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Undergraduate Council Meeting : 2014 : 11 : 24

Undergraduate Council

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Undergraduate Council Meeting Minutes
24 November 2014, 12:00 p.m., Piano Man Building

Members Present: Tom Ainscough (chair, COB), Bonnie Braun (COE), Linda Crossman (Registrar), Joan Eldridge (Academic Advising), Kevin Wang (CAS), Jim Schnur (LIB)

Regrets: None

Guests: Michael Lockett

Meeting: Called to order at 12:11 p.m. with quorum present by Tom

Minutes: None

New Business

Curricular Matters

1. Proposed Modification of Business Majors to permit up to 3 credit hours as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) for course in the major. This proposal will allow up to three hours of S/U credit within the major course work for undergraduate degrees in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. Passage of this modification allows the Undergraduate Council to consider the possibility of adding an S/U internship option within the majors of the college.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the undergraduate curriculum change request proposal to modify the College of Business majors by including the option of up to three hours of major course work with an S/U grade. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

2. Proposed creation of new course: Internship (GEB4941). Council members reviewed the proposal submitted to allow an internship of up to 3 semester hours evaluated on an S/U grading system for all majors within the Kate Tiedemann College of Business except for Accounting majors (who will be covered by a separate proposal also under consideration). Michael Lockett attended this portion of the meeting to answer questions. This course is designed to be offered in multiple sections so that the faculty members of record for individual sections can tailor their internship experiences to the specific majors within the college (i.e., Marketing, etc.). UGC members suggested that employers/site supervisors maintain contact with faculty on a more frequent basis than just once at the end of the semester. They also commended Michael for the thoroughness of the proposal.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal with minor changes to the language to encourage additional contact, such as a mid-term review, by the site supervisor. Bonnie **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

3. Proposed creation of new course: Accounting Internship (ACG4xxx). Council members reviewed the proposal submitted to allow an internship of up to 3 semester hours evaluated on an S/U grading system for the Accounting major within the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. UGC members suggested that employers/site supervisors maintain contact with faculty on a more frequent basis than just once at the end of the semester.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal with minor changes to the language to encourage additional contact, such as a mid-term review, by the site supervisor. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

4. Proposed addition of a course to the General Education curriculum: Mass Communications and Society (MMC3602). This course is presently offered and serves as a requirement for the Mass Communications major. This proposal would allow the course to serve also as a Communications requirement for Gen Ed, though it does not have a Gordon Rule writing requirement similar to other courses that serve that purpose, including ENC1101/ENC1102. The two composition courses (ENC1101/ENC1102) are required for Mass Communications majors so they will not benefit from this serving as a Communications requirement. Members expressed concern that a course proposed to receive Gen Ed attributes for the Communications requirement lacks a substantive writing requirement.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **TABLE** the course proposal for until such time as an applicant or stakeholder in this course could meet with the UGC to answer questions requiring clarification. Bonnie **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

5. Proposed addition of a course to the General Education curriculum: Introduction to Philosophy (PHI2010). This proposal would allow the course to serve as a Humanities requirement for Gen Ed.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

6. Proposed addition of a course to the General Education curriculum: Contemporary Moral Issues (PHI2630). This proposal would allow the course to serve as a Humanities requirement for Gen Ed.

Following discussion, Tom **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal. Jim **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

7. Proposed creation of a new course: Marine Field Studies (BSC3xxx). The paperwork reviewed by the Undergraduate Council lacked a signature from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Therefore, no action was taken regarding the application and it was remanded to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for review.

8. Proposed modification of the Biology curriculum. The paperwork reviewed by the Undergraduate Council lacked a signature from the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Therefore, no action was taken regarding the application and it was remanded to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for review.

9. Proposed addition of a course to the General Education curriculum: World History since 1815 (WOH2030). This proposal would allow the course to serve as a Humanities requirement for Gen Ed.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

10. Proposed addition of a course to the General Education curriculum: Introduction to Comparative Politics (CPO2002). This proposal would allow the course to serve as a Social Sciences requirement for Gen Ed.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **ACCEPT** the course proposal. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

11. Proposed creation of new course: Introduction to Sustainability (EVR 3xxx). Council members raised concerns in the proposal document, including the following: 1. The syllabus needs to employ less

colloquial language and emphasize the need to achieve rather than to “attempt to.” 2. The “1” grade policy is out-of-date. 3. The use of the word “Introduction” in a 3000-level course is problematic. The title gives the impression that this is a lower-level course. 4. The syllabus also needs the addition of Title IX language.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **RETURN** the course proposal for necessary revisions to the proposal and the syllabus. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

12. Proposed creation of new course: Field Methods for Environmental Science (EVR49xx). Council members raised concerns in the proposal document, including the following: 1. The syllabus emphasizes class lectures and face-to-face meetings, yet the course title implies that this is a “field methods” course that would focus on activities outside of the classroom setting. 2. Are there registration restrictions, and, if so, what are they? 3. Some of the SLOs mention that students would be “exposed to” (a weaker relationship) rather than working directly (stronger hands-on) with items or issues. 4. The proposed course title implies that this is something akin to a fieldwork while the syllabus reads more like an in-class research methods course.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **RETURN** the course proposal for necessary revisions to the proposal and the syllabus. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

13. Proposed creation of new course: Sustainable St. Petersburg (EVR3xxx). Council members raised concerns in the proposal document, including the following: 1. The opportunity to take this course with variable semester hours (1-3) did not clearly explain how the students taking the course for different numbers of credit hours would meet the appropriate level of learning outcomes for the credit hours enrolled. 2. The syllabus lacks detail. 3. The course may target freshman even though it is upper-level. 4. The title “St. Petersburg” is too confining. Does this mean that county resources outside of the municipal limits or that entities within the city limits but operated by Pinellas County or state or federal agencies (such as FIO) are automatically excluded?

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **RETURN** the course proposal for necessary revisions to the proposal and the syllabus. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

14. Proposed creation of new course: Environmental Economics and Sustainability (EVR4xxx). Council members raised concerns in the proposal document, including the following: 1. The course work heavily emphasizes economic principles and theories, and these areas are generally taught by faculty in the Kate Tiedemann College of Business, not by ESP faculty. 2. The syllabus has extensive references to economics and there is no indication that this course would be cross-listed with the College of Business or also involve COB faculty.

Following discussion, Jim **MOVED** that the Undergraduate Council **RETURN** the course proposal for necessary revisions to the proposal and the syllabus. Tom **SECONDED** this motion. Hearing no further discussion, the **MOTION WAS APPROVED by vote of the Council.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Schnur
University Librarian