

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**  
Texas Tech University

Meeting of  
**April 17, 2012**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Wes Cochran, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Ralph Ferguson, Ryan Gibbs, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Ramona Johnson for Cindy Akers, Sue Jones, Debbie Laverie, Ethan Logan, Kat Livingston for Bobbie Brown, Pat McConnel, Juan Munoz, Amy Murphy, Walt Oler, Valerie Paton, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Geleah Sharp for Michele Moskos, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West.

**Guests:** Dale Ganus, Andrea McCourt, Marcus Tanner

Stewart presented the March 20, 2012, minutes of the Academic Council. Roach moved they be accepted as presented, Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Hughes discussed the declining enrollment of IS 1100 The Freshman Seminar and stressed the need to refresh the course curriculum by incorporating a list of eight best practices. He presented a handout sheet explaining the changes and invited council members to send him feedback. Oler moved that the Academic Council endorse the changes to IS 1100, Laverie seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Jones presented the April course approval summary. Huffman moved that BIOL 3306, which was tabled at the March council meeting, be taken off the table and included in the April course approvals. Roach seconded the motion, and the motion passed. After a brief discussion, Cochran moved that the courses be approved as presented, Roach seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

As an informational item, Elbow told council members that the CIP codes have changed for psychology courses.

Stewart and Elbow provided handouts citing the rules proposed in 2009 for upper-level undergraduate certificate programs. In reviewing the requirements, council members noted that rule #8 should be deleted regarding the eligibility of non-degree seeking students. Stewart asked West to verify the rules regarding the eligibility of only degree-seeking students. He told the council that the Provost's Office will be reviewing the rules to determine how the rules might be impacted by current regulations.

Elbow and Laverie presented a new 15-hour Undergraduate Certificate in Energy for Finance Majors. Oler moved that the certificate be approved, Cochran seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Six minors were brought before the council as information items:

- Integrated Studies – new minor in B.A./B.S. in University Studies program
- Human Resources Development – new minor in B.A./B.S. in University Studies program. Because the courses are online, the University Studies program was urged to place the minor on the agenda for the next TLC meeting.
- Media Strategies – new minor housed in the Dean's Office of the College of Mass Communications
- Athletic Coaching – new minor in the B.S. in Health, Exercise, and Sport Sciences. The minor was originally presented to the council as "Coaching." Council members asked the Arts and

Sciences representative to discuss with the department the possibility of changing the name to “Athletic Coaching.” The department subsequently approved the name change.

- The College of Human Sciences discontinued its Human Sciences minor.
- Petroleum Engineering will remain a minor but the College of Engineering will not accept applications until enrollment slows down.

Elbow and Laverie announced the intention of the Rawls College of Business to discontinue the B.B.A. in Economics because of low enrollment and request a phase-out through December 2016.

Stewart presented an update on the requirement to file grade appeals within 45 days. The statement will be rephrased to indicate 45 calendar days.

Paton updated council members on the 2011 Strategic Plan Reports and 2012 Strategic Plan.

In an effort to quantify student achievement from year to year, Stewart invited colleges to submit individual and team awards to be listed in the National Student Awards (non-disciplinary awards) or the National Program Awards (academic programs that are disciplinary) received at Texas Tech.

#### Other Business

- Stewart said the Provost’s Office is in the process of formalizing the nature of the designation “Professor of Practice,” which is a faculty category for starting professors coming out of industry or professions.
- Stewart said the deans and managers had been given “the go ahead” for summer funding.
- Paton and Elbow discussed low producing programs and the recent THECB denial of a new graduate degree because the proposal involved a low-producing program that was being incorporated as a specialization within the new degree.
- Elbow discussed future commencement dates and the assignment of colleges to specific dates.
- West told associate deans that she would be sending them a request for a list of agreements the colleges have with agencies for undergraduate internships.
- Council members discussed feedback on starting registration at 3 p.m. on Thursday.