

Minutes
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
February 14, 2011
3:00 – 5:00 P.M. 230 Student Services Building

Present: M. Denbow, (Acting Chair); D. Thorp for D. Wubah; C. Clemenz for S. Sorensen; S. Sumner; R. Holloway; J. Kim for R. Panneton; M. Cardman; C. Meier; J. Penven; J. Rankin for K. DePauw; S. Case; J. Browder; A. Studley; Y. Stivacytis; L. Anderson

Absent with Notification: J. Sible for L. Chang; S. McMullin; D. Patterson; S. Taheri; G. Kelly

Absent without notification: G. Schurig; D. Russell; M. Leung; A. Grant; J. Davis; R. Benson; D. Stauffer; A Hawthorne; A. Reightier

Visitors: W. Ashton; M. Maloney; T Ogle

Call to Order and Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Mike Denbow, Acting Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

New Business

Resolution to Approve the Pass/Fail Grade Option for Undergraduates (Revised Policy No. 204)

Mike Denbow, Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Curricula, moved approval for first reading Resolution 2010-11.B, "*Resolution to Approve the Pass/Fail Grade Option for Undergraduates (Revised Policy No. 204)*," effective Fall 2011. Motion was seconded and approved. Mike explained that the existing Pass/Fail Grade Options currently allowed students to take 10% of their credit hours at Virginia Tech. Under the current policy students and advisors are confused by the sliding scale and the scale limits the number of pass/fail classes eligible to be taken by transfer students as opposed to native students. The State Policy on Transfers requires equitable policies for transfer and native students. It was also noted that this policy is unfair to students enrolled in the Corps due to the required number of leadership classes being offered pass/fail. The proposed changes allow for a defined number of 12 Virginia Tech hours.

Reports from Commission Committees/Sub-Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curricula

Mike Denbow presented the report of the Committee on Undergraduate Curricula meeting of January 21, 2011. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Committee on Undergraduate Curricula report of January 21, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

New Courses Effective Fall 2011

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

AAEC 1264 – Peace Economics

College of Engineering

AOE 4065-4066 – Aircraft Design

AOE 4165-4166 – Spacecraft Design

AOE 4265-4266 – Ship Design

AOE 4264 – Fundamentals of Naval Engineering

New Courses Effective Spring 2012

College of Engineering

CEE 4144 – Air Resources Engineering

Restrictions Effective for Calendar Year 2011

College of Architecture and Urban Studies

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Discontinuation of Tracks Effective for Students Graduating in Spring 2012

College of Engineering

Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering – Infrastructure Systems Track

Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering – Structures, Geotechnical and Construction Track

Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering – Environmental and Water Resources Track

University Curriculum Committee on Liberal Education

Rachel Holloway presented the University Curriculum Committee on Liberal Education minutes of April 28, 2010, October 6, 2010, November 3, 2010 and December 1, 2010. It was noted by Rachel that some of the minutes have been held due to lack of a recording secretary and that these minutes are now complete. The motion to approve the University Curriculum Committee on Liberal Education minutes of April 28, 2010, October 6, 2010, November 3, 2010 and December 1, 2010, the motion passed unanimously.

University Athletic Committee

James Penven presented the University Athletic Committee minutes of October 27, 2010. The motion was made and seconded to accept the University Athletic Committee minutes of October 27, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Dr. John Browder, Associate Dean, College of Architecture, at the request and recommendation of the faculty of the College of Architecture, moved approval for the posthumous awarding of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design, to Elias Paul Lehman, effective Spring 2011 with the honor of *Magna Cum Laude*. Motion was seconded. Mr. Lehman is in good standing and meets all requirements for a posthumous degree. The motion carried unanimously.

Rachel Holloway provided an update on the recent activities the Committee on Academic Policies. One topics of this discussion has been trying to identify otherwise high performing students who may be having academic stress and providing early intervention, before the student experiences probation, or other academic discipline. Also under review has been the awarding of a secondary diploma; it was noted that to receive two degrees as opposed to a dual degree that a student must take an additional thirty hours, and that it must be taken "in residence", however there was confusion among the committee as to what "in residence" means.

There was discussion that a presentation of the Vision for Undergraduate Education would be helpful to the commission and that Dr. Wubah, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education would be invited to a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 pm

Submitted by,
Megan Maloney
Office of the University Registrar