

Undergraduate Council Meeting Minutes (APPROVED)

February 24, 2016

2:30 PM-4:00 PM

Denton	Dallas - IHSD	Houston - IHSH
MCL 505	8720	5305

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1. Welcome/Introduction by 2014-2015 Chair, Dr. Karen Petty:
 - a. Review and approve minutes of the last Undergraduate Council Meeting held 1/27/16 - Motion to approve the minutes as written was brought to the floor by Dr. Guerrero and seconded by Dr. Mirsaleh-Kohan. A vote was brought to the floor and the minutes were approved as written.
 - b. Notification – DNCE 2162 - Rachele Land explained that DNCE 2162 was listed in the core curriculum in 2 component areas. This was causing confusion with scheduled hours and transfer coursework. After discussion with the Dance department, it was decided to remove DNCE 2162 from the Creative Arts (050) component area and leave it in the FYE, Mathematics, or Wellness (091) component area.

 2. Undergraduate Council Committee Updates
 - a. Course Proposal Review Committee - Colby Parsons – the committee reviewed 2 course proposals listed below. The committee recommends acceptance of both courses. Currently, the committee is reviewing the core course proposal form to make it more concise with current objectives.
 - i. Core Curriculum – DRAM 2503: Modern Drama – Motion to accept DRAM 2503 as a core curriculum course was brought to the floor by Dr. Stankus and seconded by Ms. Kearney. A vote was brought to the floor and the course was accepted as core curriculum.
 - ii. GP – WS 3193/PHIL 3193: Women and Western Religions – Motion to accept WS 3193/PHIL 3193 as a global perspectives course was brought to the floor by Dr. Rosen and seconded by Ms. Kearney. A vote was brought to the floor and the course was accepted as global perspectives.
 - b. Assessment Committee - Gray Scott – Dr. Scott explained that we are 10% done from rating all the artifacts for fall. We are still recruiting raters. In preparation for next year, the committee met with a few science faculty members to gather ideas or strategies for artifacts regarding the next two objectives being assessed: 1) Teamwork and 2) Empirical Thinking.
 - c. Program Review Committee - Danielle Woolery – The committee met with Dr. Jeff Robb to discuss how he has promoted the undergraduate certificate for Science, Society, and Sustainability. As a committee, we discussed a few factors that could be reviewed regarding promotion, transparency, how certificates affect the 120 hour rule, and how to track the number of students enrolled in certificate programs. Dr. Lerner added that in the workforce today, many companies see the added credential of a certificate as a marketable skill. The intent of current certificates is to have many of the courses for the certificate embedded into the degree plan. This will assist with the 120 hour rule. Undergraduate Studies is scheduling a meeting with the department chairs or program directors, and the certificate coordinators, for programs that currently have certificates. It will be a roundtable discussion on how TWU will make certificates readily available for students.
 - d. Bylaws Review Task Force (ad-hoc) – Dr. Lerner explained that Dr. Neely has the policy and we should hear a report soon.
 - e. Academic Policy Advisory Committee (new 2015-2016) – Shannon Scott – Dr. Rosen reported that the committee, with the 3 added ad-hoc members, would like to recommend that the psychology department be allowed to move forward with the accelerated psychology track. Dr. Lerner explained that this accelerated track will move forward through Undergraduate Studies effective fall 2016 and this will also be clarified in the policy regarding a student taking graduate level coursework while completing their undergraduate degree.

 3. TWU Undergraduate Updates – Barbara Lerner
 - a. Rachele Land – Catalog – The catalog should be open for revisions by March 1, 2016. The workflow will be the same as it was last year. If you need to update your department’s workflow, please notify Scott Martin at smartin4@twu.edu.
 - b. THECB Marketable Skills Conference – April 12-13, 2016 – Austin, TX – Dr. Lerner discussed an upcoming THECB sponsored conference regarding marketable skills. The THECB has laid out the full

- plan regarding the 60x30 goals on their website. They have also begun to identify strategies on how to achieve the goals of the plan. Marketable skills will impact all programs obtained by students. Dr. Lerner opened the invitation to the conference for anyone that is available to attend. There is a second process happening regarding how schools will identify their marketable skills. The Chief Academic Officers met prior to the THECB board meeting. Within their discussion, they will put together a collaborative group that would consist of faculty across the state. This group would assist in identifying similar programs across the state and identifying 2 or 3 marketable skills within those programs. The information would be provided to universities and would assist them in choosing the appropriate marketable skills best suited for their current programs and their university mission. As this process moves forward, TWU departments will be receiving calls to participate in this collaboration.
- c. Transfer – Dr. Lerner explained that there is a renewed initiative regarding transfer efficiency and transfer effectiveness throughout the state. TWU is very transfer friendly. We have centralized transfer course evaluation regarding core and transfer work. Most universities do not have that in place. Discussions with TWU administration are taking place regarding how to make our transfer process more transparent to future students. TWU has also added transition advisors to assist students that have questions about transferring.
 - d. TAB (Texas Affordable Baccalaureate) Lab – A conference was held in Austin regarding the TAB. This is not the same TAB that has been discussed in the past. The current discussions by the state are focusing on different areas, such as:
 - i. The ACE Program – TWU is participating in the ACE program. This allows students to transfer limited coursework from a proprietary institution.
 - ii. Competency based education – the state is discussing how time could be the variable in a student completing coursework and graduating. This may fit with some programs, but not all. In competency based education, the students would enroll in flex-time coursework. When the student achieves a mastery level in the course, they may move forward to the next level of coursework.
 - iii. Increasing cross-walk opportunities for students coming in with applied technical degrees.
4. Other Business – No other business was brought to the floor.
 5. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 3:21pm.

NEXT MEETING: 2:30 PM Wednesday, March 30, 2016
Denton: MCL 505 – Dallas: IHSD 8720 – Houston: IHSH 5305