Academic Standards Committee

Minutes of 23 February 2010 Meeting

Bellin Gallery – Student Center

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Present:
University Deans – M. Horan (A & S), S. Braverman (Business), M. P. Bigley (SEPS)
Student Affairs – R. Hernandez
Recruitment and Admissions – L. Hall
A & S Faculty – N. Castaneda (Math), J. Geller (English), S. Gilmore (English), K. McGrath (History), R. Schwell (Math), M. Wizevich (Physics/Earth Sci)
Business Faculty – C. Crespi (Accounting), J. Synder (MIS)
SEPS Faculty – C. Mulcahy (Reading and Lang. Arts)
E & T Faculty – J. Mulrooney (Chair) (Biomolecular Science)
Guests – Raymond Chip Tafrate

I. Motion: Approval of November 2009 Minutes
   M.P. Bigley, M. Horan (second)
   Vote: Passed, unanimous

II. Criminology Undergraduate Changes
   a. The criminology department’s current practice is to require a C- or better in STAT 104, STAT 200, STAT 215, and PHIL 144 as related major requirements, as these classes provide important essential skills. This requirement is not explicitly defined in the catalog, and so, the department wishes to have it clarified as a requirement.
   b. There was discussion of whether or not this was necessary since it is listed as a related requirement for the major. It was noted that this might impact general education, double-counting for the major, and Department of Education certification of programs.
   c. Because this may apply to other programs with related major requirements, J. Mulrooney will investigate current practices and put this on the agenda for a future meeting.
   d. Motion: Approve Criminology’s proposed clarification that majors must earn a C- or better in STAT 104, STAT 200, STAT 215, and PHIL 144
      S. Gilmore, N. Castaneda (second)
      Vote: Passed, unanimous

III. New Time Blocks
   a. J. Mulrooney discussed the new implementation of scheduling for courses, which is intended to make classroom space utilization more efficient and provide more scheduling opportunities, especially at night.
b. There was a discussion of whether this was part of the jurisdiction of the committee and the level of input the committee might have on the schedule. It was noted that this was part of an information campaign as part of the upcoming open forums on the schedule.

c. There was a discussion of how this might impact departments that offer courses at night given the lateness of the classes going to 10 pm. It was commented that this might be an issue especially for the Business School. It was noted that Engineering classes regularly go past 10 pm now, and it is comparable to time blocks at other institutions.

d. The issue of combining two night time blocks to create a 5:55-8:35 class was raised. It was suggested that J. Mulrooney seek clarification on whether this would be possible or if it might be possible to get this on one night of the week.

e. The consensus of the committee was that there needs to be further clarification of some of the details, but that it generally agrees with the proposed changes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

K. McGrath
Secretary