

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of
May 19, 2015

MINUTES

Present: Stefanie Borst, Adrienne Carnes, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Keith Dye, Stephen Ekwaro-Osire, Gary Elbow for Aliza Wong, Ryan Gibbs, Cheryl Hedlund for Garrett McKinnon, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Jorge Iber, Mitzi Lauderdale, Savannah Leonard for Cindy Akers, Robin Lock, Ethan Logan, Justin Louder, Andrew Martin, Brenda Martinez for Bobbie Brown, Pat McConnel, Richard Meek, Tara Miller for Amy Murphy, Ben Montecillo, Audra Morse, Alison Myhra, Catherine Parsonneault, Jacob Price for Janessa Walls, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart chair, Kevin Stoker, Vicki West

Guests: Todd Chambers

Stewart called the meeting to order and introduced the minutes from the April 2015 Academic Council meeting. With no requests for correction or confirmation, the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Martinez advised the council that final grades would be completed the following day.

Stewart noted that the May commencement ceremonies were the largest in TTU history, and that the live music added to the event.

Hedlund presented the course approvals for May. Huffman moved to approve the courses as presented, Roach seconded, and the motion was approved.

Parsonneault provided an update on SACSCOC accreditation reaffirmation progress. She noted that the QEP committee was awaiting an instruction letter, and that final reaffirmation was expected during the SACSCOC annual meeting in Houston on December 8, 2015.

Roach advised the Council of a preliminary review of changes to the Bachelor of Science degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The changes would alter the science requirement of B.S. degrees to mirror the requirements of the university's core curriculum. Elbow noted that the change would impact Bachelor of Arts degrees, as well, and other colleges (such as Visual and Performing Arts) could be impacted. Elbow asked Roach to notify college deans of the changes.

Roach also notified the council of the en masse change of course prefixes for Exercise and Sports Sciences. The proposal would change ESS courses into either Kinesiology (KIN) and Sport Management (SPMT) prefixes, based on the program in which the courses would be based. Myrha moved to approve the course prefix changes as presented, Meek seconded, and the motion was approved.

Durham DeCesaro presented Council members with a flowchart for internal and external proposal routing, and asked that all programs be submitted to the Provost's office at least two weeks prior to Academic Council to ensure their consideration during the Council meeting.
Flowchart for Internal/External Proposal Routing

Fedler presented a proposal to change the delivery modality for the Master of Arts and Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies degrees; the change would allow the degrees to be offered via distance delivery. Fedler did note that the CIP code for the degree programs should be altered to more accurately reflect the funding. After some discussion, Morse moved to approve the modality change as proposed and amended, Lock seconded, and the motion was approved.

Louder advised the Council of a proposed online concentration in Public Relations and Strategic Communication.

Durham DeCesaro informed the council that the THECB had approved the name changes for the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Kinesiology. She also presented information on core curriculum changes, noting that all proposed changes to core curriculum courses had been approved by the THECB except for a yoga course offered by Visual and Performing Arts. Since the yoga course was a hybrid practice/theory course, the Coordinating Board denied its inclusion as a core curriculum course based on the practice component, which the Board did not accept. Durham DeCesaro said the decision was being appealed. She noted that submissions for new core courses would start in September, and that all submissions would be due by the end of the fall 2015 semester.

In other business:

- Stewart asked council members for ideas about getting textbooks ordered 30 days prior to the first day of class, noting that the university has not been compliant with this requirement.
- Stewart also discussed the small class reporting with Council members. He noted that approximately 1,500 classes had been identified as "small" and that some 77 percent of those had been approved to be offered as small, with most of those consisting of independent study courses. He noted that fewer regular courses were being identified as small.
- Louder readdressed the Blackboard archive process, and asked that colleges needing their Blackboard information archived should contact him promptly.
- Hedlund announced that course catalogs for the 2015-2016 academic year were available and in the process of being distributed.

With no further business on the agenda, Stewart adjourned the meeting.