NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

ADMISSIONS POLICIES AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE
(APASC)

Minutes of Meeting #131
February 1, 2006
(Approved)

Present: R. Blecksmith (LAS/MATH); M.J. Blaschak (HHS/SAHP); J. Parker
(EDUC/KNPE); C. Rollman (VPA/ART); D. Cesarotti (EET/TECH); M. Pritchard
(HHS/Council of Adv. Deans); D. Wade (BUS/MGMT)

Ex Officio: B. Burk (ADMISSIONS); S. Eaton (EDUC SERV & PROG); S. Kallembach
(REGISTRATION AND RECORDS/REGISTRAR); E. Seaver (VICE PROVOST)

Student: B. Pertler (BUS/ACCY)

Visitors: L. Allison (REGISTRATION AND RECORDS), D. Smith (CATALOG
EDITOR/CURRICULUM COORDINATOR); J. Stephen (FACULTY SENATE)

Absent: N. Boubekri (UCC); E. Mogren (LAS/HIST); M. Gillis (TRANSFER CENTER)

OPENING: The meeting was called to order by D. Wade, Chair.

I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

D. Wade made a slight modification to the agenda by moving New Business
before Old Business. It was moved by D. Wade, seconded by J. Parker, to
approve the agenda. Motion passed.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Electronic Approval of Minutes (11/30/05). The minutes for meeting
#130 were approved electronically via email.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reinstatement Reports for 2004-2005

It was moved by D. Wade, seconded by J. Parker, to receive the
reinstatement reports. Motion passed.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Academic Advising Center – Request from UCC
D. Wade reported that the UCC requested that we provide them with a document that includes the explicit language of what the APASC considered and the changes we have chosen to make. He pointed out an error on page 1 of the APASC recommendation. Page 1 of the “Catalog Changes Affecting the Academic Advising Center” should read: “For students with no major or college affiliation, …” D. Wade clarified that this language should remain consistent throughout the APASC recommendations and that the document should reflect this corrected language. Since it was a typographical error, no motion is needed.

D. Wade expressed gratitude to E. Seaver for compiling a document that clearly articulated the current proposed catalog language for the AAC, the Advising Deans’ recommendations, the APASC recommendations and the outcomes of the voting.

D. Wade reported that there is continued concern expressed by the UCC regarding the fact that the exemption of curricular requirements and graduation requirements were not to be handled by the Academic Advising Center and that the organic document should reflect this. However, there is no organic document at this time.

D. Wade made a motion for a friendly amendment to page 41 of the catalog change to ensure that the recommendation is explicit and is included in the catalog language. (It should appear at the bottom of page 4.)

The Academic Advising Center will not, under any circumstances, initiate or approve exemptions to curricular requirements or requests for waivers to university graduation requirements. For students with no college affiliation, such exemptions and waivers must be initiated and approved by the Vice Provost (or the Vice Provost’s delegate).

E. Seaver stated that the colleges rather than the Vice Provost should initiate such requests. Furthermore, if students submitted such requests to the AAC, they would be told that they must discuss this with the appropriate college/department after declaring a major.

A friendly amendment to the above motion was made by D. Wade, seconded by C. Rollman, to strike the last sentence so that it reads: The Academic Advising Center will not, under any circumstances, initiate or approve exemptions to curricular requirements or requests for waivers to university graduation requirements. Motion passed.
D. Wade stated that this language should appear in the catalog due to a concern voiced by others that the Vice Provost and/or Vice Provost’s delegate reference is usurping faculty involvement. The discussion included the following points:

- A number of college deans delegate the decisions to SPS on issues such as appeals, dismissals and appeals of dismissals.

- A recommendation for the creation of the Faculty Oversight Committee was addressed. The Faculty Oversight Committee would be in a position to detect and correct any abuse of authority that may take place. A recommendation was made to the UCC but no specifics on the composition of this committee have been forthcoming.

- Again, D. Wade reported the concern expressed to him by others outside of APASC was that the AAC advisers would be responding to students’ requests to exemptions of curricular requirements and request for waivers to university graduation requirements as the Vice Provost’s designee.

- The reasons that the Faculty Oversight Committee is needed is that the Vice Provost needs that buffer, and faculty and the institution need to be ensured that there is faculty oversight.

D. Wade questioned if he should make a motion to reiterate our recommendation for the establishment of a Faculty Oversight Committee as well as reiterate our concern that any organic document or policy or procedures document that may emerge dealing with the AAC does reflect their (AAC) lack of authority to initiate and approve exemptions and graduation requirement waivers. E. Seaver and others agreed.

**It was moved by D. Wade, seconded by C. Rollman, to 1.) restate our recommendation that a Faculty Oversight Committee should be established to regularly review the activities of the Academic Advising Center and 2.) any organic document or policy document or procedure document that may emerge dealing with the Academic Advising Center reflect the limitation that the AAC may not initiate or approve exemptions to curricular requirements or waivers of university graduation requirements. Motion passed.**

M. Pritchard asked if there should be a recommendation of the composition of the committee and language that referenced to whom the committee needs to report.

**D. Wade amended the motion, C. Rollman seconded, that the Faculty Oversight Committee will report directly to APASC. Motion passed.**
Discussion on the composition of the committee ensued. It was agreed that specific language identifying the composition of the committee is needed. Such language should be placed with the Faculty Oversight Committee description.

It was moved by D. Wade, seconded by S. Eaton, that the APASC recommends that the Faculty Oversight Committee be composed of one faculty member from each undergraduate degree granting college and one designee identified by representatives from the college advising offices. Motion passed.

E. Seaver reiterated that faculty oversight is the key issue and this language will address this concern. He will provide a final document to UCC for their next meeting and requested that a representative from APASC be present to answer their questions. D. Wade volunteered to represent APASC at this meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by D. Wade, seconded by R. Blecksmith, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Allison.