

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of
March 9, 2010

MINUTES

Present: Wendell Aycock, Don Clancy, Wesley Cochran, Susan Harkey for Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Greg Elkins, Dennis Harp, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Norm Hopper, Shane Blum for Lynn Huffman, Birgit Green for Patrick Hughes and Rosslyn Smith, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Cheryl Hedlund for Sue Jones, Michelle Kiser, Bobbie Latham, Hossein Mansouri, Pat McConnel, Walt Oler, Valerie Paton, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Herschel Mann for Brian Shannon, Clifton Ellis for Gary Smith, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Leisy Walls, Vicki West

Guests Present: Dale Ganus and Elizabeth Teagan

Dale Ganus from the Information Technology Center presented a tutorial about the online graduate application process that allows students to type in the name they would like printed on their diploma.

Stewart presented the March course approval summary and noted that four courses — CE 4101, CS 4000, PETR 4385, and PETR 4386 — had been tabled at the February council meeting. He said the council's concerns had been addressed and now the courses were ready for consideration. Oler moved that the four courses be taken off the table and considered with the March approvals, Hopper seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Stewart then presented the full slate of courses to be considered for approval, Clancy moved the course be accepted as presented, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Henry presented a proposal from the College of Visual and Performing Arts for a 17-hour Undergraduate Certificate in Jazz Studies. Aycock moved the proposal be accepted, Roach seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow presented a recommendation from the Core Curriculum Steering Committee that three courses be added to the Core Curriculum: AGED 2300 (Introduction to Agricultural Education) in Individual and Group Behavior, ART 2309 (Technology in the Arts) in Technology and Applied Science, and SOC 2335 (Homicide) in Individual and Group Behavior. Oler moved to accept the recommendation, Hopper seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow updated council members on commencement participation policy adjustments and said that revisions to the catalog would remove wording that restricts students to participating only in the commencement exercise that immediately follows completion of their degree.

Phelps presented policy recommendations suggested by a four-person committee formed at the last council meeting to address the issue of grade replacements. The committee recommended that (1) students should not be prevented from retaking courses for which they are eligible, (2) only grades of D or F should be eligible for grade replacement, and (3) students should not be allowed to replace grades of C or better. New wording will be added to the 2010-11 catalog to reflect the revised policy.

Paton presented a draft of the university's response to the Coordinating Board regarding action plans for addressing concerns about low-producing degree programs at Texas Tech. The action plans needing approval by the Academic Council include the following:

- Consolidate the B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Management–Fisheries Management into CIP 03.0601.00.
- Delete the M.S. in Business Admin-Telecommunication and Network Management
- Delete the B.A. in Engineering
- Phase out the B.S. in Engineering Physics
- Delete the M.S. in Biological Informatics
- Consolidate the B.S. in Geoscience–Geophysics in CIP 40.0601.00
- Delete the M.S. in Sports Health
- Delete the B.S. in Human and Family Studies–Family Studies
- Delete the B.S. in Clothing, Textiles and Manufacturing

Clancy moved the council approve the action plans as presented, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Paton will return with an updated report at the May meeting of the Academic Council.

Paton also distributed a draft of additional wording suggested for OP 36.01: Adding, Changing, and Deleting Courses and Changing Method of Delivery. The wording addresses the issue of non-credit sections attached to credit-bearing lectures or labs. Paton said she has asked departments to review these changes and respond to her with their concerns and suggestions.

Teagan updated council members on the Noel Levitz report, which included recommendations on advising, retention, access and distribution of data, and use of best faculty for freshman classes.

Latham discussed the use of PR grades. She said standard grades are A, B, C and D, but the university created a PR grade mode for thesis classes, internships, seminars, and independent study. If departments have an undergraduate section that fits into these categories, they should email Latham and she will create a grade mode for the class in Banner 8.

ELECTRONIC VOTE ON CONSENT AGENDA: Wednesday, March 17, 2010

To make important revisions to the university's degree program inventory in time for publication in the 2010-11 catalog, the Provost's Office distributed by email an electronic "Consent Agenda" of 14 items needing revision or deletion in the official degree inventory maintained by the Coordinating Board. Council members requested clarification of item #7 regarding the M.S. in Biotechnology and determined that the title should not include any subordinate programs but simply state "M.S. in Biotechnology." Fifteen electronic "yes" votes were cast for the 14 items on the agenda and no negative votes were received. The Consent Agenda was adopted at 1:59 p.m.

Items included on the agenda were the following:

- Delete the CIP code for the subordinate program to the B.S. in Environmental Crop and Soil Sciences.
- Delete the CIP codes for the subordinate programs to the B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Management.
- Change the name of the M.S. in Entomology to the M.S. in Plant Protection.
- Delete the CIP codes for the subordinate programs in the B.A./B.S. in Geosciences.
- Assign separate CIP codes to the separate programs in International Economics and Economics.
- Delete the B.A. in Microbiology.
- Delete the subordinate program names for the M.S. in Biotechnology.
- Delete the M.S. in Biological Informatics.

- Delete the M.S. in Business Administration—Telecommunication and Network Management.
- Delete the CIP codes for the four subordinate programs listed for the B.S. in Multidisciplinary Science.
- Phase out the B.S. in Engineering Physics.
- Phase out the M.S. in Environmental Technology Management
- Change the name of the MFA in Theatre Arts–Theatre Management to Theatre Arts–Arts Administration
- Delete inclusion of a Department of Naval Science in THECB degree inventory.