

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

April 7, 2010

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Leslie Alexander (History)
- ✓ 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, Physcs)
- Ms. Meghan Offenberger (IPC, Pharmacy)
- ✓ Mr. John D. Tannous (UGS, Political Science)

Administrators:

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

Guests:

- Dr. Ann Christy (Faculty Fellow, Academic Affairs)
- Dr. Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost)
- Dr. Kate Hallihan (Director, Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Office)
- Mr. Brad Myers (University Registrar)
- Mr. David L. Roy (Assistant 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)
- Professor Valarie Williams (Associate Curricular Dean, Arts and Humanities)

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The Council came to order at 3:09 PM

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF FEBRUARY 17, 2010 AND MARCH 3, 2010

Hobgood moved approval of the Minutes of the February 17, 2010 and March 3, 2010 meetings and the motion was approved unanimously..

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR JAY S. HOBGOOD

- Hobgood, Smith, and Collier recently met with the Dean, Vice Dean, Associate Dean, and Semester Point Person for the College of Medicine to discuss the college's new curriculum emerging out of the conversion. Substantial changes are included.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR — PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- If approved today, the proposal to merge the Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Aerospace Engineering will go the University Senate for action on April 15, 2010, along with the proposal to change to the name of the Department of Industrial, Interior, and Visual Communication Design, to the Department of Design.

He noted that there will be two Senate meetings held in May: May 6 and May 27, 2010 that will provide opportunities for Council work to move forward.

- The Semester Conversion Town Meetings for the Health Sciences Colleges and for the Professional Colleges were held in March. Two meetings were held for Arts and Sciences on April 6 and April 7, 2010. All resulted in constructive discussions on semester conversion.

Meetings for the Regional Campuses and the Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, will be scheduled before the end of the Spring Quarter.

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

- **Merger of the Department of Aerospace Engineering and the Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering**

This proposal was initially discussed and reviewed by the Council on Academic Affairs at its February 3, 2010 meeting. It was then taken to Faculty Council for discussion on March 4, 2010 where the Council voted in favor of the proposal.

There were no additional concerns from members of the Council on Academic Affairs.

Hobgood moved approval; it was seconded by Cogdell; and the motion carried with all in favor.

- **Name Change of the Graduate Programs in Design, Arts and Humanities**

This proposal, endorsed by the Graduate School, follows the proposal to change the name of the Department of Industrial, Interior, and Visual Communication Design to the Department of Design that was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs on January 20, 2010. This proposal will bring the name of the graduate program in line with the new department name.

There were no concerns with the proposal.

Hobgood moved approval, it was seconded by Wolfe and the motion carried with all in favor.

- **Change to the Name and Advising Structure of the Design Minor, Arts and Humanities**

This proposal also aligns with the change to the department name, seeking to change the name of the minor. It also seeks to change the advising structure of the minor; suspending the requirement that each student meet individually with the Department chair.

Another modest change is the addition of new courses and the removal of elective courses that added substantial prerequisites to the minor.

There were no concerns with the proposal.

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

- **Transfer of the Rural Sociology Faculty, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences**

Hobgood provided an overview of the Memorandum of Understanding for the transfer of five Rural Sociology faculty from the Department of Human and Community Resource Development (HCRD) to the School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR) within the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (FAES) to another. He noted the affected faculty were in full support of the move, witnessed by their signatures within the document. Smith added that a document will be crafted and added to the MOU to make it a formal proposal.

Linda Martin, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Affairs for FAES was present to provide a rationale and answer questions as needed.

As the nature of Rural Sociology changed over time, it was housed in different departments, namely the Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics (AEDE) and the Department of Human and Community Resource Development (HCRD). The most recent review of where it should be housed was a result of the recent review of doctoral programs.

Taking into consideration the direction that the discipline is going (an increasingly environmental focus), faculty research interests, and the mission of the college, different options were fully explored including Sociology, AEDE and HCRD.

The following concerns were shared and addressed:

- Nationally, the discipline either stands alone or is housed in another department.
- Although the Graduate School initially was in favor of housing Rural Sociology in the Department of Sociology, after additional review and follow up discussion it was decided that becoming a track in Environmental and Natural Resources was a better fit. This will also result in the ability to attract better graduate students.

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

- **Creation of an Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in Leadership Studies, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Studies**

Hobgood provided an overview of the proposal. Minor program requirements are linked to four categories: Leadership Foundations, Team and Organizational Leadership, Community Leadership, and Leadership Ethics. Martin responded to comments/questions.

- Concern about the overall academic quality. Need for a clear definition of “Leadership Studies” as an academic discipline.
 - Its status as an academic discipline is evidenced by journals, the existence of leadership theory and research, and the application of leadership theory into practice.
 - In comparison with other programs around the country, the proposed minor at Ohio State will have in common with successful programs the right balance of both theory and practice. The theoretical component is within the four categories: and the required practicum that allows student to take the concepts and principles they have learned and put them into practice.
- Some Arts and Sciences courses were accepted, many were not; the reason given is that some of these proposed courses offered one or two class sessions out of ten that addressed leadership, but the course was not sufficiently focused on leadership
 - The minor was developed by canvassing the University and pulling together the relevant units.
 - Over time, additional courses will be added as appropriate.
- At this time, the Arts and Sciences Curriculum on Instruction will need to approve the minor for Arts and Sciences students. Perhaps a special track for Arts and Sciences students could be developed that would align with GPA requirements, and level of courses.
- Bendapudi noted that the development committee worked closely with the Fisher College of Business which resulted in the College giving strong support to the minor.
- Clarification on the administration of the practicum was sought and it was found that the proposal includes a response from Bob Birkenholz, Co-Chair of the Development

Committee, on this issue, “The development committee suggested that the students’ home department would be the likely supervisory contact for a leadership practicum experience in the disciplinary context of the students’ interest. In addition, it was assumed that credit hour generation would accrue to the home department as well. If that is not the case, the minor Advisor Chair would be responsible to supervise the practicum experience with the underlying credit hours accruing to the departmental administrative unit housing the Leadership Studies minor.”

Hobgood moved approval; it was seconded by Reinke; and the motion carried with one opposed and twelve in favor.

PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE A—PROFESSORS LESLIE ALEXANDER, LAWRENCE BAUM, JOHN WILKINS; MR. JOHN TANNOUS

- **New Computational Science Minor, College of Engineering**

This proposal had been tabled at both the December 2, 2009 and February 17, 2010 meetings.

The following concerns were addressed:

- It was decided that the minimum number hours that Ohio State students must be required to take at Ohio State to complete the minor is 15.
- It was confirmed that approval had been given at the Dean/College level.

There were no additional concerns with the proposal.

Hobgood moved approval; it was seconded by Wilkins; and the motion carried with one abstention and twelve in favor.

DISCUSSION ON COURSE NUMBERING FOR SEMESTERS — BRAD MYERS

Brad Myers, University Registrar, provided an update on the proposed course numbering in semesters. He also provided a graphic illustration of a typical semester calendar weekly pattern:

- Both the Coordinating Committee and the Curriculum Subcommittee on semester conversion have endorsed the proposed course numbering system.
- If adopted, Faculty Rule changes would be required.
- Highlighted changes made since the last review:
 - cross-career (undergraduate and graduate) courses will be at the 5000-5999 level. Coursework and credit level will be determined by the student’s academic program level.
- Noted that the University is currently holding back or reserving courses at the 9000-level for a future undetermined use.

- Reviewed the proposed suffixes (H, E, T, and S). Noted that suffixes were deemed necessary for these designations because they appear and provide important information on transcripts.
- Distance Education will not have a suffix, but will be determined by asking general questions.

By early May 2010, an official course numbering system for semesters will be adopted. Smith noted that the University Senate Rules Committee has been kept abreast of the timeline and anticipated changes.

Council members expressed strong support for the new numbering system.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Randy Smith
Melissa Soave