The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm.

Present:
**University Deans** – M. Horan (A & S); M.P. Bigley (SEPS)
**Arts and Sciences** – N. Castañeda (Math); D. D’Addio (Music); F. Latour (Math)(Vice-Chair); K. McGrath (History); R. Schwell (Math)(Chair)
**Engineering and Technology** – N. Moore (Engineering)
**Registrar** – P. Tucker
**Admissions** – L. Hall
**S.G.A.** – C. Manento
**Guest** – L. Wagner (Nursing)

I. Approval of September Minutes
   - **Motion: Approve Minutes** – M. Horan
     Second: F. Latour
     Vote: Passed unanimously

II. Nursing Program Admission Standards
   - L. Wagner discussed the proposed changes to the Nursing Program’s admission standards (see Appendix 1). They had moved pre-nursing courses into the major, which meant that they need another way to determine admissions. They proposed using the TEAS V examination, as is used by SCSU and the community colleges. Given the highly competitive nature of admission, they also want the minimum for admission to be 3.0. This is a reflection of the average G.P.A. for accepted students in practice and reflects greater transparency for applicants.

   - There was a discussion of the TEAS V examination, which would be administered by ITBD. P. Tucker noted that his experience was that the community colleges showed an increase in retention and graduation rates in their nursing programs after adopting it. K. McGrath asked whether it provided more information than their S.A.T. scores. L. Wagner noted that non-traditional students might not have recent scores, and the TEAS V examination also includes a science section that the S.A.T. does not.

   - There was a discussion of the 3.0 G.P.A. requirement. F. Latour noted that it is not really raising it but informing students of the G.P.A. needed for entry currently.

   - **Motion: Approval of Changes to Nursing Program Admission Standards** – F. Latour
     Second: N. Moore
     Vote: passed unanimously
III. Catalog Wording Regarding Midterm Grade Submission
-P. Tucker informed the committee of the need to develop language in the catalog to address student confusion about the new midterm grade reporting. There was a general discussion of the proper wording. See Appendix 2
-Motion: Approval of Catalog Wording for Midterm Grade Submission – N. Castañeda
  Second: F. Latour
  Vote: Passed unanimously

IV. Course Categorization Proposal
-F. Latour updated the committee on the status of the proposal. It will not pass in Senate without modification. There were several concerns. First, there are minor programs with rules about double-counting in majors. The policy requires the majors to make decisions about double-counting, which would add another level of confusion to such minors. The decision about categorization needs to include the minors. In addition, the registrar assumes that you cannot double count unless explicitly permitted. Some faculty think that this slows students’ graduations.
-R. Schwell also raised a potential problem of how these categories would affect official review of programs. Everything would need to be in the first category for accreditation, but they may wish to double-count with minors.
-There was a discussion of the creation of a subcommittee to revisit the proposal in light of Senate concerns. L. Hall emphasized that in the interim there needs to be someone to address problems for students trying to graduate.
-Motion: Creation of a Subcommittee to Review Course Categorization Proposal – F. Latour
  Second: M. Horan
  Vote: passed; 1 opposed (N. Castañeda); 1 abstention (D. D’Addio)
-The subcommittee will be composed of F. Latour, M. Horan, P. Tucker, and N. Moore will be invited to join.

V. Four Credit Courses
-R. Schwell discussed her conversations with M. Jackson from Curriculum. There was a suggestion that a subcommittee may need to be formed to draft guidelines of standards for such courses.
-The discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

K. McGrath
Secretary
Appendix 1

Change in pre-nursing, change of major and admission to the major standards for the BSN program based on course/program revisions currently being reviewed and approved by the various University Committees

Rationale: The department of nursing began a 4-year review of the curriculum as its first class of BSN graduates was completing their senior year. There were some identified overlaps and gaps based on a review of the courses and input from the students and partner agencies. We have tried to align course and clinical credits, add a senior synthesis course and remain current with a changing health care arena. Based on these program revisions, we have also reviewed the admission criteria. Since we have not accepted any student with a GPA less than 2.70, it was felt that to be honest about a student’s chance of being admitted, the cumulative GPA should be raised to 3.00. We added an additional measure to evaluate a student’s ability of success in a nursing program, the TEAS V. Both Southern Connecticut State University and the Community College system use the TEAS V as an additional admission criteria (See attached info sheet).

CURRENT: Undergraduate Standards for admission to the Nursing Program

• Submission of all application materials to the Nursing program by March 1
• Matriculation at CCSU
• Completion of a minimum of 14 credits
• A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 at CCSU and a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70 for all undergraduate coursework taken at all institutions (including CCSU)
• A grade of "C" or better in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I
• A grade of "B-" or better in NRSE 110: Introduction to Nursing Theories

PROPOSED: Undergraduate Standards for admission to the Nursing Program

Admission to the Nursing Program is expected to be highly competitive and meeting the following minimum criteria does not guarantee admission. Since we only admit 50 students into the major, meeting the minimum requirement does not mean that you are a strong candidate. Over the past few years, the average GPA of students admitted into the major has been over 3.20.

1. Application to the University by December 1st for Fall admission
2. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 for coursework taken at CCSU, as well as an overall minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 for all coursework taken at all institutions (including CCSU)
3. Minimum grade of “C+” or higher in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I or equivalent
4. Minimum adjusted individual total score of 65% or higher for the TEAS V
5. Completion of or enrollment in EXS 207 or it’s equivalent.

The process of application to the nursing major is as follows:

1. Applicants must obtain an application form from the Department of Nursing.
2. The completed application, including all official transcripts, must be received by the Department of Nursing by February 15 to be considered for admission to the nursing major in the forthcoming fall semester. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

3. Applicants must have taken the TEAS V test prior to application deadline. Applicants must have official results sent by ATI to the department by the application deadline. The TEAS V test will be offered multiple times at various testing locations but may only be taken twice between November 1 to February 1, with a one month wait period between testing if needed.

4. Admission decisions are based on cumulative GPA, entry testing, and may include but not limited to overall academic record, i.e. course withdrawals, course repeats. Interviews, letters of recommendation, and outside work are not considered in the nursing admission decisions.

5. Admission to the nursing major is competitive and is by application to the Department of Nursing. The decision to admit an applicant to the nursing major is made by the Department of Nursing.

6. All nursing course prerequisites (EXS 207, BIO 111/BMS 111/BMS 102, CHEM 150 and CHEM 152) must be completed prior to enrolling in nursing major courses.

7. Students who are admitted as pre-nursing majors and fail to be admitted to the major in the spring will be removed from pre-nursing status.
CURRENT: Admission to CCSU as a pre-Nursing major requires:

- Eligibility to enroll in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I
  - For first year students, that is a math score of 550 or higher on SAT or 24 on the ACT
- OR, AP credit for CHEM 161 and 162
- For transfer students and re-entry students only,
  - A cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better
  - A grade of "C" or better in any required science courses, if completed
  - A grade of "B-" or better in any nursing course, if completed

PROPOSED: Admission to CCSU as a pre-Nursing major requires:

- Eligibility to enroll in CHEM 150: Chemistry of Allied Health I
  - For first year students, that is a math score of 550 or higher on SAT or 24 on the ACT
- OR, AP credit for CHEM 161 and 162
- For transfer students and re-entry students only,
  - A cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better
  - A grade of "C" or better in any required science courses, if completed, Grade of “C+" or better in CHEM 150 or its equivalent
  - A grade of "B-" or better in any nursing course, if completed

CURRENT: A change of major to pre-Nursing for matriculated CCSU students require:

- A completed change of major request form which is available February 1st in the Nursing Department and is due back by March 1st for fall acceptance consideration. Decisions are based on student's academic record, related criteria, and space available. Decisions will be made by March 20th prior to fall academic advising. Students must have completed one full semester of course work at CCSU in order to be considered for a change of major.
- A cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better
- A grade of "C" or better in any required science courses, if completed
- A grade of "B-" or better in any nursing course, if completed

PROPOSED: A change of major to pre-Nursing for matriculated CCSU students require:

- A completed change of major request form that is available November 1st in the Nursing Department and is due back by December 1st for fall acceptance consideration. Decisions are based on student's academic record, related criteria, and space available. Decisions will be made by January 30th following posting of the fall semester academic grades. Students must have completed one full semester of course work at CCSU in order to be considered for a change of major.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.00 or better
- A grade of "C" or better in any required science courses, if completed, A grade of “C+” or better in CHEM 150 or its equivalent
- A grade of "B-" or better in any nursing course, if completed
Central Connecticut State University  
Department of Nursing

Important Information about the TEAS V

1. **What is the TEAS?**
The TEAS (Test of Essential Academic Skills) is a multiple-choice test that evaluates the following skills: math, science, reading and english. The objectives assessed on the TEAS exam are those which nurse educators deemed most appropriate and relevant to measure entry level skills and abilities of nursing program applicants.

2. **What is new about the TEAS?**
The TEAS V is now being used in nursing programs across the country. Previous versions of the test results will not be accepted.

3. **What score do I need to be eligible to apply to the CCSU BSN nursing program?**
CCSU will begin administering the TEAS V for nursing program applicants in the fall 2013. Applicants must obtain an adjusted individual total score of 65%.

4. **How will CCSU use my TEAS score in application to the major?**
The adjusted individual total score will count as 25% of your total admission application. This will be factored in with your Chemistry grade and your cumulative GPA.

5. **How do I register to take the TEAS?**
You will register and pay the $XX.00 testing fee online. There are various testing dates and testing centers identified for CCSU nursing program applicants.

6. **How many times can I take the TEAS?**
You may take the TEAS test twice between November 1 and February 1. It is important therefore, that you obtain a study manual and take the online practice assessments prior to sitting for your exam.

7. **Is there a book I can use to study for the TEAS?**
The TEAS study manual and online practice assessments are available through [www.atitesting.com](http://www.atitesting.com)

8. **Who do I contact if I have questions about the TEAS?**
Questions about the TEAS can be directed to the nursing department at 860-832-0032.
Appendix 2

From the 2012-13 Catalog, Undergraduate Academic Policies & Requirements

Grades and Grading Policies

The Grading System

Central Connecticut State University uses the letter grading system as follows:
A, superior;
B, above average;
C, average;
D, passing but below average; and
F, failure.

A grade of incomplete (INC) may be recorded, at the discretion of the instructor, for a course in which a student, because of circumstances beyond his or her control, has not completed certain work or has been absent from the final examination. A grade of NR (not recorded by instructor) will be entered if grades are not submitted in a timely manner. For undergraduate students, an INC or an NR not changed to another grade by the instructor within the first eight weeks of the subsequent major semester will be changed to an F. Responsibility for removing an INC or an NR within this time limit rests with the student.

Additional grades used at CCSU include:
AU Audit (no credit), INC Incomplete, IP In Progress (Doctoral), NC Satisfactory completion of a non-credit course, S Satisfactory performance in a non-credit course, TR Transfer credit, U Unsatisfactory performance in a non-credit course, W Withdrawal

Mid-semester grades may be recorded online by faculty for full length fall and spring semester courses. Mid-semester grades are considered an approximate grade of student’s performance to date. Mid-semester grades are not recorded on transcripts and are not used in the calculation of grade point averages.