

10-5-2007

Undergraduate Council Meeting : 2007 : 10 : 05

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Recommended Citation

Undergraduate Council, "Undergraduate Council Meeting : 2007 : 10 : 05" (2007). *USFSP Faculty Senate Council: Undergraduate*. 19.
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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
Undergraduate Council Meeting
Friday, October 5, 2007, 10:00AM

Present: Grover Kearns, Bonnie Braun, Seth McKee, Tina Neville, Kim Stoddard, Bob Thompson, and Jennifer Baker

An emergency meeting was called to discuss and vote on the USF Institutional Residency document. A draft of the document was submitted to the Council prior to the meeting. The document is part of the institutional requirements mandated by SACS and has already been vetted and approved by numerous leaders across both campuses including President Genshaft, the Tampa Faculty Senate, the SP deans, SP enrollment services, the SP Faculty Senate, and the SP Graduate Council.

In brief, the Institutional Residency document states that candidates for graduation must complete at least 30 of their final 60 undergraduate hours in courses offered by the institution from which they receive their degree.

Discussion points:

During the early days of the SACS separate accreditation process, SACS recommended that USF look into a consortial agreement that would allow flexibility for students moving from one campus to another. In addition, the intent of the Florida Legislature when it mandated the separate accreditation was to allow easy mobility between the USF campuses.

What if the students can't get all of the courses that they need at the St. Pete campus? The UGC was assured that the College Deans have made the commitment to offer (in a timely manner) all of the courses needed to complete USFSP degrees on this campus. This applies to any degree that is advertised as being offered as a complete degree at St. Pete. College Deans also have the ability to make exceptions as necessary during the transition to the new institutional residency requirements.

The document also includes language that necessitates getting prior approval to take a course at another campus. What process will be in place to make sure that students are informed about this requirement and how will the approval process take place?

What will be the impact on USFSP students—will it be more difficult for students on this campus? Jennifer Baker agreed that USFSP will have to pay close attention to scheduling to make sure that all necessary courses are offered within the needed timeframe. However, we have been working toward this requirement for some time.

Motion by Bonnie Braun to approve Institutional Residency document.

Bob Thompson second.

The institutional Residency document was approved in it's presented form.