

TWU Undergraduate Council

November 30, 2009

Minutes

Members Present

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|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| K. Dunlap (J. Whitworth) | Stoerm Anderson | Jordan Fuchs |
| Allen Waldo | David Rylander | Don Edwards |
| AnaLouise Keating | Penelope Hanstein | Gloria Byrd |
| Pat Devereaux | Joni Jensen | Margaret Compton |
| Terry Senne | Susan Eitel (Rhonda Buckley) | Guy Litton |
| Bobbie Ferrell | Patricia Holden-Huchton | Lisa Silliman French |

Ex Officio Members Present

Laura Rocchio

Members Not Present

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|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Sarah Adams | Brian Harding | Sharon Vincent |
| Mahmoud Sadri | Peggy Landrum | Heather Speed |
| Lybeth Hodges | Judith Bean | Roger Shipley |
| Carol Kominski | Keith Restine | Kim Wilson-Booker |

Guests

Ann Huestis

Sandra Westmoreland

1) Review and Approve Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Dr. David Rylander, Chair of the Council. October 26, 2009 minutes were unanimously approved after several minor changes.

2) Core Assessment Update from Dr. Judith Bean

This update was postponed until the next meeting as Dr. Bean was not present.

3) **Update from Dr. Rylander**

Dr. Rylander had no update, and so he turned the floor over to the committees.

4) **Committee Reports**

Program Committee

Dr. Hanstein, the Program Committee chair, called for a vote on the revised policy guidelines for the Undergraduate Certificates. She reviewed revisions including the addition of the assertion that a certificate may not duplicate courses required for students' majors or minors "except in instances where certificates are granted for specialized professional preparation within a field." Dr. Waldo argued that this might be said to apply to almost any field, and he expressed concern that a certificate listed in addition to a degree might misrepresent a candidate's qualifications for a job. Ms. Devereaux defended the need for the certificate to satisfy career qualifications for paralegals, and Dr. Rylander suggested that certificate proposals could be reviewed on a case by case basis to avoid abusing this stipulation. The motion to approve the Undergraduate Certificate Guidelines as written carried unanimously.

Dr. Hanstein then called for a vote on the 120+ degree plans up for approval. Dr. Byrd asked for clarification concerning the computer literacy competency as no hours were associated with it. Dr. Waldo confirmed that the students would have to take, and pass, the computer literacy exam to complete the degree within the hours designated. The motion to approve the 120+ degree plans passed unanimously.

Course Review Committee

- No report

Retention Committee

- Dr. Huestis presented an update on the mentoring programs started in response to CSI results. She reported that the GTA mentors believed only 2 of 16 mentees to actually be at-risk, suggesting that those who truly need help aren't seeking it. She also offered to distribute lists of students with mentors, 80% of whom are nursing majors, as well as lists of students at-risk by major.

5) **Other Business**

- Dr. Huestis discussed tentative plans to use the freshman seminar (UNIV1011) to pilot a common reading program that relies on a themed, interdisciplinary multimedia CD and popular culture to engage students in

critical thinking. These tentative plans included both supplemental instruction in math and science and linked instruction with large enrollment classes. The idea of supplemental instruction met with some resistance from Dr. Edwards and Dr. Waldo, and Dr. Keating expressed concern about using a multimedia CD rather than a book. Dr. Westmoreland indicated that she had worked on a common reading program committee in her previous position and finding a single book interesting to everyone had been difficult. Dr. Huestis closed the discussion by thanking everyone for their time and inviting further dialogue.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.