

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

Meeting of

September 18, 2012

MINUTES

Present: Cindy Akers, Adrien Bennings, Bobbie Brown, Cathy Duran, Gary Elbow, Clifford Ellis, Ralph Ferguson, Ryan Gibbs, Jarod Gonzalez, Melanie Hart, Bob Henry, Sheila Hoover, Lynn Huffman, Patrick Hughes, Jorge Iber, Peggy Johnson, Sue Jones, Michele Kizer, Jamie Hansard for Ethan Logan, Pat McConnel, Audra Morse, Michele Moskos, Valerie Paton, Marjean Purinton, David Roach, Christine Self, Brian Shannon, Brian Steele, Rob Stewart (chair), Kevin Stoker, Janessa Walls, Vicki West.

Guests: Kate St. Claire, Daniel East, Dale Ganus, Maegan Guzman, Andrew Martin, Juli McCauley, Mike Simmons

St. Claire and Walls presented a draft of wording describing the distinctions between several types of composite courses, including cross-listed courses, piggybacked courses, and combined sections of a course.

McCauley updated council members regarding the university's AlcoholEdu program, which had a 96 percent completion rate last year. This year Texas Tech has 4,579 first-time students, and 94 percent completed Part I of the program.

Ferguson distributed a Call for Abstracts handout advertising the second annual Arts and Humanities Graduate Research Conference October 25-27. Sponsored by the Graduate School, the conference provides an opportunity for graduate students to share their research with an educated, non-specialist audience.

Guzman, East, and Simmons presented a list of possible resolutions to issues encountered in implementing the Small Class Portal.

Stewart presented the minutes of the August 21, 2012, meeting. Purinton moved the minutes be accepted as presented. Morse seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Hughes demonstrated the new Visual Schedule Builder (<http://schedulebuilder.ttu.edu>), which was accessed online from August 23 to September 13 by more than 4,000 independent users. Hughes stressed that the application is not intended to be used instead of an advisor but in addition to an advisor. VSB is ready for use during pre-registration.

Hughes presented a handout listing the degree and non-degree programs housed in the Office of the Provost. These programs affect more than 2,500 students.

Jones presented the September course approval summary. After discussion concerning the appropriateness of item #12 (BA 4190) being a 4000-level course, Jones moved that the course summary be accepted as proposed but item #12 be tabled. Stokes seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Jones distributed a handout clarifying problems in creating new course prefixes, writing intensive courses, minors and concentrations, and four-digit course hours.

Elbow presented an application for a 15-hour Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Science and Technology to be housed in the Department of Geosciences. Stoker moved that the certificate be approved as presented. Morse seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Brown presented an updated list of important grading and registration dates for fall 2012 and spring 2013. She reminded council members that when a student graduates and returns the next semester to begin a second bachelor's degree, all that is required for admission is a letter to the Registrar. If a student sits out for a long term before returning for a second degree, the student has to reapply for admission.

Stewart encouraged associate deans to solicit applications from their faculty for Faculty Development Leave. Applications and letters can be submitted electronically but must be submitted by October 9.

Council members discussed the fall 2012 Convocation ceremony and made suggestions for future ceremonies.

Announcements:

- Faculty meeting at 3 p.m. September 20 in Allen Theater
- Relocation of College of Visual and Performing Arts to west wing of Holden Hall on the first and second floors.