

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of
February 15, 2011

MINUTES

Present: Wendell Aycock, Bruce Bills, Wesley Cochran, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Greg Elkins, Dale Ganus, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Norm Hopper, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Bob Schaller for Bobbie Latham, Debbie Laverie, Ethan Logan, Pat McConnell, Walt Oler, Valerie Paton, DaNay Phelps, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West

Guests: Cal Barnes, Jeff Lee, Kristie Lopez, Larry Phillippe

Council members reviewed the January 18, 2011, minutes of the Academic Council. McConnell asked that the summary of her presentation be revised to reflect more accurately her comments. The minutes were unanimously approved pending the requested revision. (Note: Appropriate revisions were made and added to the official file.)

Lee presented a proposal from the Department of Geosciences to create a Bachelor of Science in Geography. Aycock moved that the council approve the proposal, Purinton seconded the motion, and motion passed.

Lopez represented the Student Government Association in presenting Senate Resolution 46.13 related to the need for an excused absence policy regarding entrance exams, conferences, and university-hosted academic workshops. The resolution proposed that the university's class attendance policy be revised to allow students no more than three excused absences to attend these events and be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment given on the day of the absence. Duran moved that the council approve the proposed new excused absence and Elkins seconded the motion. The council defeated the motion and encouraged SGA to revise the resolution by making it less broad and perhaps specific only to seniors.

Phillippe, managing director of Student Disability Services, updated the council regarding the campus impact of congressional amendments to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The amendments are scheduled to go into effect March 15 and will address online accessibility of information in classes and on university websites as well as accessibility to sign language interpreter services when requested for current students, parents of students, or visitors to campus who request services in a timely manner. Phillippe said his office will make a formal recommendation to the Provost's Office in regard to creating a compliance environment within the university.

Jones presented the February course approval summary and noted the problem of adding noncredit labs to course hours. Paton cautioned departments against adding non-credit labs hours because of the problems created in utilizing space and paying professors for hours that cannot be counted in revenue generation reports for faculty time and space utilization. Based on the issue

of adding a non-credit lab, Jones moved to accept the course approvals but table three courses: MATH 1351, 1352, and 2350. Huffman seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The council unanimously accepted a proposal from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to make non-substantive changes to the Master of Science in Agricultural Education program, including the following: (1) increase the required number of credit hours in the agricultural education core from 9 to 12, (2) increase the required number of credit hours in the research core from 12 to 15, and (3) decrease the number of elective hours from 15 to 9.

The council unanimously accepted a proposal from the Honors College to change the name of the B.S. in Natural History and Humanities to a B.S. in Environment and the Humanities.

As an information item, Stewart said the CIP code for PHYS 5001 Master's Internship has been changed from 40.0899 to 40.0801.

Stewart and Elbow addressed the issue of every undergraduate degree having a sample curriculum table published in the catalog and properly labeled. The total required hours on the curriculum table cannot exceed or be less than the approved hours for that degree.

The council discussed the problem of degree programs meeting the 120-hour limitation when students have not completed the first two semesters of a language sequence in high school. Departments are forced to offer a major sequence that in many cases is just barely adequate for accreditation because of non-essential courses required by the state and the university. No resolution was reached.

Elbow presented a list of justifications provided by degree programs seeking approval to exceed the 120-hour limitation. Huffman moved that the council accept the program justifications, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Degree programs approved to exceed 120 hours include the following:

- B.S. in Architecture (131)
- B.S. in Biology (122)
- B.S. in Chemistry (126)
- B.A. in Chemistry (124)
- B.S. in Biochemistry (126)
- B.A. in Biochemistry (131)
- B.S. in Exercise and Sport Sciences, Exercise and Health Promotion Track (123)
- B.A. in History with a Teaching Emphasis (122)
- B.B.A. in International Business (125)
- B.S. in Multidisciplinary Studies (123-129)
 - Specialization in ESL, 123
 - Specialization in Elementary Math/Science, 128
 - Specialization in Bilingual Education, 129
 - Specialization in Middle Level Math and Science, 125
 - Specialization in Middle Level Reading Social Studies, 127
- B.S. in Multidisciplinary Science (125-126)
 - Specializations in multiple areas of science varying between 125-126 hours
- Dual B.S. Degrees (155 hours) in Computer Science and Chemical Engineering
- B.S. in Family and Consumer Sciences (127)

- B.S. in Nutrition with Secondary Teacher Certification in Hospitality, Nutrition, and Food Science (124)
- B.S. in Restaurant, Hotel & Institutional Management with Secondary Family & Consumer Sciences Teacher Certification in Hospitality, Nutrition, and Food Science (127)
- Bachelor of Interior Design (122)
- B.S. in Apparel Design and Manufacturing (123)
- B. F.A. in Art (123-129)
 - Communication Design Field of Specialization (123)
 - Studio Art Field of Specialization (123)
 - Visual Studies (teacher certification) Field of Specialization (129)
 - B.M. in Music (120-127)
 - Composition Field of Specialization (121)
 - Performance Field of Specialization (121-124)
 - Music (teacher certification) Field of Specialization (126-127)
- B.F.A. in Theatre Arts (127)