

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of
February 19, 2013

MINUTES

Present: Cindy Akers, Stefanie Borst, Bobbie Brown, Cathy Duran, Cliff Fedler, Ralph Ferguson, Ryan Gibbs, Jarod Gonzalez, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Michelle Kiser, Debbie Laverie, Justin Louder, Andrew Martin, Felicia Martin, Pat McConnel, Audra Morse, Michele Moskos, Juan Munoz, Marjean Purinton, Christine Self, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicky West, Aliza Wong

Guest: Ann Hawkins, JoAnn Klinker

Stewart presented the minutes of the January 15, 2012, meeting. Brown asked for the second bullet on page 2 to be corrected to read as follows: “The Registrar’s Office will employ....” Purinton moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The council considered three proposals for new certificate programs:

- Johnson and Klinker presented the 15-hour Graduate Certificate in Teacher Leadership within the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership.
- Hawkins presented the 15-hour Graduate Certificate in Book History and Digital Humanities within the Department of English.
- Laverie presented the 15-hour Undergraduate Certificate in Energy within the Rawls College of Business. This certificate will replace five existing undergraduate certificates: (1) Accounting Certificate in Energy, (2) Global Supply Chain Certificate in Energy, (3) Sales Certificate in Energy, (4) Finance Certificate in Energy, and (5) International Certificate in Energy.

Johnson moved that the certificates be approved as presented. Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Jones presented the February course approval summary. Council members asked that (1) the title of ANSC 5219 be revised to read “Advanced Studies in Equine Behavior and Dynamics (2) ESL 5312 and MUED 4323 be tabled until the titles are revised, and (3) the description of ACOM 2200 be revised to delete the last sentence and include “event planning” in the series of items listed in the first sentence . Morse moved that the courses be approved as corrected. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed. [Note: Titles for ESL 5312 and MUED 4323 were revised and subsequently approved by the Provost’s Office.]

Stewart presented two suggested cover designs for the *2013-14 Undergraduate/Graduate Catalog* and asked for feedback from council members regarding which cover design to use. The consensus of opinion favored selection of the “Guns Up” cover.

Stewart asked council members to consider the need to add a statement to the catalog indicating 40 hours as the minimum number of upper-division hours necessary for graduation. Stewart said a decision will be made at the March meeting of the Academic Council.

Duran presented a handout entitled “Thoughts on Backdated Withdrawals,” which is an early draft of the ad hoc committee’s efforts to provide guidelines by which administrative judgment might be made in certain instances. She emphasized that the committee is receptive to suggestions for revision.

The following items were presented for information only:

- The Department of Petroleum Engineering is phasing out the minor in Petroleum Engineering.
- The GPA for admission to the Petroleum Engineering major will increase from 3.0 to 3.2 in fall 2014.
- Due to low enrollment, the B.A. in Environment and Humanities within the Honors College will be phased out with a termination date of December 2016. The college will retain the minor in Environment and Humanities.
- A concentration in Agricultural Leadership will be added to the B.S. and B.A. in University Studies.
- Concentrations in (1) Youth Development and (2) Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Education will be added to the B.S. in Human Sciences by the College of Human Sciences.

Hughes reported on efforts of the Committee on Academic Advisement and Retention to prepare a strategic plan in response to the recommendations made earlier by Noel-Levitz. The committee has more than 40 members divided into five subcommittees: Professional Development, Policies and Procedures, Assessment, Transfers, and Technology Needs.

Hughes explained to council members that the former Center for Undergraduate Research has now become the Center for Active Learning and Undergraduate Engagement. The center serves as a centralized location for undergraduates, faculty, and staff interested in participating in the following active learning programs: Service Learning, Undergraduate Research, Professional Internships, and Study Abroad.

Old Business:

- Stewart distributed a draft of definitions of graduate student teaching positions.
- The class schedules for summer/fall 2013 semesters will be uploaded and “go live” on March 4.