

Academic Affairs Council
December 9, 2009

Ric Berry	Mary Nelle Brunson	Larry King
Clifton Jones	Mel Finkenberg	Brian Murphy
Buddy Himes	Steve Bullard	Tony Duben
James Standley	Shirley Dickerson	Carrie Brown
Paul Davis	Mike O'Rear	Monique Cossich
Randy McDonald		

1. New Grade for 6-drop in Banner

Sherry Wells explained that it is a State rule limiting students to drop only six classes in their undergraduate career. As Banner software is international, we have to create a new grade to cater for this rule – DR will now be used for “drop”. We will begin fall 2010 for students enrolled 2007 onwards. This will be done at implementation process and includes drops from other Texas schools.

2. Bachelor of General Studies

Tony Duben

Dr. Duben reported that the sub-committee had finished their proposal and sent an updated recommendation to the deans. The name has been changed to Bachelor of Science in Multidisciplinary Studies, for students taking two minors in one college that would be their main college, if taking minors from three different colleges, they would default to the College of Liberal and Applied Arts. No course can contribute to more than one minor, there will be no overlap. Each student will have a team of three faculty overseeing, one from each minor. The proposal will be sent to the undergraduate curriculum committee

3. HB 51 Program

House Bill initially designed to encourage work towards research university, funding will need to be approved at each legislative session. Dr. Berry stated that we need to make decisions on our nominations and asked the deans to start looking at what has been called to submit.

4. New/Change Curriculum Form

Buddy Himes

Dr. Himes had some questions on the new/change curriculum form, Dr. Brunson explained that the curriculum committee do not consider fees and long term load, the forms were developed and revised by the Registrar's office to report to State.

5. Policies

Brian Murphy

Communication Services	(F-29)	Approved
Continuing Education	(A-32)	Approved
Food and Beverages in Academic Areas	(B-8)	Approved
Indirect Cost Recovery, Distribution, and Use	(A-51)	Approved
Interlibrary Loan	(A-23)	Approved
Meeting and Conducting Classes	(A-31)	Approved
Final Examinations	(A-19)	Approved
Norton HPE Complex	(B-20)	Approved

After discussion, all policies were approved and will be submitted to the Board for approval in January, 2010.

Certificate of International Competency – in compliance with strategic plan to internationalize the university, we need to drive more students to the Office of International Studies. Dr. Murphy explained the proposal and all deans were in favor of this certificate. The certificate will be submitted to undergraduate curriculum committee for approval and will need to be sent to SACS for approval.

6. Use of Economics 380/Math 127/AG Economics, Chemistry/Physics 125

Reminder item – a few courses have been added to the core out of necessity and also some we need to restrict EPS380, Math127, Ag Eco, For Eco Chem/Physics 125. These are all courses which can satisfy core requirements for students in specific majors.

7. Sawdust

An extended edition of the Sawdust will be published twice a year and over a period of time would like to cover every part of Academic Affairs. Please send your ideas for the next issue to Dr. Berry, by December 18, 2009.

8. Campus wide emails

We are receiving an increasing number of requests to send out campus wide emails, Dr. Berry asked how these should be handled. A number of suggestions were made, allowing specific offices to have ability to send them; post to MYSFA; create a daily or weekly digest highlighting all events from all three areas of the University. Dr. Berry will discuss with Bob Wright and revert back to the committee.

9. Any Other Business

- Carrie Brown reminded everyone that the Bright Ideas conference and Undergraduate Research Conference are coming up in the spring.
- Randy McDonald stated that the Coordinating board rules on distance education are about to be updated and release proposal for a month of comment. One change is that we would no longer need approval to offer dual credit.
- Dr. Bullard gave an update on the search for Dean of the College of Business - timeline is to have someone in place by July 1, 2010. The position will be advertised before Christmas with a closing date January 31, 2010.
- Dr. Standley also gave an update on Dean of Education search, updated job description ready for approval and advertisement ready to go.
- Dr. Berry said it was a good meeting with SACS this past weekend in Atlanta.
- Dr. King reported the State undergraduate education committee of the Coordinating Board are revising the State core. This will go to the board at October 2010 meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Academic Affairs Council – January 6, 2010