

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

March 2, 2011

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Faculty:

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|--|--|
| ✓Dr. Leslie Alexander (History) | Dr. Ashok Krishnamurthy (Engineering) |
| ✓Dr. Marilyn J. Blackwell (Germanic Languages and Literatures) | ✓Dr. Barbara Polivka (Nursing) |
| ✓Dr. James W. Cogdell (Mathematics) | ✓Dr. Robert J. Ward (Music) |
| ✓Dr. John Fellingham (Business) | ✓Dr. John W. Wilkins (Physics) |
| ✓Dr. Jay S. Hobgood (Geography) | Dr. Kay N. Wolf (Allied Medical Professions) |

Students:

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| ✓Mr. Niraj Antani (USG, Political Science) | ✓Ms. Sarah K. Douglas (CGS, History) |
| Mr. Dheeraj Duggineni (USG, Biology) | ✓Ms. Sarah Lang (CGS, Education and Human Ecology) |

Administrators:

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

Guests:

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| Ms. Andrea Bour (Office of the University Registrar) | Dr. Daniel Mendelshon (Mechanical Engineering) |
| Dr. Lei Cao (Nuclear Engineering) | Dr. Jerry Nelms (University Center for the Advancement of Teaching) |
| Dr. Ann Christy (Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering) | Dr. Jill Pfitser (Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences) |
| Dr. Suliman Dregia (Materials Science and Engineering) | Dr. Shilpa Register (Optometry) |
| Dr. Susan Fisher (Entomology) | Dr. Cheena Srinivasan (Mechanical Engineering) |
| Dr. Terry Gustafson (Arts and Sciences) | Dr. Celeste Welty (Entomology) |
| Dr. Ed McCaul (Engineering) | |

The Council came to order at 3:05 PM.

REPORTS FROM THE CO-CHAIRS – PROFESSORS JAY S. HOBGOOD, AND JAMES W. COGDELL

The proposed changes to rules relating to semester conversion were presented to the Coordinating Committee for Semester Conversion on March 1, 2011 and will also be presented to the Faculty Council on March 3, 2011.

REPORT FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

At the Semester Conversion Steering Committee meeting discussion topics included space issues - how space will be better utilized to match with the class size and teacher availability to provide maximum benefits to the student's academic activities. Members of the Office of the University Registrar will be in touch with each department/school to discuss and help with any space related issues.

Smith serves on the new statewide Oversight Board for Articulation and Transfer which met on February 23, 2011. The following issues were discussed:

- The method of payment by campuses for the articulation and transfer process.
- Changes in CLEP policies. The University had submitted a formal response through Vice Provost Wayne Carlson. It was decided at this meeting that further discussion is needed among faculty across the state before any formal action is taken by the Ohio Board of Regents.

Strong progress is being made on the program submissions for semester conversion and the review of courses has begun with particular attention being given to any concurrence issues, international dimensions of the programs, distance education-related issues, and courses that contain a May session.

Professor Ann Christy, Faculty Fellow, who is involved in course review, presented a few more aspects observed from reviewing the first set of courses (from Consumer Sciences, Dental Hygiene and Public Health): length of courses; level of courses; exclusion of courses from quarter to semester; abbreviations; concurrence, and especially topics of the courses.

Smith said the goal is to have all courses reviewed/approved by the Office of Academic Affairs by July 1, 2011.

SUBCOMMITTEE B – NIRAJ ANTANI, MARILYN BLACKWELL, PARBARA POLIVKA, ROBERT WARD

Semester Conversion Proposals:

- **Department of Mechanical Engineering: Bachelor of Science (BS) in Mechanical Engineering**

Polivka presented the proposal. The significant changes were: more design in the curriculum; improved laboratory experiences; better training in professional skills; better development of engineering skills; and improvement in basic science. Suggestions received after the ABET accreditation review were incorporated into the curriculum. A number of initiatives have been made possible by the overall reduction of the core portion of the curriculum. There was a minimal change done to the overall credit hours. The working subgroup who reviewed this proposal was very impressed by the Transition Advising Plan of this department.

During the discussion, the following issues were raised and clarifications provided:

- Internship and co-op studies might extend the length of the program; and in some cases a few students might graduate in more than four years;
- The current plan includes 19 credit hours for the spring semester. This is considered relatively high for a semester system. High impact in the number of credit hours per semester is explained due to the inclusion of the GE courses. This represents an ongoing issue for the College of Engineering and there are ongoing discussions to provide a better distribution of courses under semester system.

Polivka moved approval; it was seconded by Antani and carried with eleven in favor and one abstention.

- **Department of Materials Science Engineering: Combined Bachelor of Science with Master of Science (BS/MS) in Materials Science Engineering; Master of Science (MS); Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

Polivka presented all the proposals. Materials Science Engineering programs were reviewed in 2008 and most changes made to the programs under semester are minimal. All programs have good transition plans. The proposed semester curriculum is a straight forward conversion of courses, credit hours and requirements in the current curriculum. 5000 level courses could be used in graduate programs to bring all students to the same level of knowledge in Materials Science Engineering. All proposals should be verified to make sure the name of the program is typed correctly: "Materials" instead of "Material" Science Engineering.

Polivka moved approval; it was seconded by Lang and carried with all in favor.

- **Nuclear Engineering: Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

Antani presented the proposal. The majority of courses required for the PhD program are included in the Master of Science program. One of the courses (NE 720) previously required at the PhD level has been incorporated into the reactor dynamics course at the MS level. 80 credit hours must be taken following the bachelor's degree. If the student obtains an MS degree, the minimum number of additional credit hours is 50 credit hours. A student does not need to obtain an MS degree prior to a PhD degree. However, all of the MS course requirements must be completed prior to obtaining the PhD degree. In addition, the students must complete 5000 level mathematics courses in the areas of partial differential equations and linear algebra (usually obtained prior to receipt of MS degree); a statistics course at the 6000 level; 2 additional mathematics courses at the 6000 level; NE 6537 (Nuclear Reactor

Thermal Hydraulics); NE 7865 (Neutron Slowing Down Theory); and at least one additional advanced nuclear engineering course at the 6000 level or higher.

Antani moved proposal; it was seconded by Blackwell and carried with all in favor.

SUBCOMMITTEE D – JAMES COGDELL, JAY HOBGOOD, W. RANDY SMITH

- **Department of Ophthalmology Name Change**

Cogdell presented the proposal. The Department of Ophthalmology is requesting the name change to “Ophthalmology and Visual Science”. Letters of support were received from: the Departments of Neuroscience, Neurology, Neurosurgery within the College of Medicine, the Department of Comparative Ophthalmology in the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Department of Biomedical Engineering in the College of Engineering, and the College of Optometry.

Cogdell moved approval; it was seconded by Ward and carried with all in favor.

SUBCOMMITTEE A – LESLIE ALEXANDER, ASHOK KRISHNAMURTHY, SARAH LANG, JOHN WILKINS

Semester Conversion Proposals: Department of Entomology: Bachelor of Science (BS); Master of Science (MS); Doctor of Philosophy (PhD); Graduate Minor in Entomology

Alexander presented all proposals. The entomology major is undergoing several changes related to both the semester conversion and to the move from the College of Biological Science (CBS) to the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Science (CFAES).

The major in entomology includes requirements for a solid foundation in biology, chemistry and mathematics, as well as in ecology and genetics. This foundation is accompanied by a core of three entomology courses: general entomology, applied entomology and a capstone, along with a choice of electives in several sub disciplines of entomology. The fundamental elements of the entomology major have not changed with the change in colleges, but there are some differences in the general education requirements of the two colleges and in typical requirements of majors in the tow colleges. The most noticeable difference to students majoring in entomology is that organic chemistry and calculus – 2 are no longer required as they were in CBS, in accordance with CFAES majors, and few capstone courses will be added.

The 4600 primary distance education course is a support course. It serves as a pre-requisite for any of the seven applied entomology courses for majors from other related departments. This course gives students more flexibility and allows the department to reach non-traditional students who live at regional campuses (Wooster).

During the discussion, the following issues were raised and clarifications provided:

- The previous curricular plan was in need of revision and remodeling. The old versus new plan are not comparable. The learning goals and outcomes are kept the same, but the methodologies and means to achieve them have been

changed using new educational technologies (e.g. 4600 distance education course.)

- The re-envisioned MS program with the thesis option (Plan A) will consist of 19 credit hours of required core course work, not including research hours. The core courses for Plan A option will include three entomological fundamentals courses, at least two hands-on research methods and two professional development skills courses and ENTMLGY 8990 Research credits.
- The re-envisioned MS program with the non-thesis option (Plan B) will consist of 28 credit hours of required core course work, which will include at least three additional 5000 level courses from electives.
- Due to multiple roles of insects, the PhD in Entomology degree is now required for most academic, government, and industry jobs. This is primarily a research degree through which students create new knowledge through conceptualizing and conducting independent research on insects. Following comprehensive external and internal reviews of the graduate programs, the Department of Entomology adopted a new approach “ecosystems to molecules as framework for graduate student training in entomology” with learning opportunities for each student ranging from molecule to ecosystem along with professional development skills.
- The PhD program requires 80 credit hours of course work including 57 credit hours of electives and research hours. The core curriculum consists of three entomological fundamentals courses, four hands-on research methods courses, and at least two of the professional development skills courses offered inside the department. In addition all PhD students will be required to take ENT 8800 Research and Training Seminar and one ENT 8000 Entomology Seminar, thus accumulating a total of 23 core course credits. Students may take any number of electives offered within or outside the department. Appropriate substitutions to the core courses will be allowed, and students will be highly advised by faculty and staff to develop a plan that fits their career goals.
- Few summer courses are required (ENTMLGY 5130 and 6701) in order to align the background knowledge of all graduate students.

Alexander moved approval; it was seconded by Douglas and carried with all in favor.

SUBCOMMITTEE D – JAMES COGDELL, JAY HOBGOOD, W. RANDY SMITH

Quarter Proposals:

- **The Addition of Off-Campus Corporate Course Offerings for the Specialized Masters in Business**
- **Off-site Delivery of Master of Business Operational Excellence**

Cogdell provided an overview of the two proposals and Slotnick gave additional information. Many questions from Council members arose notably related to what populations of students were being served by the programs. No action was taken. Professor Stephen Mangum, Senior Associate Dean, Fisher College of Business will be invited to a forthcoming meeting of Council to discuss the proposals.

The Chairs of each Subcommittee provided updates on the review of semester conversion proposals.

During the meeting President Gee, and others, presented Professor Marilyn Blackwell with a 2011 Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service for her many service contributions to the University and the impact that she has had through them. Council members expressed their congratulations and appreciation to her.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Randy Smith
Liana Crisan-Vandeborne