

Minutes
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND POLICIES
October 10, 2011
3:00 – 5:00 P.M. 230 Student Services Building

Present: R Panneton, (Chair); D. Stauffer; C. Clemenz for R. Sorensen; S. Sumner for A. Grant; J. Sible for L. Nam Chang; B. Watford for R. Benson; J. Hanratty for Y. Stivachtis; M. Denbow; S. Bennett; J. Browder; R. Holloway; D. Thorp; S. Taheri; A. Scripa; S. McMullin; J. Rankin; J. Penven; D. Smith; L. Beecher; A. Hawthorne; V. Fowler; D. Zahm

Absent with Notification: N. Dam; K. Heiter; L. Cavuoto; A. Nelson

Absent without Notification: D. Patterson; G. Schurig

Visitors: W. Dean; M. Maloney; W. Ashton; B. Hendricks; D. Clark; B. Goodell; S. Ott Rowlands; K. Edgar, D. Wubah

Call to Order and Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Robin Panneton, Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

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

Announcement of approval and posting of minutes

Robin Panneton announced the September 26, 2011 minutes were electronically approved and can be accessed via the University Registrar website.

Old Business

Resolution 2011-12.B “Resolution for Renaming the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products to the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials”, Second Reading.

A motion was made and seconded to accept an amended version of the resolution.

Barry Goodell, head of the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, provided an amended version of the resolution addressing concerns presented during the first reading of Resolution 2011-12.B “Resolution for Renaming the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products to the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials”. He explained that the new resolution has clarification to sections 1 and 3. He continued that in section 4 international institutions reflecting departments and degrees were added to provide clarity. He affirmed the department’s request for the title reiterating the title reflects its mission. While some commission members voiced support for the desire of the department to change its name, they again

suggested the title needed more specificity regarding the usage of the term “biomaterials.” The department of Materials Science and Engineering stated that while they support the name change, they are concerned with the use of misleading adjectives. Sue Ott Rowlands, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, spoke on the importance of interdisciplinary efforts across colleges. She expressed concern that the debate as to the name of the department perceives the title as exclusionary rather than highlighting strengths in a discipline. In fact, she noted that other department names may prompt the same concerns. Sue suggested the proposed department name reflects the department’s effort to be visionary and to reflect cutting edge research in their discipline. Other concerns were raised that in spite of the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products insistence on the modifier “sustainable” (an important qualifier for “biomaterials”), some materials being generated by the department are not using consistent wording (e.g., new course proposals). Dr. Goodell responded that the department would take stock of their word use, and improve consistency in terminology. A vote to accept the revision of the Resolution 2011-12.B “*Resolution for Renaming the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products to the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials*”, carried with a vote of 17 Yes, 1 No, and 3 abstentions. The motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2011-12.B “*Resolution for Renaming the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products to the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials*” as amended, the motion carried with a vote of 10 Yes, 9 No, and 2 abstentions.

Resolution 2011-2012.C Policy on Untaught Courses in the Undergraduate Course Catalog and the Curriculum for Liberal Education Second Reading.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the Resolution 2011-2012.C *Policy on Untaught Courses in the Undergraduate Course Catalog and the Curriculum for Liberal Education* Second Reading. Motion carried with a vote of 20 Yes, 1 abstention.

New Business

Reports from Commission Committees/Sub-Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curricula

Diane Zahm presented the report of the Committee on Undergraduate Curricula meeting of September 30, 2011. Motion was made and seconded to approve the Committee on Undergraduate Curricula report of September 30, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.

**For “First and Second Reading”
Unanimous Approval**

Revised Courses Effective Spring 2012

College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

Course: COMM 2014- Speech Communication

New Courses Effective Spring 2012

College of Engineering

Course: CEE 4254 – Municipal Engineering

Other Business

Robin Panneton requested a student volunteer for the Subcommittee on Academic Policy. Lauren Beecher (the only student representative present) has a scheduling conflict. The committee will reach out to the other student representatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 pm

Submitted by,
Megan Maloney
Office of the University Registrar