

TWU Undergraduate Council

March 31, 2008

Minutes

Members present: Stoerm Anderson, MarieAnne Demuynck, Pat Devereaux, Don Edwards, Ron Fannin, Russell Greer, Penny Hanstein, Lybeth Hodges, Joni Jensen, Christianne Kellett, Kay Marsh, Lynda Peebles, David Rylander, Rochelle Schultz, Dayo Soyombo, Terry Senne, Allen Waldo.

Ex Officio members present: Judith Bean, Carol Kominski, Teresa Mauk, Heather Speed.

Guests: Beth Yelverton.

Members not present: Guy Litton, Kenny Foster, AnaLouise Keating, Roger Shipley, Sharon Van Sell, Sally Lambert, Karen Dunlap, Ann Staton, Barney Sanborn.

1. Received minutes of February 25, 2008 meeting; no revisions were made.
2. Dr. Judith Bean discussed the Undergraduate Advising Taskforce Report noting that advising is a key factor in retention and graduation. Her office has held several advising workshops. She asked the committee members send suggestions forward and help departments strengthen advising. She reported that the state is concerned about advising. Lybeth Hodges asked a question about dual-credit courses and there was a general discussion about dual-credit. Dr. Bean said this is an ongoing discussion at the Coordinating Board.
3. Dr. Carol Kominski presented ACT CAAP test results. The freshman and senior test results were similar to the national average though the senior critical thinking scores were one-percent below average. Dr. Kominski suggested that the sample may not have been representative.
4. Dr. David Rylander announced that elections need to be held. He pointed out an imbalanced rotation schedule which was determined to be caused by balancing Arts & Sciences members. The meeting moved forward, deciding that the imbalance can be looked at after the election. Dr. Rylander noted that rotating members are eligible to serve two consecutive terms. New terms begin September 2008 and the new chair will be elected at the end of the first meeting. A notice will be sent this summer regarding committee preferences. Meetings will be held at the same time for 2008-09.
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Assessment Committee – No report.

- b. Program Review Committee – The second reading of the Proposed Policy on Periodic Undergraduate Program Reviews with the schedule of departments was approved. Dr. Bean will gather data in the summer for 2008-09 reviews.
- c. Course Review Committee, Dr. Lybeth Hodges, Chair.

The Multicultural/Women's Studies committee had requested and received sufficient revisions for SOCI 3093: Racial and Ethnic Groups. They recommended the course for approval. The council ratified the recommendation.

HIST 4233: Global Issues and Trends was recommended by the Global Perspectives committee for approval. The council ratified the recommendation.

The Oral Communications Course committee received clarification on NURS 3005: Concepts and Clinical Competencies. Dallas and Houston are conforming and so the committee recommended the course for approval. The council ratified the recommendation.

There was a question about exactly when approved courses go into effect. Dr. Bean answered they are available after approval but not retroactively; however, she was not sure how DARS manages that issue.

5. Other business

Dr. Kominski shared the results of her online NSSE and FSSE surveys taken in the Spring 2007. She intends to conduct meetings with the university to address the difference in faculty and student perceptions. She emphasized the expansion of study abroad and foreign language offerings to enrich students' experiences and suggested the inclusion of more Capstone courses. Heather Speed talked about the results of the student surveys which she will bring to the next council meeting. Dr. Kominski asked for suggestions on how to involve faculty.

Dr. Rylander reminded of the next meeting and asked for further business.

An announcement was made promoting the Arts Triangle Arts Walk to be held Thursday, April 3, 2008 from 5:00 – 7:00.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.