

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL

Tuesday, 7 December 2010, 3 p.m.

Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: K. Baldner, B. Ferrin, K. Hearit, K. Hillenbrand, P. Krawutschke, M. Kritzman, D. Reinhold (for Provost T. Greene), D. Sachs, V. Torano, G. Whitehurst. **Absent without substitution:** A. Anderson, N. Andreadis, R. Aravamuthan, D. Ravotas, J. Wu. **Guests:** Lee deLisle, Chair, Health, Physical Education, and Recreation; Loren Heun and Gerald Sievers, Statistics. **Also present:** Janice Anderson, Faculty Senate Office; Jeanine Bartholomew, academic advising liaison; Steve Miller, Director, Office of Transfer Student Services

Procedural Items

Council Chair Bruce Ferrin called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

Kritzman moved acceptance of the agenda, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Kritzman moved approval of the minutes of 4 November 2010, seconded by Hearit. Motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

Ferrin discussed a question that was raised at the Professional and Academic Concerns portion of the 4 November meeting of the Faculty Senate, considering the policy for late withdrawal. The USC briefly discussed this matter last month. Ferrin noted that Kritzman suggested rather than changing the policy regarding late withdrawal, we might consider a policy to simply exclude a certain number of courses that transfer from one program to another. Ferrin will attempt to propose such language to bring to the council in the near future.

Action Items – Curriculum Proposals

[CoEHD 186a] Health, Physical Education and Recreation – New Minor in Event Management

Lee deLisle addressed the council. This proposal for a new minor in Event Management originated from student requests. Staffing courses for this minor would require department funding for one class taught by a part time instructor, and this could be funded by the College of Education and Human Development. Ferrin noted that the proposed new courses suggested as part of this proposal are already offered in the Haworth College of Business, and had concerns about duplication of

course content. In light of this, Ferrin suggested tabling the proposal until HPER could get a letter of support from the dean of the College of Business. After further discussion, Krawutschke proposed, seconded by Kritzman, postponing further discussion of this proposal until the council's January meeting. Motion carried. At that time, the council is hoping to see comparisons of proposed syllabi for these new courses with existing Management and Marketing courses, and supporting letters from the College of Business.

[CAS 626R] New Accelerated Master's Program in Statistics – Gerald Sievers

[Note: This proposal has already been approved—with revisions—by the Graduate Studies Council. All accelerated degree proposals need approval by both the USC and GSC, as they cover both undergraduate and graduate courses.] Gerald Sievers addressed the council, explaining the history of this proposal. The revisions approved by the Graduate Studies Council post-date the materials received by the council, and these changes were discussed. Krawutschke proposed, seconded by Whitehurst, acceptance of this proposal. Motion carried.

Information/Discussion Items

Retention Subcommittee Update – Kathryn Hillenbrand

Hillenbrand chairs the council's subcommittee on student retention. The committee has been surveying existing programs concerned with retention, with the goal of finding ways to streamline and co-ordinate these programs, creating a campus wide awareness of retention concerns. There is no proposal at the current time, but the committee plans to have specific proposals for this council in the near future.

Addressing Council Charges

Ferrin discussed progress he has been making in gathering information to help the council in the attempt to re-conceptualize general education.

Other

Hearit updated the council regarding enrollment numbers, the state withdrawing its funding for the Sangren Hall project, and personnel changes in the Registrar's Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Baldner