

DEPARTMENT MEETING MINUTES

Department of Business and Economics

Erlanson 304, September 12, 2008

Present: Greg Trudeau (Chair), Bob Beam, Kay Biga, Mei Cao, Diek Carlson, Ethan Christensen, Bruce Kibler, Connie O'Brien, Chuck Reichert, Richard Stewart, and Jerry Hembd

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Greg Trudeau, Chair.

Minutes

The minutes from the August 25, 2008 meeting had been distributed prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved (Stewart/Beam).

Library Allocation—Update

The annual pile of book choice cards is being circulated. Other book recommendations will be accepted. The following journal considerations were discussed:

- Journal of Forensic Accounting – will continue this subscription
- Journal of Global Marketing – discontinue because it is available electronically
- Journal of Marketing Research – discontinue because it is available electronically

This frees up around \$900 for other periodicals. Others considered included:

- World Development – prohibitive annual rate of \$2,349, Hembd took it out of consideration
- Journal of International Business – currently received by Kibler
- NBER Working Papers – available for \$750/year online, Carlson asked to get back to Greg on this, if requested, by the deadline

Academic Service Learning and Teaching with Technology

Biga provided a report on these two topics. The service learning group is trying to move volunteer activities up the ladder to be more formal and academically rigorous. There will be a budget associated with this effort and they are going to be giving out mini-grants. John Kunz is the interim coordinator for service learning. Teaching with technology is exploring how to make presentations more exciting

Simulation Software

Kibler shared information on Capsim software that is being considered for the capstone strategy course. He will try to implement this next semester. It is a package used by many universities and includes testing and simulation software. It works on a subscription basis. It includes a sustainable management component. He will be getting more detailed information on it that he can share.

Department Chair Update

- There are 29 requests for positions this year. Greg is still waiting to hear about authorization to hire.

- Second-year retention policies are in flux. There were previously two reviews during the second year, one in the fall (for the third year) and one in the spring (for the fourth year). This was changed a few years back. The written procedures in place now are unclear. The Personnel Committee will soon be scheduling review and retention dates for affected faculty.
- Assessment and strategic planning are two administrative emphases this year. A general discussion on these topics ensued. Stewart made a suggestion that we post our fact sheets for degrees that outline four-year programs and that people could click for guaranteed four-year programs.
- Student persistence/retention is another important institutional issue this year. Another spirited discussion ensued. Questions were raised regarding whether this should be studied with respect to individual majors and the relationship of this effort to the relative clarity of institutional priorities.

Our faculty senate representative was determined to be Ethan Christensen.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Hembd