

1-8-2007

Undergraduate Council Meeting : 2007 : 01 : 08

Undergraduate Council

Follow this and additional works at: http://digital.usfsp.edu/fac_senate_council_undergrad

Recommended Citation

Undergraduate Council, "Undergraduate Council Meeting : 2007 : 01 : 08" (2007). *USFSP Faculty Senate Council: Undergraduate*. 12.
http://digital.usfsp.edu/fac_senate_council_undergrad/12

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the USFSP Faculty Senate Committee: Graduate and Undergraduate Council at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in USFSP Faculty Senate Council: Undergraduate by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.

---draft---

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
Undergraduate Council Meeting
Monday, January 8, 2007, 10:00AM**

Present: Grover Kearns, Seth McKee, Elizabeth Mulig, Tina Neville, Jay Sokolovsky, Bob Thompson and Jennifer Baker
Guest: Tony Silvia
Absent: Bonnie Braun, Jennefer Khattabi

Approval of the minutes

The minutes from the December 11, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business

Department of Journalism and Media Studies: Program change

Background:

The Department of Journalism and Media Studies has proposed a philosophical and structural change to their undergraduate program. In the past, journalism students were required to select from a list of pre-set tracks. The department would like to eliminate the pre-set track system to allow students more flexibility in selecting courses that will best fit their needs. Faculty advising is an established part of the journalism program and will continue to be used as a means of helping students to specialize in a particular area of their choosing or to complete a more generalized program of study. As part of this overall restructuring, the department would like to replace the "Advanced Reporting" class option with a required course called "Neighborhood News Bureau." And, in order to more adequately reflect the work involved, the Senior Capstone Seminar should be increased from one to two credits. All of these changes are in accordance with the mission and goals of USFSP, the USFSP Program of Distinction, and the terms of ACEJMC (the journalism accrediting body).

In addition, the Department of Journalism and Media Studies would like to seek permanent course status for seven courses that have all been taught as "Special Topics:"

- Media Convergence
- Web Publishing
- Video Storytelling
- Science Writing
- Neighborhood News Bureau
- Literary Journalism
- Senior Capstone Seminar

These changes will give students more flexibility and will highlight and utilize the expertise of the fulltime faculty.

Discussion:

Dr. Tony Silvia, Director of the Department of Journalism and Media Studies was present at the meeting to answer any questions relating to the proposal. The Council began the session by complementing the department on the excellence of their proposal packet. Questions and responses follow:

Have all of the courses listed been offered as special topics?

Yes although some may have had slightly different names.

How will the proposed change to add a required course and increase the Senior Capstone course to two credits impact resources?

Any of the current, fulltime faculty are able and willing to teach a section of Neighborhood News. That course will be offered all three semesters and the Senior Capstone will be offered twice a year to handle the number of students needing to enroll.

How many students are in the major?

142 undergraduate majors and pre-majors

How flexible are the electives as far as the ability to offer them on a regular basis?

The list of electives in the proposal has already been vetted to eliminate items that are not available on a regular basis. The Department of Journalism has worked to minimize course substitutions and will continue to vet the electives list on a regular basis.

Will there be transferability issues between St. Pete and Tampa?

Unlike St. Pete, Tampa's journalism program emphasizes broadcast news—the two programs are already quite different.

If a department or program wants to add additional electives do they need to go through the UG Council?

Jennifer replied that they did but there may be a streamlined process. She will check into that.

Decision:

Bob Thompson moved to accept the Journalism and Media Studies proposal as written. Jay Sokolovsky seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business

Jennifer announced that there may have two education course proposals for our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 am.

Next meeting

Tentatively scheduled for February 12, 2007 (second Monday of the month) at 10:00 am in BAY 220.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Neville
Secretary