Minutes
Academic Council
March 3, 2015

Present: Aguinaga, Barnes, Barrios, Daly, Eddleman, Fluegge-Woolf, Gathman, Hinkle, Humphrey, Jung, McAllister, McDougall, McGowan, Rogers-Adkinson (by Skype), Starrett, and Suhr

Guests: James Champine, Philip Crawford, Peggy Hill, Jean Miller

A. MINUTES:
Upon a motion by Gathman; seconded by McGowan, the minutes of February 3, 2015, were unanimously approved.

B. ACTION ITEMS:

1. BSED Agricultural Education – Curriculum Revisions
2. BSED Biology Education/Biology Education (Unified Science) – Curriculum Revisions
3. BSED Chemistry Education – Curriculum Revisions
4. BSED Chemistry Education (Unified Science) – Deletion of Option
5. BSED Physics Education – Curriculum Revisions
6. BSED Technology and Engineering Education – Curriculum Revisions/Program Title Change

McDougall moved approval of Action Items 1-6 – curriculum revisions to the BSED Agricultural Education, BSED Biology Education/Biology Education (Unified Science), BSED Chemistry Education, BSED Physics Education, and BSED Technology and Engineering Education; deletion of the BSED Chemistry Education (Unified Science) option; and program title change from BSED Engineering Technology Education to BSED Technology and Engineering Education; seconded by Rogers-Adkinson. Rogers-Adkinson explained that all changes were to align our programs with the new Missouri Standards for Professional Educators (MoSPE) and DESE certification requirements. McGowan noted that the Chemistry Education (Unified Science) option was being deleted due to no students in the program. McDougall expressed appreciation for the faculty in the College of Education and the departments with secondary education programs for their work in getting the programs revised. Hill noted that there was a minor change that should be made to the Physics Education curriculum sheet. Eddleman explained that all remaining Education changes would come forward to the April Academic Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Bachelor of Science in Public Health – New Program

McGowan moved approval of a new Bachelor of Science in Public Health program, with options in Biology, Information, Nutrition, Health Policy and Management, and Social/Behaviorial; seconded by McDougall/Gathman. Miller explained that this is an interdisciplinary program with several options. It will be largely populated by pre-professional students who are not able to complete those types of programs. It will give those students a way to stay in a Health related field, and make use of courses already taken. The curriculum was developed to align with the Council on Education for Public Health’s (CEPH) curriculum requirements for future application for accreditation. Eddleman commended Miller for her work on the proposal. McDougall suggested that an advisory group be formed that would meet each semester to determine and resolve any issues. Hinkle questioned how substitutions would be handled; McDougall suggested that the advisory group identify one person under each option that could sign for substitutions. Motion passed unanimously.

8. University Studies 300-400 Hour Requirement Change

Barrios moved approval of the proposal to reduce the nine hour UI 300-400 level requirement to six hours by eliminating one UI 3XX requirement; seconded by McGowan. Barrios explained that the
elimination of one UI3XX requirement would reduce the University Students program from 51 hours to 48 hours. He noted that at 51 hours, we require more hours than most universities. He also noted that many programs are feeling pressure from accrediting bodies to reduce hours. Starrett suggested that such a significant change be made in a more strategic way than a reactive way, possibly by including it in the possible upcoming review of the program. Rogers-Adkinson noted that the College of Education highly supports the proposal, as the reduction of hours would help their college. Jung expressed the concerns of those who approached him directly about the issue: “this would make for a weakening of standards,” “the Liberal Arts discipline will be downgraded in the name of accreditation,” “there was no open communication,” (McGowan and Barrios objected to this concern, as they ensured the Council the proposal was shared in other venues) “most faculty didn’t know about the proposal,” “the proposal should have been discussed at Faculty Senate,” “with 68 sections of UI3XX courses, what are the implications of cutting one?” Fluegge-Woolf also shared concerns she was approached about: “proposal reduces the appeal of overseas travel,” “it reduces the pool of credits,” “if there is to be a review of University Studies, why not wait until that review to make this sort of change?” McDougall noted that he also sees the concern about travel abroad, and suggested a possible intermediate step of eliminating the first two sentences of the statement: “The program review committee recommends that the nine hour UI requirement at the 300-400 level be reduced to six hours by eliminating one UI 3xx requirement. This change will reduce the overall program requirements from 51 to 48 hours beginning with first year students entering Southeast in fall 2015.” Jung also expressed the concern that this proposal was being pushed through to meet the deadline for the next Undergraduate Bulletin; Hinkle stated that the Bulletin had already been sent to the printers. After further discussion, McDougall moved to table the motion; seconded by Gathman. Motion to table was approved, with three nays.

C. Informational/Discussion Items:

1. MBA Health Administration Option – Curriculum Revisions – McDougall explained that additional courses were added to the list of courses students could choose from; this provides more flexibility.

2. BS Mathematics: Actuarial Science Option – Curriculum Revisions – McGowan explained that Actuarial Science program was put together before a faculty member in that area had been hired. The program has now been revised based on that faculty member’s input.

3. SLO Statements – Starrett explained that Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) statements were made a required part of course syllabi three years ago. Since then, there has been a question of how those SLO’s could be posted for public access. McDougall suggested that the SLO’s be made part of the online catalog; Hinkle advised that the online catalog would be getting a complete overhaul, and new software was being reviewed for that. Starrett noted that currently Floyd Lockhart in CSTL has a database of SLO’s. Gathman suggested that however they’re posted, there’s a need for it to pull directly from the database so the information is always current. After further discussion, Eddleman suggested that he meet with Starrett, Gathman, and Lockhart to discuss the topic, and report back to the April Academic Council meeting.

D. Other:

1. Certificate Programs – Hinkle distributed a handout of transcripted certificate programs. She explained that the Online 2020 Subcommittee is reviewing competency based education, and she is looking to provide that subcommittee with a list of certificate programs, as they’d like to look at those for possible pilots for competency based education. She needs to know of any untranscripted certificate programs that are offered, so she can include those in the list.

2. Hinkle stated that mid-term grades are due the Monday of Spring Break. First 8 week grading will open after the mid-term process is complete.

Upon a motion by McGowan; seconded by Jung, the meeting adjourned.