

INSTRUCTION COUNCIL

MINUTES

December 16, 2011

Present: Raj Basu, Celeste Campbell, Bruce Crauder, Cheryl Devuyst, Steve Edwards, Bavette Miller, Chris Ormsbee, Shiretta Ownbey, Jeremy Penn, David Porter, David Thompson, Jean Van Delinder, Mark Weiser, Tina Meier, Mary Bryans, Robin Wilson, and Pamela Fry.

1. Summer School Budget – Mary Bryans

Mary noted that summer school funding was part of the university allocations for several years. In Summer 2007 the budget office was asked to pull together a report on Fall student credit hours in conjunction with revenue and expenses to look at the net balance to determine what type of incentives could be given for summer school offerings. Dr. Strathe initiated a program offering incentives to faculty who created and taught online summer school classes, but since that time, the program had to be eliminated due to budget cuts. Currently, distance courses are becoming more popular and with most distance courses, the University only receives the fee revenue from these course offerings not tuition. Members noted that most of the students taking online courses are from Stillwater. Mary asked members to share any ideas on how to promote summer school and increase summer school credit hours, and she would discuss those ideas with Joe Weaver and the Outreach Office. Members noted that the University needs to offer incentives to students, discounted tuition and/or housing costs. Another suggestion was to increase fees on summer school. Dr. Thompson noted that Engineering will have to cancel some of their summer courses due to lack of funding to support those courses. Members noted that the University may need to offer a campus-wide summer school program. Mary asked members to offer some innovative plans for summer school. Discussions to continue in the next meeting.

2. Incompletes in D2L – Tina Meier

Tina noted that 80% of the issues with students receiving incomplete grades in D2L have been resolved but about 20% of the issues remain unresolved. Students in the military or students with medical situations who try to access a prior semester's course materials to complete the course can't because they've lost student status. Another issue is when the classes cross semesters and end on different dates. Tina's group worked on making some of those courses in D2L year-long terms to avoid those problems, but IT still has D2L issues with study abroad courses and internships. Tina encouraged members to inform their colleges to be careful when selecting the term dates for their classes as this may also present student financial aid problems. Members asked if there was a way to code the study abroad courses with a different number within the course number. Celeste will check to see if that would be a possibility.

3. Curricular Requests

College of Arts and Sciences

12/2/11 - Members approved all courses with the exception of the tabled Chemistry courses: CHEM 3013, 1314, 1414, and 1515. These courses will be discussed in the next meeting.

It was requested that the courses be tabled again so that additional discussions could occur with the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. Member commented that with the changes in the Mathematics prerequisites, the feeder schools need to be notified.

College of Human Sciences

Course Requests

12/2/11 - Members approved with the exception of NSCI 5013. Tabled NSCI 5013, and it will be discussed in the next meeting.

Members approved the title change of the course.

Spears School of Business
Course Requests

INTERNATIONAL PROFICIENCY COMPETENCY, UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE
New Program Request

The Spears School of Business at Oklahoma State University proposes this certificate to document a specific proficiency that complements a student's degree and major requirements. Based on feedback from recruiters and the Accounting Advisory Board, we expect students with this certificate to be more heavily sought after than their counterparts with the same BS degree and major.

12/2/11 - Members had some concern about the proposed name of the program and asked that the request be tabled until the next meeting to allow time for discussions to determine a more appropriate name.

Members approved the revised title.

4. ALEKS Math Replacement Exam – Jeremy Penn

Jeremy noted that he and others have been revisiting the Mathematics prerequisites to take the ACT requirement off of the course action forms. Jeremy has been working with Amy Martindale and Steve Damron to plan training sessions for areas to learn about ALEKS. They are also working with Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) about remedial Math and creating evaluations and a follow-up plan with students who have taken the ALEKS test. It was noted that New Student Orientation (NSO) will be the key piece to communicate about this initiative. Members asked how this initiative would work with student with AP credit.

5. Research Project – Russ Rhinehart

The professional school concept is that students must perform well in the first two years or raise their GPA or transfer to another discipline. Dr. Rhinehart wants to collect and analyze data in order to defend this concept. Dr. Rhinehart developed some predictors along with self-advising tools/materials and expressed a desire to measure more data. Members asked if this could become a model for other disciplines, and it was noted that it could.

6. Other

Arts and Sciences must take math prerequisite requests back through their curricular committee.

Tina noted that discussions will need to continue to decide on the best date for the D2L upgrade.

Adjourn: 3:00 p.m.