

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of January 16, 2018

1:30 PM, Library 309

MINUTES

Present: Katherine Austin, Bobbie Brown, Savanah Chambers for Cindy Akers and Maggie Gilchrest, Todd Chambers, Lora Deahl, David Doerfert, Cathy Duran, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Paul Frazier, Kristi Gaines, Birgit Green, Saif Haq, Melanie Hart, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Jorge Iber, Darryl James, Michelle Kiser, Amy Koerber, Rodney Lackey for Greg Glaus, Mitzi Lauderdale, Mellinee Lesley, Sean Lewis for Robbie Meyer, Ryan Litsey, Robin Lock, Justin Louder, Pat McConnell, Garrett McKinnon, Julian Olivas for Jamie Hansard, Bill Pasewark, David Roach, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart chair

Guests: Brenda Martinez, Rob Peaselee

Action Items:

1. Associate Deans are asked to encourage their unit heads begin work on reviewing their Communication Literacy plans for the 2018-2019 academic year.
2. Associate Deans are asked to encourage their unit heads to consider possible new 2+2 agreements with Western Texas College, with whom TTU has a new articulation agreement.

Stewart called the meeting to order promptly at 1:30 and recognized substitutes and guests. He then introduced the minutes from the December Academic Council meeting. Haq moved to approve the minutes as presented, Doerfert seconded, and the motion carried.

McKinnon introduced the summary of course proposals. Stewart inquired about the possibility of shortening the proposed title of item nine (EMC 3380, proposed as: Personal Portfolio and Professional Development for the Creative Media Industries). He also requested that an abbreviation (CMI) used in item eight (EMC 3340) be spelled out as "Creative Media Industries." Peaselee said both requests could be handled administratively through the Curriculog process. Stewart inquired about the status of item three (SPMT 5346), which had been tabled in December. Roach said discussions were ongoing, but the item should remain tabled until such time as a final decision regarding the course's status could be determined. With no further discussion raised regarding course proposals, Huffman moved to approve with changes as indicated, Lock seconded, and the motion carried.

Stewart introduced a number of program and administrative change proposals:

The College of Education proposed a new graduate certificate in School Psychology. Lock said the program would help master's students and working professionals with an existing master's degree meet the licensure requirements for becoming a school psychologist without the need to

complete a full doctorate degree. She said such a need existed in the workplace. T. Chambers moved to approve the certificate program as proposed, Haq seconded, and the motion carried.

The College of Media & Communication proposed a new graduate certificate in STEM Leadership Communication. Koerber said the program was designed to meet two needs in the market: 1) improve interest in STEM industries among students seeking employment as professional communicators, and 2) provide an opportunity for working professionals in STEM fields to improve their communication skills. She said the program consisted of 12 hours of coursework. Roach inquired about the lack of intrinsic STEM courses among the required courses, and Koerber responded that two of the courses were specifically designed to target the needs of the populations likely to pursue certification. She added that students could take a discipline-specific STEM course as an elective outside the nine required hours. After a brief discussion, Doerfert moved to approve the certificate program as proposed, Huffman seconded, and the motion carried.

The College of Media & Communication also presented a proposal for a departmental name change: the Department of Journalism and Electronic Media would change to the Department of Journalism and Creative Media. Peaslee noted that the proposal had been voted on by departmental faculty in November prior to a discussion at Academic Council in December, and that the proposal would be changed to the Department of Journalism and Creative Media Industries. Pending a vote by departmental faculty on the revised name, Peaslee requested that the proposal be tabled.

The College of Human Sciences proposed name changes to two degrees: the M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy and the Ph.D. in Marriage and Family Therapy would change to the M.S. in Couple, Marriage, and Family Therapy and the Ph.D. in Couple, Marriage, and Family Therapy, respectively. Huffman said these changes reflected widespread adoption of new terminology in the profession. After a brief discussion, T. Chambers moved to approve both degree name changes as proposed, Deahl seconded, and the motion carried.

Durham DeCesaro announced that a new articulation agreement had been reached with Western Texas College in Snyder, raising the possibility of TTU departments creating two-plus-two programs with the school.

Durham DeCesaro also discussed developments in the Communication Literacy (CL) requirements adopted by the university for the 2017-2018 academic year. She said template forms for retaining existing CL plans or changing existing CL plans had been developed and posted on the CL website. Deadline for departments to submit forms was March 2, she noted. She also reminded those in attendance that the writing intensive requirement was being phased out as of the Fall 2018 semester unless extraordinary circumstances dictated that departments keep a writing intensive requirement extant. She noted that work was underway to integrate CL change proposals into the Curriculog online curriculum management system, and that such an electronic workflow should be ready by next year. Finally, she requested that department heads and school directors attend a forthcoming communication literacy workshop to learn about ongoing developments regarding the CL requirement.

The Council heard an update on THECB approvals. The Coordinating Board had approved SCH reductions for the Ph.D. in Higher Education Research and the Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration, as well as approved a program title name change in the J.T. and Margaret Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts (the Bachelor of General Studies degree changed to the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Arts).

In other business:

- Stewart noted that the tenure and promotion review process was just past the halfway point, and that clarification on the composition and presentation of dossiers would be forthcoming.
- Stewart also announced that a Chairs Council of departmental chairs was in the process of being formed, with meetings tentatively scheduled for February, March, and April. He said the purpose of the council would be for the Provost and Vice Provosts to discuss directly with chairs university level academic matters of specific relevance to chairs.

With no additional business raised, Stewart adjourned the meeting.