

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES
 November 18, 2011

Academic Council met on Friday, November 18, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room B, Macfeat Building.

Members:

David Beatty*	Visual & Performing Arts
Keith Benson	Business Administration
John Bird	Arts & Sciences
Matthew Fike	Arts & Sciences
Kambrell Garvin	CSL Student Representative
Mark Hamilton	Visual & Performing Arts
Lisa Harris*	Education
Jennifer Jordan	Education
Will Kiblinger, Chair	Arts & Sciences
Jo Koster	Arts & Sciences
Willis Lewis	Business Administration
Ron Parks*	Visual & Performing Arts
Frank Pullano	Arts & Sciences
Darren Ritzer	Arts & Sciences
Carol Shields	Education
Marilyn Smith	Business Administration
Gale Teaster-Woods	Library
Brad Tripp	Arts & Sciences
Gina Jones, Secretary	Registrar

* Absent

Guests present: Debra Boyd, Alice Burmeister, Beth Costner, Lisa Johnson, Cliff Calloway, David Wohl, Lynn Harand, Ruth Gaylor, Anna Fredericks, and Peter Judge.

Chair Kiblinger called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

I. Minutes of the meeting of September 30, 2011 (approved electronically)

II. Remarks from the Chair Will Kiblinger

Dr. Kiblinger stated that there is a perceived need to accommodate summer courses, but there is also a need for structure so that students know when things are offered. We need to establish what courses are being offered earlier.

There were some delinquencies with mid-semester grade reporting and a concern that some instructors did not have a grade. Should there be a requirement? Dr. Kiblinger thought that there had been a rule at

one time. Dr. Boyd thought that it was 40%. Dr. Kiblinger suggested that faculty need to know when mid-term grading is done so that it could be on the syllabus.

Dr. Kiblinger noted that there is a consensus among various groups meeting about a change in the minimum GPA, but nothing has been submitted yet.

III. Remarks from the VPAA.....Debra Boyd

Dr. Boyd said that she would send an email about the mid-term grading date so that instructors would know in a timely manner.

Dr. Boyd clarified that the minimum GPA requirement being discussed is for freshmen and sophomores.

Dr. Boyd encouraged everyone to go to the web page for NSSE results (<http://www2.winthrop.edu/effectiveness/nsse/>). The highlights are interesting regarding ULCs and can lead us to questions about what we're doing.

We will be participating in a pilot in the spring for a new NSSE survey.

Dr. Boyd asked, "What do we need to do in our half-day retreat in January?" This is a professional development opportunity. Send her an email with your suggestions by November 28. The Deans will discuss the retreat on Monday. Perhaps we should consider a smaller group?

IV. Committee Reports

A. Report from the Committee on University Curriculum.....Jo Koster

Dr. Koster brought forth two program changes: the modification to the BS-NUTR-DIET and the dropping of the BS-NUTR-NSCI. Both programs were approved.

Dr. Koster had a suggestion regarding the College of Education changes that are coming soon: when departments are implementing program changes, she asked that they bring forward programs of study-- what courses should be taken semester by semester. The CUC also asked that departments look at the year (probably sophomore) when STAR courses are being taken and work out an actual student schedule.

Dr. Boyd emphasized that this is a flagship program for our region, maybe the country. She asked that we not worry about implementation, but she is encouraged by the conversation. She endorses the plan but is concerned that the mock up of student schedules should be handled at the program level and may not be realistic for a particular semester. She hopes this push from CUC alerts people to the issues.

Dr. Koster stated that the thought among CUC members was that there are some programs that have courses that are so tightly nested that we need to get a feel for what is happening.

Mr. Hamilton expressed concern about adding another level of complexity, that this scheduling problem should have been handled at the college level. He wanted to know exactly what CUC was asking for.

Dr. Koster asked for a chart. Will a student need to take summer school to complete Gen Ed?

Mr. Hamilton stated that he agrees with the intent but wonders how realistic it is.

Dr. Koster indicated that this would show timely progress for students. Modeling will allow better planning and advising. CUC is trying to encourage conversation. The old curriculum form asked if the department had talked with other affected departments. The current Curriculum Action System doesn't have this, but it is needed.

Dr. Boyd stated that this program has been talked about for a long time. We're to a point now where some things will have to change due to the nature of the program. Programs will need to ask, "Where do we fit?" Dr. Boyd felt comfortable that the needs of various programs will be met and doesn't think that it is unreasonable to come up with a 4-year plan. She hopes that this will trigger conversations regarding any problems that may arise.

Dr. Costner pointed out that students start in so many different places. Some of these conversations have already begun. With regard to the STAR rounds, the Department of Mathematics has been working with COE to arrange field placements so that students aren't out every week.

Dr. Boyd said that there is a desire for conversation and collaboration. Does CUC need to know things before curriculum gets to them?

Dr. Koster relayed that the Curriculum Action System has no way of adding these kinds of notes but that it would be helpful.

Dr. Johnson appreciated the feedback of CUC. After several conversations, the STAR round was modified and still provides flexibility.

Dr. Koster then stated that she had an email from Dean Rakestraw that the Teacher Education Committee meeting is being moved up to March.

B. Report from the General Education Committee.....John Bird

The Gen Ed Committee met on November 8th and approved the following courses:

Social Science: HONR 234H

Natural Science: ANTH 315

Constitution Requirement: HIST/EDUC 312

Humanities and Arts: HONR 232H and THRT 442

Because these are first-certify_courses, Academic Council must approve also. The members approved all courses.

The Committee will meet on December 1st regarding the modifications to the certification form in light of the ULCs.

V. Unfinished Business

None.

VI. New Business

A. Recommendation: That Cultural Event credits for transfer students be based on how many hours are required to reach 124 credit hours, regardless of how many hours the student has to take to earn the degree. This number would be known in their first semester here and could be coded into Banner during that first semester by the Office of Records and Registration. The minimum requirement would be 4 Cultural Events as a minimum of 31 credit hours are required to earn a degree from Winthrop University.

Dr. Kiblinger explained the recommendation. Ms. Jones indicated that this proposal was in line with the way two other colleges nearby (Furman University and Wingate University) handled their cultural event programs with transfer students.

Dr. Koster asked if freshmen who brought in AP or IB credit would be included in this proposal. Ms. Jones answered, "No." Because our current portfolio requirement specified that cultural events had to be experienced after high school, we would use this reasoning to exclude freshmen.

Dr. Smith made the motion to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously.

Dr. Benson then stated that he would like to see more inclusiveness in Cultural Events such as one outside of the major area, including global events.

Ms. Teaster-Woods reminded the council that ACAD students are required to go to at least one global event.

VII. Announcements

None.

VIII. Adjournment

Dr. Kiblinger adjourned the meeting at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Jones
Secretary