

## **DEPARTMENT MEETING MINUTES**

Department of Business and Economics

Erlanson 304, May 4, 2009

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

**Guests:** Cherie Sawinski, Judy Dwyer

Trudeau called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM. Department members unanimously approved the minutes of the previous meeting. (Biga/Hembd)

### **Study Abroad**

Cherie Sawinski and Judy Dwyer shared information about the Study Abroad program with DBE faculty members. They reported there is evidence DBE students have a higher awareness of the Study Abroad program than students in other majors. Bob Beam mentioned some students are concerned about staying in school longer if they pursue study abroad credits. Cherie asked DBE members if they had Study Abroad advisement concerns. Cherie mentioned Study Abroad is one way to further international the curriculum and expand global awareness issues for students. Greg Trudeau reported the Global Studies minor can be selected by non-comprehensive business majors.

### **BUS 499**

Departmental discussion revolving around BUS 499 as one credit of an internship was undertaken. Some DBE faculty members expressed concern about the designated course number, 499, as perhaps being too high and not being an appropriate reflection of course content. Bruce Kibler reported that, according to information he received from Kathy Pykkonen, Director of Career Services, if DBE were to make any changes to the BUS 499 course, even something minor such as changing the course number to something other than 499, then DBE would "own it" and could possibly be responsible for funding the course with the funding coming out of the DBE budget. Therefore, the idea of changing the course number to a lower number was dismissed. During discussion it was also pointed out that if BUS 499 were to be a required course in the DBE curriculum, DBE would need AAC approval to increase the total number of credits required in the business curriculum. The idea of students being able to choose to take BUS 499 as 1 credit of the number of internship credits they would register for was considered. Bob Beam moved for approval of BUS 499 as an optional 1 credit to be taken as part of the total number of internship credits a student would register for. Kibler seconded and motion carried unanimously.

### **ECON 362 Public Finance**

Bob Beam moved to offer ECON 362 this year, Kay Biga seconded, motion carried.

### **Department Chair Update**

#### **Erlanson 205 to be updated**

Greg Trudeau reported Erlanson Hall room 205 will be updated with new carpet, new seats and new tables

Trudeau reported starting in Fall 09 the degree progress reports will indicate classes needed by students in a somewhat similar manner as was done in the past.

Trudeau reported assessments of the senior experience projects and presentations should be forwarded to Sharon Sullivan in that Provost Markwood is the contact for accreditation review. The assessments to be submitted do not have to be elaborate with a length of one page being sufficient. The main criteria to be covered are the outcomes; what worked well, what did not work well, etc.

Trudeau reported that DBE faculty members that were on the Reinstatement Committee were to be asked if they would mind coming in to campus next Fall during the week before orientation week. The idea of coming in that week would be to make a purely academic assessment about how UWS enrollments are for the coming year. Consensus was reached that DBE faculty members object to having committee members come in the week prior to orientation week.

Trudeau provided a draft handout of the Fall 2009 Welcome Week schedule. He then proceeded to inform DBE members there will be a DBE departmental meeting on Monday, August 31 from 10am-4pm. The meeting will include a potluck lunch.

#### **Final Exam Scheduling Policy**

Kay Biga inquired about the ruling regarding final exams taking place during finals week at the scheduled time period. Kay also stated if students have more than 3 finals in one day they can then choose to reschedule a final exam if they wish to do so. Kay stated this was a point of clarification in that if one instructor does not follow the policy, then students will proceed to pressure other instructors to not follow the policy.

#### **AAC**

Jerry Hembd reported the Academic plan was approved. Hembd also reported on approval of courses for the sustainable management SMGT degree.

#### **Faculty Senate**

Christensen reported a proposal to adopt a campus-wide classroom cell phone policy was rejected by the Faculty Senate. Provost Markwood reported to Faculty Senate that a suggested wording of a classroom cell phone policy would be made available on the Provost's web page if an instructor wants to choose to use it.

Christensen also encourages DBE faculty members to attend the Faculty Salary Decompression Forum taking place on Friday, August 28.

#### **Announcements**

It was announced that at the next meeting on Monday, August 31 that the meeting agenda would include picking up with Rick Moran on a discussion of his handout material relating to the Finance 320 and Finance 321 courses.

#### **Adjournment**

Greg Trudeau adjourned the meeting at 12:52 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Ethan Christensen  
Recorder