

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of
April 19, 2011

MINUTES

Present: Wendell Aycock, Bruce Bills, Bobbie Brown, Wesley Cochran, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Clifton Ellis, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Norm Hopper, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Ethan Logan, Pat McConnel, Tara Miller for Juan Munoz, Walt Oler, Valerie Paton, DaNay Phelps, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West

Guests: Joshua Barron, Nicci Price

Miller reviewed the upcoming Red Raider Orientation dates and the changes being made to the schedule during the first two days of the three-day sessions. The first day will be a “getting to know you” time that will include addresses by the Chancellor and the President. Academic presentations will not start until the second day. Miller asked the council to email her regarding bullet points they think should be included in the academic presentation on the second day.

Barron and Price discussed implementation of a limited pilot program of two Banner features for the university’s registration system: waitlisting and reserved seating. Phase 1 of this pilot program includes only a limited number of courses from the College of Visual and Performing Arts during summer and fall 2011 term registrations. Phase 2 will include a limited number of courses in the Honors College and the Whitaker College of Engineering during the spring 2012 term. Phase 3 will include the entire campus.

Stewart updated council members on the status of efforts to resolve conflicts associated with future academic calendars. He said the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Academic Calendars would be presented to Student Government Association leaders and to the Faculty Senate in late April and early May. After input is received from both groups, the Academic Council will again address the issue of future academic calendars.

Jones told the council that the new 2011-12 catalogs will arrive in time to be used during Transfer Student RRO May 19-20.

Council members reviewed the March 15, 2011, minutes of the Academic Council. Hart asked that the attendance list be corrected to show her present. Stoker, on the other hand, asked that his name be removed from the attendance list.

Jones presented the April course approval summary. Hopper moved that the summary be approved as presented, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow presented the Core Curriculum Committee’s recommendation to add seven courses to the Core Curriculum beginning fall 2011: ANSC 2310 to VPA; ARAB 3305 to Humanities and

Multicultural; ARCH 2315 to VPA; HIST 3351 to Humanities; and MATH 1451, 1452, and 2450 to Mathematics and Logic. One section of HIST 3351 was subsequently approved by an email vote of the council to be offered as a Core course in the second summer session at the Seville Center (Spain) prior to being available to the entire campus in fall 2011.

Elbow presented a College of Architecture proposal for a new 14-hour Graduate Certificate in Urban and Community Design Studies. Henry moved that the proposal be accepted, Oler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Elbow noted that the CIP codes have been changed for the B.B.A. in Management Information Systems and for all courses beginning with an ADM prefix (Apparel Design program in the Department of Design).

Henry suggested the possibility of adding the phrase “With Distinction” to certain transcripts and/or diplomas to note that those individuals have gone beyond a certain level of achievement. After extensive discussion, Henry agreed to ask his college faculty about the alternative of including an undergraduate thesis title on the student’s transcript.

Elbow noted that records do not show that the university ever officially completed approval of an accelerated bachelor’s to master’s program in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Aycock moved that the council officially approve the B.S. in Environmental Engineering/M.S. in Environmental Engineering Accelerated Program. Duran seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Other Business

- Paton discussed upcoming implementation of digitized official transcripts for all instructors of record beginning in fall 2011 and development of an authenticity verification protocol to guide an official audit of all transcripts.
- Elbow noted that the proposal for a B.S. in Conservation and Law Enforcement has been revised and forwarded to the Board of Regents.
- Ellis cited problems with grade replacement changes in Banner and expressed the need to note the true grade made in a particular semester instead of seeing only the replacement grade. Stewart said the council would discuss options at a future meeting.
- Stewart reminded the council about the Faculty Honors Convocation.
- Stewart noted that OP 32.01 in its revised form had been adopted by the Faculty Senate and would go to the faculty at large for comment.