

UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009, RSC 111

Present: Steve Rosenberg (Chair), Dorothy Anway, Kim Borst, Glen Carlson, Ella Cross, Tim Crow, Barb Erickson, Dick Hudelson, Brent Notbohm, Gary Johnson, Brett Jones, Gary Keveles, Jim Lane, Chuck Reichert, Maureen Salzer, Cecilia Schrenker, Jeff Schuldt

Guest: Joel Sipress, Eri Fujieda, Marshall Johnson

I. CALL TO ORDER 2:30 PM

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Carlson/Keveles (M/S) made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17th, 2009 meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

III. REPORTS

A. CHAIR:

1. Rosenberg announced that the Faculty Senate has approved the Gogebic CC articulation agreement. The Senate also approved the seven assessment outcomes specified in the assessment of advisement proposal which the UAAC reviewed at its February 17th meeting. The Senate tabled consideration of the surveys (assessment tools) that are part of the assessment of advisement proposal.
2. Informational item: A change of course title and minor changes in the course description of Biol 111 were communicated to the Council.

B. SECRETARY: No Report.

C. GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE: No Report.

D. REGISTRAR:

1. Erickson asked for a straw vote of the Council regarding whether it wished to consider a possible modification of the policy regarding a grade of incomplete (I). Current policy is that a grade of I remains an I indefinitely and could be completed, by petition, several years after the student originally enrolled in the course. The grade of I is assigned under circumstances different than those in which a grade of In Progress (IP) should be assigned. Furthermore, a grade of I has an impact on financial aid whereas an IP does not. A possible modification would be to stipulate that a grade of I would turn to an F if the work was not completed by the end of the term following the term in which the grade of I was assigned. There was varied opinion on the issue.

The consensus was that the Registrar should bring forward a proposal to the Council for consideration.

E. OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. WITC Transfer Committee: Joel Sipress, Chair of Faculty Senate, was present to introduce a recommendation to establish a committee to facilitate the transferability of courses, particularly general education courses, between WITC and UW-Superior. The Faculty Senate had asked Sipress to consult with the UAAC in order to identify faculty willing to serve on the committee. Erickson asked whether discussion of transferability applies to the entire WITC system. Sipress responded that his understanding is that it would cover all campuses since they have a common curriculum. Maureen Salzer and Dorothy Anway volunteered to serve on the committee.

B. Global Studies (GST) Minor : Eri Fujeida was present to introduce the proposal. The Department of Social Inquiry has agreed to house the minor. Notbohm/Hudelson (M/S) made a motion to approve the proposal as submitted with the exception that ECON 236 be eliminated as an option for one of the core courses. (Fujieda explained that ECON 236 has yet to be developed.)

Notbohm suggested that Comm 467 could also be a possibility for inclusion as an elective. Fujeida responded that requests for courses to include in the minor were previously solicited from all departments. She added that, if the GST minor is approved, additional courses would be considered for inclusion in the minor by the GST Advisory Committee. Shrenker stated that she will abstain from voting to approve the minor for the reason that the campus has too many minors already – something that reviewing bodies have pointed out in the past.

Erickson asked when the implementation date would be. Fujeida responded that it would be Fall 2009. Erickson pointed out that “open-ended” minors with many electives really create a lot of work in the Registrar’s office. That being said, she liked the proposal.

Crow stated that he too will abstain from voting to approve the proposal. His department (World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures) feels that there are not nearly enough foreign language courses in the proposal. They would like to see at least one upper division language course included.

Fujeida responded that the current proposal was forwarded to the UAAC by the Global Awareness and Education Committee and the GST Advisory Committee after they had considered a number of courses requested for inclusion in the minor by academic departments.

She went on to say that she feels that the GST Advisory Committee would be open to the addition of more language courses in the future.

Motion passed (2 abstain, none opposed)

- C. First Nations Studies (FNS) Minor changes: Gary Johnson summarized the changes. Due to the fact that the HBD department was not approved to fill vacant positions within the FNS program, the FNS minor must be altered. The decrease in staffing means that some courses can now only be offered once every two years. Some of the lower enrollment courses will be shelved. The department hopes that this will not be a permanent situation. Carlson/Notbohm (M/S) made a motion to approve the changes, as submitted, on a temporary basis and that the UAAC revisit the issue at its first meeting of March, 2011. This would allow review of the FNS minor prior to the production of the 2012-2014 catalog. Keveles asked what the policy was with regard to courses that were shelved or had not been taught in more than two years. Erickson responded that they were inactivated and removed from the catalog but could be reactivated by departments.

Motion passed unanimously.

Hudelson asked why there has been a delay in funding the position in First Nations Studies. Johnson and other councilors feel that this weakens the minor. Salzer/Schrenker (M/S) made a motion to recommend to administration that it establish as a high priority the restoration of the FNS program to its previous level of staffing.

Motion passed unanimously.

- D. First Year Seminar proposals: Marshall Johnson was present to introduce the proposals for First Year Seminars which would be offered during the Fall 2009 semester. Shrenker/Keveles (M/S) moved to approve the twelve First Year Seminar proposals. Shrenker asked for clarification on what "Yes" and "No" referred to under the column labeled General Education Replacement Required. Johnson responded that "Yes" meant that a department requested DIN money to replace their teaching duties. A question also arose regarding for how long the First Year Seminar is to remain a pilot program. Johnson expressed his feeling that the decision of whether or not to incorporate FYS into the regular campus curriculum be made soon. Rosenberg asked whether a FYS course must satisfy one of the General Education requirements. Johnson responded that it must.

Motion passed unanimously.

- E. MNSCU Associate of Arts Transfer Agreement: Schrenker/Keveles (M/S) moved to approve the agreement. Keveles then asked whether the agreement includes technical colleges. Erickson responded that it does and pointed out that the agreement only applies to the Associate of Arts degree. The agreement will override any previous agreements with individual institutions in the MNSCU system. Erickson reminded everyone that this is a blanket approval and also mentioned that North Dakota already has an agreement with the MNSCU system and that

she felt South Dakota was likely to establish one soon as well. She added that forty percent of our new students are transfer students. Salzer communicated that some members of the English department had reservations. Rosenberg and Notbohm indicated that their departments, which have courses that are part of core general education requirements, supported the agreement. Carlson indicated that HHP was opposed. Several of the colleges included in the agreement do not offer a course equivalent to HHP 102 which is one of the core general education requirements at UW-Superior. Schrenker pointed out that departments can establish prerequisites for courses required for majors and minors in specific disciplines in order to ensure that students are adequately prepared. For some disciplines, the requirement that students pass a certification exam also helps to ensure that a certain level of competency is achieved.

Motion passed (2 opposed).

VI. ADJOURNMENT: Carlson/Johnson (M/S) to adjourn at 3:58 PM