

ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Texas Tech University

Meeting of
June 18, 2013

MINUTES

Present: Akers, Cindy, Luke Cotton, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Cliff Fedler, Ralph Ferguson, Ryan Gibbs, Jarod Gonzalez, Melanie Hart, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Sue Jones, Michelle Kiser, Debbie Laverie, Kat Livingston for Bobbie Brown, Justin Louder, Andrew Martin, Felician Martin, Pat McConnel, Catherine Parsonault, Donna Perry for Peggy Johnson, Marjean Purinton, Toni Riley for Ethan Logan, David Roach, Christine Self, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicky West

Guests: Dale Ganus and Marijane Wernsman

Stewart presented the minutes of the May 21, 2013, meeting. Purinton moved that the minutes be accepted as approved. Fedler seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Jones presented the June course approval summary. After discussion about item #4 (PSY 5302), the council recommended that the course be tabled until the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Human Sciences could meet to discuss possible course conflicts. Stoker moved that the course summary be approved with the exception of item #4. Purinton seconded the motion and the motion passed. (NOTE: The two colleges subsequently discussed PSY 5302 and agreed on its content. The Provost Office approved creation of the course.)

Stoker presented the recommendations of a three-person committee concerning revising registration to alleviate advising and registration complications. After council members discussed three possible options presented by the committee, Stewart said that the decision did not need to be made that day. He recommended that council members take the issue back to the colleges to get feedback on the options and return at a later date to continue the discussion.

As an information item, Elbow and Roach presented a new 18-hour interdisciplinary minor in Film and Media Studies housed in the College of Arts and Sciences.

As an information item, Stewart noted that the M.S. in Forensic Science will be moved from the Provost Office and Graduate School to the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences effective September 1, 2013.

Elbow discussed the availability of policy and procedures regarding formulating certificate programs. He pointed out that OP 36.04 explains how to create new certificate programs but suggested that attaching the appropriate THECB notification form to the operating policy might help colleges and departments more readily identify these procedures.

Cotton requested that the catalog include information about the SGA Safe Way Program as a separate heading in the Student Services section. Jones agreed to work with Cotton in making the change.

West said course evaluations will be sent by email on June 25. She requested volunteers to serve as committee members to evaluate the course evaluations. West noted that she is looking for electronic programs for course evaluations.

Council members discussed the problem of providing diploma duplicates upon request. Several members commented that international students are sometimes faced with job-related requests for diplomas, not transcripts.

UPDATES:

- Elbow noted that Dr. Casadonte, interim dean of the Graduate School, wants a Graduate School representative to sign all graduate course approval forms as an indication that the Graduate School has reviewed the course.
- Elbow said that the new core curriculum, which will take effect in fall 2014, is awaiting approval by the Provost Council, Board of Regents, and THECB.
- Parsoneault briefed council members on SACSCOC reaffirmation reviews and the requirements/standards most often cited as problem areas in the reviews.
- Duran reported that Red Raider Orientation has had about 200 to 250 more student participants this year than last year.
- West reported that Summer I enrollment was down about to 3 to 6 percent compared to last year. Summer II enrollment also may be down about the same percentage.