

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of
July 20, 2010

MINUTES

Present: Ralph Ferguson for Wendell Aycock, Bruce Bills, Laura Bosh, Wesley Cochran, Geleah Sharp for Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Amy Murphy for Greg Elkins, Jen Myants for Erica Griffin, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Norm Hopper, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Cheryl Hedlund for Sue Jones, Michelle Kiser, Dale Ganus for Bobbie Latham, Ethan Logan, Hossein Mansouri, Pat McConnel, Walt Oler, Valerie Paton, DaNay Phelps, Beverly Pinson, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Rosslyn Smith, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Jeanine Reynolds for Vicki West

Guests: Joshua Barron, Elizabeth Teagan

The Academic Council reviewed the minutes from June 15, 2010. Shannon noted that he was at the meeting and asked that the minutes be corrected. Smith moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Huffman seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stewart presented the July course approval summary. Henry moved the courses be accepted as presented, Hopper seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stewart informed the council that Dr. Juan Munoz has been named vice provost for undergraduate education. Munoz, who is also vice president of institutional diversity, equity and community engagement, will oversee the areas of academic advising and retention and community college and transfer relations.

Stewart reminded council members to keep the Academic Council informed about new minors, concentrations and emphases by placing the items on the agenda as informational items. He then informed the council that the curriculum in the Department of Construction Engineering and Engineering Technology has been modified to include two emphases: a general contractor emphasis and a mechanical/electrical subcontractor emphasis.

Stewart noted that despite an expected record enrollment, fall classes are still available when they are needed.

Ganus described his efforts to develop an online “u.select” transfer planning utility for transfer students and advisors at 10 community colleges that have been identified as sending the most students to Texas Tech. U.select allows transfer students to see how their classes will transfer into their chosen degree plan at Texas Tech. Ganus hopes to launch the new program in spring 2011.

Barron updated the council on a new online capability being developed by University Advising to allow students and advisors to check open seats by core curriculum category. This new advising tool will assist students during registration by updating the total seats available every hour. To view the available seats for fall core classes, go to www.depts.ttu.edu/actt/axis/plugins/openseats/opencore.php#pageNav.

Stewart reminded council members about President Bailey's July 1 memo regarding volunteers for recruiting events. Those individuals who handle student recruiting in each college and/or department should contact the president's office.

Henry discussed the problems created when signatory approval is not obtained for minors and concentration areas pursued by University College students seeking a Bachelor of General Studies or a B.A./B.S. in University Studies. Lack of signatory approval from colleges and departments with authority for those study areas hinders future planning for available classes and seats within classes. Phelps mentioned that future planning may be helped by the possible adoption of a new platinum analytics software program to determine and project seats years in advance based on degree audits.

Other business brought before the council included the following:

- Paton updated the council on House Bill 2504, which mandates that universities must post faculty curriculum vitae, syllabi, and published works online by fall 2010. The house bill applies only to undergraduate courses and faculty members who are "Instructor of Record" for those courses. Paton emphasized the importance of having the information uploaded into Digital Measures as soon as possible after the portal is deployed on August 15. The deadline for Texas Tech compliance for the fall semester is the seventh day of classes, September 3.
- Paton also emphasized the importance of every degree program in each college having learning outcomes, assessment activities, findings, and use of findings for improvement from 2006 forward uploaded into TracDat. All programs have to be documented by August 31, and every dean will have to review and track every program beginning September 1.