

**DRAFT - DEPARTMENT MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Department of Business and Economics

Erlanson 304, March 08, 2010

**Present:** Greg Trudeau (Chair), Chuck Reichert, Ethan Christensen, Kay Biga, Jerry Hembd, Mei Cao, Bruce Kibler, Connie O'Brien, Rick Moran, Bob Beam and Richard Stewart, (Recording)                      Absent: Diek Carlson,  
Chair called the meeting to order at 12:01 PM.

Department members unanimously approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

(Motion by Christensen/Seconded by Kibler)

Provost Chris Markwood discussed the Department Chairs Advisory Election and handed out information sheets and ballots. Ballots need to be in the Provosts office by March 15, 2010

Gardner Lepp who is a PhD. Candidate from Capella University spoke about his research and on-line survey and respectfully requested that faculty fill out the survey. A discussion ensued about his research and members suggested he might look at the accreditation of business schools to see if that was a factor in survey responses.

**Old Business:**

**New Study Abroad Course in Economics**

There was discussion of the Economic Study Abroad Course (India- Gandhi to Global) that will be offered in the J-Term of 2010-11. Jerry Hembd said it was a six credit course (1 credit in previous semester for required reading, 4 credits for the trip itself and 1 credit for the follow on semester and required follow up paper). There was a discussion of costs and other study abroad courses that will be offered in the near future. Jerry will be sending out an electronic course advertisement/description and advised us that this course tied into the new Global Studies major. It was proposed to hold an informational luncheon for this and other study aboard courses.

**Status of Search and Screen Committees**

Chuck reported that they have been conducting phone interviews for accounting

Jerry has economic position interviews scheduled for

3/24 3/29 4/5 with noon presentations

Richard said that the T&L committee will start phone interviews Friday 3/12

**New Business:**

**1. Academic Affairs - Chuck Reichert**

**Discussion of proposed final exam schedule policy:** A motion was made by Greg and seconded by Bob that the Department of Business and Economics recommends that each department establish their own final exam schedule.

**Discussion of proposal for First Year Seminar to be a required course:** Departments expressed the belief that there was real value in the seminars however two issues need to be addressed prior to making them mandatory. The first issue is the question of sufficient budget to carry out the mandate. The second issue is how the mandatory courses will be

adopted without adding to the student's general education credit load. The department did not want to see the total credit load exceed 120.

**Discussion of proposed salary compression:** Faculty discussed the proposed compression schedule and its potential negative impact on long serving full professors compared to new full professors. While full professors were the example it was felt that this could apply to all ranks of professors. The issue was also raised of how differential tuition based on high faculty salaries would be factored into the compression equation. If DBE students paid a higher tuition due to the higher market costs of DBE faculty as has been proposed in some committee meetings would the additional funds generated be used for compression of DBE salaries or all faculty salaries?

**2. Faculty Senate - Jerry Hembd**  
Jerry reminded the department that Joel Sipress had sent out an email requesting feedback on volunteers for two very important committees.

### **3. Department Chairs Update:**

Greg Trudeau informed the department that he had submitted next year's budget with a request for three faculty and one associate position.

A faculty member to teach SMGT- courses

A faculty member to replace Bob Beam who is retiring

A faculty member to teach Management and Business Law

An associate to support DBE administratively

These new positions would help support the 3 year degree initiative.

Greg also had a preliminary discussion of the renovation of Erlanson Hall. Some of the topic brought up were: an Alumni Fundraising Campaign, moving T&L from the basement to the first floor where distance learning is now situated, using the current T&L space as a student/faculty lounge and a floor by floor renovation plan.

Greg announced that with the concurrence of the Department and Bruce, that Bruce Kibler would be interim Chair of DBE during his absence in Spring 2011.

### **Announcements:**

Rick Moran announced that the UW-S Alumni was cosponsoring a networking dinner on April 07, 2010 at 5 PM. Rick will send out electronic notices.

Bob Beam announced that he would like to set up a 20 minute video focus on bringing the new Google site to the Twin Ports. He will send out an electronic notice.

Richard Stewart announced that about 40 T&L students would be visiting Cargill and the Transportation EXPO on March 23, 2010.

Bob Beam reminded the department members that the DBE Annual Banquet is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Greg Trudeau adjourned the meeting at 12:53 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Richard Stewart

Recorder