

# ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

## Minutes

TUESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2014

2:10-3:00 P.M. - 107 LABORATORY OF MECHANICS

Present: J. Byars, R. Wallace, B. Skaar, J. Olson, F. Peters, R. Martin, H. Greenlee, D. Chimenti, T. Paschke, J. Thompson

I. Call to Order at 2:12pm

II. Approval of Minutes of 19 November 2013. Martin motioned to approve; Olson seconded motion; all approved to accept minutes.

III. Announcements

A. MPA Discontinuation. There are about a dozen students left to finish their degrees. A final vote will be taken at FS meeting today.

B. The primary focus of this committee for spring semester will be to evaluate curriculum proposals.

IV. Committee Reports:

A. FS Curriculum Committee – The new electronic version of the “new course form” is experiencing a few glitches but is close to launching. The committee hasn’t met this semester so there is little to report.

B. Academic Standards and Admissions Committee – No Report

C. Outcomes Assessment Committee – A “Quality Initiative” is currently under development. This includes the six common University learning outcomes. It will provide a centralized location for post-graduate survey information. This is not a regent’s initiative.

V. Unfinished Business:

A. Enforcement of Prerequisites/De-registering students without pre-reqs. Compiling a list of students who do/do not have prerequisites for all classes would be a cumbersome process. This process may be better suited for each individual college. There is agreement that departments should have authority to de-register students without proper prerequisites but faculty aren’t necessarily privy to each student’s transcript, especially students from other departments, so enforcement is difficult. Because there may be legal issues involved, all agreed that a written policy is needed. AAC will draft a policy proposal to be vetted through faculty/faculty senate.

B. Evaluation of ISU Comm and Communications Skills Survey  
A new director of ISU Comm has been hired and the survey will move forward once this person arrives to campus.

C. Establishing revised/more complete charge to Outcomes Assessment Committee  
It was agreed that because AAC created this committee, they should define its charge. To date, the committee has focused on two goals; 1) developing the process for abiding by the new “Quirnbach Bill;” 2) identifying common learning outcomes of the University (there are six). There is confusion about the committee’s role in reporting learning outcomes. Should this be done at the college level? AAC will draft a charge for this committee and present it to Holger for review.

It was noted that FS president Dark recently spoke with faculty member Quirnbach about ISU's approach to the Continuous Improvement Initiative. He feels that ISU is doing what it should to comply with Representative Quirnbach's bill.

VI. New Business:

A. Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) Minor

Wallace gave an overview of the proposal. The proposed minor will provide the “nuts and Bolts” of how to teach ESL that is specifically geared to undergraduates. Byars motioned to approve; Olson seconded motion; all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57pm.

Next Meeting: 4 February 2014\* – Lab. of Mechanics 107