

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of June 20, 2017
1:30 PM, 309 Library

MINUTES

Present: Cindy Akers, Dennis Arnett, Ashlee Brown, Todd Chambers, Claudia Coglisier, David Doerfert, Cathy Duran, Lora Deahl, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Keith Dye, Paul Frazier, Sheila Gray for Jamie Hansard, Saif Haq, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Darryl James, Michelle Kiser, Mitzi Lauderdale, Robin Lock, Randy McBee, Pat McConnel, Garrett McKinnon, Brenda Martinez for Bobbie Brown, Bill Pasewark, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart chair, Patricia Vitela, Janessa Walls, Vicki West

Action Items:

1. Associate Deans are asked to review the distributed lists of graduate and undergraduate certificates for accuracy. Outdated information can be corrected via [Curriculog](#). For information on certificate CIP codes, please go [here](#).

Stewart called the meeting to order and introduced Greg Glaus, the new Associate Athletic Director for Academic Services, and Lora Deahl, the incoming Associate Dean in the J.T. and Margaret Talkington College of Visual and Performing Arts.

The Council then reviewed the minutes from the May 2017 meeting. Hearing no revisions or clarifications, Doerfert moved to approve the minutes as presented, Chambers seconded, and the motion was approved.

Moving to course approvals, Iber moved to take CHEM 4101 (tabled during the March 2017 meeting pending revisions) off the table, Akers seconded, and the motion was approved. Discussion was heard regarding CHEM 4101, with a submitted syllabus indicating the proposed course number had been changed to CHEM 4116. McKinnon noted that he would seek full clarification on that. Huffman moved to approve the courses as presented (with the status of CHEM 4101/4116 pending clarification), Haq seconded, and the motion was approved. [Subsequent to the meeting, it was confirmed that the provided syllabus for CHEM 4116 had the incorrect course number, and that CHEM 4101 remained the correct course number.]

Stewart introduced Elizabeth Sharp, the interim Vice President for Diversity, Equality, and Community Engagement. Sharp said one of her chief goals was to resurrect a proposal to formally adopt a Hispanic and/or Latino Studies program. She indicated her office would be seeking to create community engagement from that program, and would be seeking collaboration from faculty to help develop the program. She also said her office would like to be more faculty focused, and would like to see the university recruit more female faculty and faculty of color.

Council members next heard a proposal to cease awarding credit for ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302 based on scores made on the SAT, revised SAT (rSAT), and ACT as of Fall 2018. Durham DeCesaro noted that few peer institutions were awarding credit for introductory English courses based on these exams, and that scores on the exams were not indicative of success in subsequent English courses. She noted that the College of Arts & Sciences was supportive of the proposal, and that other exams—namely AP, CLEP, and IB—remained available for students to earn credit for these courses. After a brief discussion, Chambers moved to approve the proposal as submitted, Doerfert seconded, and the motion was approved.

Stewart provided an update on Fall 2017 first-time-in-college (FTIC) student retention efforts and overall undergraduate reenrollment efforts. He noted that the President and Provost remained steadfast in their concern for the success of these efforts, and noted that overall semester credit hour enrollment had declined year over year for the Summer I term and as of the meeting date remained about 5 percent down year over year for the Summer II term. Stewart said the biggest concern regarding the SCH declines was state budgetary cuts and the impact that additional SCH declines could have on future budget allocation. He said one key factor that the institution has some control over regarding the budget was to continue increasing the number of SCH for which students were enrolling and asked Associate Deans to encourage use of resources identifying under-enrolled students as well as unenrolled students. P. Hughes offered the guidance and assistance of Student Success and Retention to the colleges' efforts.

The Council heard an information item on a new Sports Medicine undergraduate minor to be offered by the Department of Kinesiology & Sport Management, as well as a name change for the Minor in Women's Studies to the Minor in Women's and Gender Studies.

Durham DeCesaro announced a clarification to the transition from the current to the new academic standing policy. Because the new academic standing policy would not technically take effect until the onset of the 2017-2018 academic year, students placed on continuing academic suspension at the end of May could request permission from their respective dean's office to continue attending the university during the Fall 2017 semester. Students who receive approval from their college deans will be re-classified with an academic standing of continued academic probation. The final term in which this permission may be granted to any student will be the Fall 2017 term. Durham DeCesaro said future policies taking effect during the 2017-2018 academic year will not be affected.

Durham DeCesaro also discussed a proposal to clarify the awarding of undergraduate and graduate certifications. Under the proposal in question—adopted due to gainful employment reporting requirements—she noted that the university would not be able to award certificates to degree-seeking students if they dropped out of the degree program, even if the student had completed the courses required of the certificate. Council members raised questions about simultaneous enrollment in both certificate and degree programs, ex post facto awarding of certificates, and athletic eligibility—with Shannon noting that the NCAA allowed post-graduate financial aid for athletes who had graduated but intended to

pursue an additional undergraduate certificate. After a lengthy discussion, Stewart proposed bringing the topic to a future Associate Deans meeting, with additional principals from the Registrar's Office and the Financial Aid office.

Stewart called for additional items of business. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting.