdell while he completes his service on the ASC Restructuring ad hoc committee).

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR — PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- Smith reported that a number of semester conversion meetings are taking place around campus and that he, along with Alexis Collier, Associate Provost and Jay Johnson, Assistant Provost, are meeting regularly with Arts and Sciences Leadership (including its Committee on Curriculum and Instruction).
- Reminded Council of a proposal that will be coming forward soon: the proposal to move the Department of Entomology to the College of Food, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (FAES). The faculty supports this action and one outcome of the discussions is that some faculty members have chosen to remain with the College of Biological Sciences and some with FAES.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D—PROFESSORS JAY S. HOBGOOD AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Transfer of Welding Engineering Programs, College of Engineering**

Hobgood provided a brief overview of the proposal to transfer the academic programs in Welding Engineering from the Department of Integrated Systems Engineering to the Department of Materials Sciences. John Lippold, Professor of Industrial and Welding Engineering; Julia Hagle, Chair of Integrated Systems Engineering; and Rudy Buchheit, Chair of Material Science Engineering attended the meeting to respond to questions.

Hobgood noted that all of the units involved are in agreement that this would be a better fit for Welding Engineering and that the final vote on the matter was unanimous. The move is an outgrowth of the doctoral program review conducted by the Graduate School and was further triggered by a desire to create efficiency in the College through the consolidation of programs. The college has more degree programs relative to its benchmarks.

The following concerns were shared and clarifications given during the meeting:

- The combined department will have 30+ faculty, 260+ undergraduate students, 150+ graduate students, and 17 staff.
- There will be no impact on the current ability to serve students.
- At this time, the Welding Ph.D. program will remain as is - although it is expected that there will be a natural evolution of degree programs over time.
- Space needs can be handled adequately at this time.

Cogdell brought forth a motion to approve the proposal, it was seconded by Mendelsohn, and the motion was carried with all in favor.

- **Revision to the Portuguese Minor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese**

Hobgood explained that the proposal seeks to provide a wider range and more contemporary choices for students. Currently, 401 is the only required course and they would like to provide more choices. They are also adding an additional required course, 450. The proposal is designed to strengthen the program core and streamline the categories of offerings. The total number of hours required for the minor will remain the same.

The following concerns/clarifications were discussed:

- The proposal seems to follow a pattern that is appearing within all of the languages programs – integration of more interdisciplinary aspects into the major.
- A student already participating in this minor will not have to take the new required course.

Hobgood moved approval of the proposal; it was seconded by Blackwell, and carried with all in favor.

- **Revision to the Popular Culture Studies Interdisciplinary Minor, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences**

The proposal adds two courses (English/Comparative Studies 264 and Women's Studies 230) as options to the required core courses, allowing students three options for fulfilling the core course requirement. The rest of the minor remains unchanged. The proposed revisions will provide more flexibility in designing and scheduling

No additional concerns were raised.

Hobgood moved approval of the proposal; it was seconded by Mendelsohn, and carried with all in favor.

- **Revision to the Psychology Minor, Department of Psychology**

The proposal includes a revision to the current General Psychology Minor and adds six focused minor content areas: Clinical and Individual Differences, Developmental Psychology, Organization and Performance Psychology, Social and Personality Psychology, and Psychological Research. This is a companion to the proposal to revise the Psychology Major that came to Council last year. The changes to the minor (and the major) reflect changes within the discipline as well as comments and feedback from their students that they would like more focus.

The following concerns were discussed:

- Once the proposal is approved, the minor sheets need to be revised to accurately reflect the current information.
- A look at the number of hours in minors should be routinely monitored.
- The information found on the accompanying Arts and Sciences minor sheet, "100-level course work. For every five credit hour of 100-level course work on the minor, the minimum total required for the minor is increased by five." The wording is confusing and does not clearly explain that the mentioned "five" is over the "twenty" University minimum. The Council advises Arts and Sciences to make the necessary changes to add clarity.

Hobgood moved approval of the proposal; it was seconded by Blackwell, and the motion carried with all in favor.

- **Revision to Sociology Minors, Establishment of New Minor, Department of Sociology**

Hobgood provided a brief overview of the proposal explaining that currently there exist three minors in Sociology (Sociology, Social Stratification and Inequality, and Criminology). There are no changes to the Sociology Minor, but the proposal seeks to make small changes to the Social Stratification and Inequality and Criminology Minors and create a new minor, Health and Society. This proposal mirrors a previous one for the revision of the major.

The following concerns/clarifications were discussed:

- The Health and Society Minor gives students access to the growing disciplinary areas of population, aging, and medical sociology. Faculty have been added in this growing area of the field.
- Although there have been no formal linkages at this time, the College of Public Health is aware of this proposal. Smith noted that there are ongoing discussions between the College and this Department about possible undergraduate programmatic linkages.
- On the advising sheet for Criminology, the description of the track appears to be left out.

Hobgood moved approval of the proposal; it was seconded by Bendapudi, and the motion carried with all in favor.

- **Revision to the Landscape Contracting and Construction Associate of Applied Science Minor, Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI), College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Engineering**

The proposal seeks to change the name of the Agricultural Technical Institute's (ATI) major/plan to Landscape Horticulture Technologies. In addition, it will create three new specializations/sub plans.

The Council would like more explanation of the rationale with details of the current program, and tabled the discussion. Representatives from the College of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences will be invited to a future meeting.

NEXT MEETING

A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted

W. Randy Smith
Melissa Soave