College of Business Council
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 24, 2010, 11:00 A.M., DAV 108 Conference Room

Members Present: Tom Ainscough, Chris Davis, Grover Kearns (Chair), Dan Marlin, Gary Patterson, Rick Smith

Guests Present: None

1. Approval of Minutes of 1/13/10 Meeting

A note in the minutes was removed as it did not reflect upon the actual discussion. Minutes were approved with that revision.

2. Proposal to Exclude SET Evaluations if Response Rate is Low.

Dr. Bill Jackson had asked the CBC to consider making it the instructor’s prerogative to include or exclude SET evaluations if the response rate was low. It was his feeling that a low response rate could indicate that only students who were negatively biased against the instructor were reporting online. The CBC felt that such a rule might conflict with the USF Collective Bargaining Agreement and other governance mechanisms. The motion was tabled and Dr. Jackson will be invited to meet with the CBC to discuss the matter after a review of the existing governance mechanisms that would affect the decision.

3. Definition of Terms Concentration versus Track

The CBC had been asked if there was a distinction between a ‘concentration’ and a ‘track’. Currently, the graduate program offers specialty tracks within the MBA. After a review of the current programs in the USF system, no distinction could be found. A brief review of the use of these terms at other institutions revealed that they were being used interchangeably and in conjunction. For example, the Notre Dame MBA program has ‘concentration tracks.’ Therefore, the CBC recommends that we continue using ‘tracks’ to define the areas of special emphasis in the MBA.

4. Definition of Graduate Faculty

The CBC had been asked if there was a definition for graduate faculty separate from that for the USF system. There is not. The definition for the USF system continues to serve our needs.

5. Proposed Faculty Senate Charter Amendment

The faculty senate had proposed changes to the charter. First, chairs and vice-chairs will be changed to President and Vice-President of the Faculty Senate. Second, (a) terms for senators will be increased from two to three years, and (b) terms for the Vice-Presidents
and Presidents will be increased from one to two years. The CBC was not opposed to these changes.

6. Role of CBC

Chris Davis expressed concern that some items were being discussed before being brought before the CBC and that this might cause confusion. His concern was duly noted.

7. Other Business

A discussion ensued about recent problems surrounding the academic process (or lack thereof). Chief concerns were the lack of process followed in making the decision to change from the traditional one class a week to requiring classes to meet twice each week. It was felt that there were compelling reasons to remain with the traditional scheduling but that the change was being made without consultation with the college councils. Another concern was the loss of identity for the College of Business. The CBC will continue discussion of these problems at its next meeting.

8. The CBC meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Grover S. Kearns, Chair, CBC