

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of
February 21, 2012

MINUTES

Present: Cindy Akers, Sam Bradley, Bobbie Brown, Wes Cochran, Cathy Duran, Clifton Ellis, Ryan Gibbs, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Ethan Logan, Pat McConnel, Terry McInturff for Debbie Laverie, Juan Munoz, Amy Murphy, Walt Oler, Tyler Patton, Marjean Purinton, Jeanine Reynolds for Vicki West, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls.

Guests: Randy Burkett, Dale Ganus, Greg Gellene, Brenda Martinez

Stewart presented the January 17, 2012, minutes of the Academic Council. They were approved as presented.

Stoker represented the College of Mass Communications in proposing that the name of the college be changed to the College of Media and Communication. The name change will coincide with the move of the college to a new building in August. Patton moved that the name change be approved, Bradley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stoker also requested permission to combine the Department of Journalism and the Department of Electronic Media and Communication into one department named the Department of Journalism and Electronic Media. Huffman moved that the merger of the two departments be approved, Akers seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Stewart and Burkett presented a proposal approved by the Graduate Council for creation of a 12-hour Graduate Certificate in Construction Engineering and Management. Stoker moved the certificate be approved, Purinton seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Prior to presentation of the course approvals by Jones, Purinton moved that IS 3110, which was tabled at the January meeting, be taken off the table and considered with the other course approvals for February. Jones seconded the motion, and the motion passed. After presentation of 60 courses on the February course approval summary, Bradley moved the courses be approved as presented. Brown seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Brown noted a problem during the summer term with the council's recent decision to open final grading on Monday prior to the last day of class. She asked that final grading during the summer be moved to Tuesday prior to the last day of class except when July 4 falls on Monday. Henry moved that the council approve the recommendation, Stoker seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Brown asked the council to reconsider grade replacement wording on page 59 of the catalog. After extensive discussion, the council came to unanimous agreement on the following:

Catalog wording: "The most recent passing grade will replace all grades of D or F in that course."

New wording effective immediately: "The most recent A, B, or C grade will replace all previous grades of D or F in that course."

Stewart informed the council that the university intends to meet and exceed statutory obligations regarding prevention of sexual misconduct training for everyone involved in academic camps, including day camps and Super Saturdays. Training will initially be face-to-face but perhaps go online at some point in the future.

As chairman of a committee appointed by Stewart, Huffman presented a handout summarizing the solution worked out with Human Resources and Academic Support & Facilities Resources regarding appointments of instructors of record. She expects the new procedures to be in place this summer or perhaps fall at the latest.

After extensive discussion regarding problems associated with the start of advance registration, Patton moved that the start time be moved from midnight to 3 p.m. on the first day of advance registration. Shannon seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Other Business

- Brown reported that Valerie Paton had contacted THECB regarding the six-drop rule and confirmed that students can be required to follow the university rule.
- Stewart said course fees for summer and fall need to be processed by February 23.
- Stewart said the SACSCOC 2012 conference will be held in Dallas in December. If anyone has a program that might make a good presentation, please contact Valerie Paton.
- Stewart said the university is in the process of disaggregating University College, and Valerie Paton will discuss this in detail at the March meeting.
- Patton explained the Student Government Association's new SafeRide Bus program providing pick-up to students from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week. The bus services Overton Park, Broadway Avenue, and Buddy Holly Avenue.