

## COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall  
March 20, 2013  
3:00 - 5:00 PM

### MINUTES

#### Attendance

#### Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Heather Allen (Chemistry)
- ✓ Dr. Mollie Blackburn (School of Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Dr. Lisa Florman (History of Art)
- ✓ Dr. Ken Goings (African American and African Studies)
- Dr. Ashok Krishnamurthy (Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Eric MacGilvray (Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. James Rathman (Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Fernando Unzueta (Spanish and Portuguese)
- ✓ Dr. Kay Wolf (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Henry Zerby (Animal Sciences)

#### Students:

- ✓ Niraj Antani (USG, Political Science)
- ✓ Emily Chorey (Inter-Professional Council, Veterinary Medicine)
- ✓ Courtney Kasuboski (USG, Industrial and Systems Engineering)
- ✓ Sarah Lang (CGS, Education and Human Ecology)
- Ann Morrison (Optometry)
- Akshay Paropkari (Engineering)

#### Administrator:

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

#### Guests:

- Dr. Steve Fink (Arts and Sciences)
- Dr. Kathleen Hallihan (John Glenn School of Public Affairs)
- Dr. Scott Herness (Graduate School)
- Ms. Marnie Janson (USG, Pharmacy)
- Ms. Sarah Odum (College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Mr. David L. Roy (Undergraduate Admission)
- Ms. Melissa Soave (Office of Academic Affairs)

**The meeting came to order at 3:00 PM.**

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF JANUARY 23, 2013 AND FEBRUARY 6, 2013**

Lang moved approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of January 23 and February 6, 2013. The motion was seconded by Antani and carried with all in favor.

## **REPORT FROM THE CO-CHAIR – PROFESSOR KAY N. WOLF**

Wolf attended the recent Faculty Cabinet meeting. Dr. Gee attended. Wolf also attended the University Senate on March 7, 2013. Provost Alutto gave his final address to the Senate.

Council volunteers are needed to review the Center for Regenerative Medicine and Cell-Based Therapies. This proposal was already screened by Wolf and Smith. The goal is to have this proposal reviewed by the end of the academic year. Two members from the University Research Committee will be part of the review panel.

A proposal from the College of Engineering for the Bachelor of Science in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering (BSAAE) had been reviewed by the Office of Academic Affairs. The proposal is to change one course AEROENG 4550 – Principals of Flight Vehicle Propulsion from 4 credits to 3 credit hours. This is the only current course carrying 4 credits. The change will move the overall credit requirement for the BSAAE from 128 to 127. The Office of Academic Affairs typically reviews such small changes and in this case had no concerns. None of the Council members had any questions or concerns.

## **REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

Currently there are some questions regarding the May session and its offerings. About 4000 students are currently enrolled in various courses during May session. Many units and departments developed offerings for this short session. The May session was the result of the overall conversion process and progress will be evaluated over the next few years. The Semester Coordinating Committee is reviewing the structure of the Fall semester, its 7 week sessions and the break between them. There are ongoing discussions regarding the number of Commencements currently in place (one at the end of every semester), and the day of the week when they should take place (Fridays or Sundays).

The Office of Undergraduate Education conducted a full day conference on academic advising at the Ohio Union on March 6, 2013. The Office of Academic Affairs coordinated a full day conference on academic assessment on March 8, 2013. Both of these conferences gathered

numerous people from within the University. Valuable feedback was collected and future conferences will be organized.

Soon, this Council will discuss the methods for reviewing Distance Education programs. Templates and policies for academic programs will need to be changed in a way to include the distance education offerings.

The Colleges of Engineering, Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education and Human Ecology are working together to develop an undergraduate major in data analytics leading to a Bachelor of Science degree. It will include a set of core courses, tracks with substantive emphases (engineering, business) and a capstone experience. Council will receive this proposal before the end of the calendar year.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE D: W. Randy Smith, Kay Wolf**

- **Name Change: Two Specializations in Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, College of Medicine**

Guest: Jeff Parvin, Associate Professor

Wolf presented the proposal. This proposal is for name changes of two specializations in the Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program: Biomedical and Molecular Basis of Disease will change to Molecular Basis of Disease; Molecular Pharmacology, Pharmacogenomics and Therapeutics will change to Experimental Therapeutics.

These changes provide more structure for students when they choose their courses. A second reason for this change is the ease in recruiting graduate students. The short titles are easily recognizable by undergraduates. There are no substantial controversies within the University regarding these name changes. These specializations are not listed on the degree certificates, but are reflected in the transcripts. Due to the complexity of these specializations, graduates should feel no disadvantages in the employment recruiting process. The courses taken toward these specializations will show the graduates' training more clearly than the current name of the specialization. The number, theme of the publications, and research conducted, are also relevant to the fellowship and/or employment applications.

Wolf moved approval of this proposal; the motion was seconded by Allen and carried with all in favor.

- **Clarification on the Advanced Placement Curricular Track, Master of Architecture, College of Engineering**

Guest: Stephen Turk, Associate Professor

Wolf presented the proposal. The original quarter to semester conversion proposal for the Master of Architecture (MArch) Program within the Knowlton School of Architecture did not clearly differentiate between two curricular tracks within the degree structure. The program is structured as one 3 year degree program but with 2 points of entry for students with different educational backgrounds. Those coming from 4 year pre-professional undergraduate programs in Architecture qualify for entry upon careful review by the admissions committee, into the second year of the program, and if successful are waived of the requirements of the first year of the program. Those coming from non-architecture undergraduate backgrounds enter into the first year and are required to complete the entirety of the three year program. This system results in two separate credit hour totals for the two tracks: 63 credit hours for the Advanced Placement students on the two year track, and 96 credit hours for students with non-professional degree backgrounds in the three year program. This is a standard for all Architecture Schools governed by the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB).

Wolf moved approval of this proposal; the motion was seconded by Unzueta and carried with all in favor.

- **College of Arts and Sciences: Establishment of an Undergraduate minor in Atmospheric Sciences**

Guest: Jay Hobgood, Associate Professor and Director of the Atmospheric Sciences Program

Wolf presented the proposal. This is a new program in the Department of Geography. It requires 14 credit hours for completion. The minor curriculum is based on the major curriculum and includes a diverse range of courses that can be selected by students to count toward the minor degree. Every student in the minor will be required to take either Atmospheric Sciences 2940 (Basic Meteorology) or Geography 5900 (Climatology). Each of those courses discusses the basic processes at work in the atmosphere and will provide the students with a solid foundation for the other courses in the minor. For completion students will take additional 4 courses from a selected list in order to meet the requirements for this minor.

Hobgood provided a more detailed explanation for the rationale of the courses chosen for this minor. The difference between the two courses is the time scale on which the processes are operating. In Atmospheric Sciences 2940, the time scale is on the order of the events that create our patterns of weather, while in Geography 5900 the time is on the order that determines our patterns of climate and climate change. Thus, a student interested in becoming an on-air meteorologist on a television station would likely take Atmospheric Sciences 2940, while a student with an interest in causes of climate change would likely take Geography 5900.

The synoptic Meteorology Laboratory AS 5940/GEOG 5940 is a pre-requisite laboratory and was designed to provide a ground level of basic core information needed for the two required courses. The 2000 level course is generally taken by Atmospheric Science majors and

undergraduates in other colleges. The 5940 is taken typically by the undergraduates in Environmental Science majors. The two courses serve two different student populations.

There are 4 different tracks in the major of Atmospheric Sciences. Depending on the main student track, some of the courses can be double counted towards minor completion.

Wolf moved approval of this proposal; the motion was seconded by Antani and carried with all in favor.

- **College of Arts and Sciences: Revision to the Undergraduate Minor in Spanish**

Guest: Scott Schwenter, Associate Professor

Wolf presented the proposal. The only change to this minor is the requirement for all students to take at least one course at the 4000 level. Many students are already taking courses at that level and counting them towards the minor, but there are ways and options to complete the minor with all courses taken at the 3000 level. This course will make sure that intellectual rigor and breath is added to the minor. Another option considered was adding another course to the minor. There were too many implications to that, and the decision within the department was to request completion of at least one 4000 level course for this minor. Any courses at a higher level than 4000 can be counted for completion of this minor, or multiple 4000 level courses are also acceptable. Requiring two 4000 level courses would have other implications because those courses would require many prerequisites.

Students already enrolled in the program are not going to be affected by this change. It is expected that this change will also level the enrollment across all courses at various levels within the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Wolf moved approval of this proposal. The motion was seconded by Florman and carried with thirteen in favor and one abstention.

## **UPDATES FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**

Subcommittee A was recently charged with the request from the College of Social Work to review the possibility of offering a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work at regional campuses. Currently, the Subcommittee is waiting for few clarifications from the College.

Subcommittee B is reviewing the undergraduate minors. It has met 3 times already; interviewed 3 Associate Deans, members from Offices of Academic Affairs and the University Registrar. Another meeting will be organized next week for the curriculum deans who were unavailable to attend the first meeting. It is expected for this proposal to be presented to the Council at its meeting on April 17, 2013.

Subcommittee C is reviewing the proposal submitted by the College of Nursing with regard to eliminating the Mathematics General Education requirement for the RN to BSN degree. The Subcommittee is specifically looking at the cohort of students who are pursuing the RN to BSN degrees online. The subcommittee met twice, reviewed the proposal, asked for clarifications and responded to the College that the proposal was not accepted. Zerby, Wolf and Smith will now meet with the College of Nursing leadership to explain the reasons for non-approval. The College still has the option of bringing the proposal to the full Council for review.

Smith noted that are only two more meetings scheduled during this academic year. Typically, this Council does not meet over the Summer, unless necessary, at which time he will contact members to see what dates and times work for a special meeting.

**The Meeting Adjourned at 4:35 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith

Liana Crisan-Vandeborne