BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL  
Meeting #1  
October 13, 2016  
Approved  

Voting Members:  
G. Aase (BUS), S. Marsh (BUS), R. Hunt (EDU), J. E. Strid (EDU), J. Umoren (HHS), P. Braun (HHS), M. Cheng (LAS), L. Sunderlin (LAS), D. Macdonald (for D. Gorman [LAS]), J. Kot (LAS), R. Johns (LAS), T. Atkins (LAS), B. Jaffee (VPA), M. Parks (VPA), R. Johnson (BUS/Student), I. Truckenbrod (LAS), S. Estes (LAS/Advisor)  

Ex-Officio Non-voting Members Present:  
A. Birberick (Vice Provost), S. Eaton (ESP), C. Garvey (Admissions)  

Guests/Consultants:  
A. Byrd (Registration and Records), V. Edghill-Walden (Provost’s Office), J. Montag (Registration and Records), J. Ratfield (Office of the Vice Provost), D. Smith (Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator)  

The meeting was called to order by Vice Provost Anne Birberick.  

There was a new student representative in attendance, so introductions were made.  

I. Adoption of Agenda. Marsh made a motion, seconded by Hunt, to APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER 13, 2016, BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL MEETING. Birberick asked if the Human Diversity Requirement could be moved up when Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer Edghill-Walden arrives. Motion passed unanimously as amended.  

II. Approval of Minutes.  

Strid made a motion, seconded by Braun, to APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2016, BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL MEETING. Birberick provided several minor editorial changes. Motion passed as amended with one abstention.  

III. Consent Agenda.  

a. College minutes with no undergraduate curricular items  
i. College of Business #1  
ii. College of Business #2  
iii. College of Health and Human Sciences #1  
b. College minutes with undergraduate curricular items  
i. College of Education #1  
ii. College of Engineering and Engineering Technology #1 (pending BOT approval)  
iii. College of Health and Human Sciences #2 (pending GEC and BOT approval)  
iv. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences #1 (pending GEC approval)  
v. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences #2 (pending pres. Baker approval)  
c. Other Items  
i. BC rep to the University Assessment Panel – Josephine Umoren (switching from GEC to the UAP)  
ii. Third rep to the General Education Committee – Becqui Hunt  
iii. Approved minutes from the September 15, 2016, General Education Committee
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Birberick reminded Council members about what makes up consent agenda items. She met with Johns, Hunt, Ratfield, and Smith prior to this meeting to review documents. Anything that this group felt did not warrant further discussion was placed on the consent agenda. Marsh made a motion, seconded by Atkins, TO APPROVE ALL THE ITEMS IN THE CONSENT AGENDA. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. College Minutes for Discussion.

a. College of Health and Human Sciences #3. Marsh made a motion, seconded by Umoren, TO APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES #3 (9/9/16) (PENDING BOT AND IBHE APPROVAL). For AHRS 472, Marsh asked why they are adding junior standing rather than just putting this course in prerequisites. Umoren replied that by the time students reach their junior year, they are prepared for this course. It was also pointed out that this is an introductory course. Jaffee asked if the “junior standing” is used elsewhere in the catalog and it was confirmed that it is. Birberick pointed out the new course proposal UHHS 366 as well as the item that is labeled as a course revision for COMD 366X. Smith received a clarification from the college that COMD 366X is also a new course. It was also noted that the new B.S. in Rehabilitation and Disability Services will need BOT and IBHE approval. Motion passed unanimously.

b. College of Health and Human Sciences #4. Umoren made a motion, seconded by Braun, TO APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES #4 (9/16/16) (PENDING GEC APPROVAL). Birberick reported that the college was asked to provide additional rationale for the prerequisite changes for FNCS 495. Smith read from an e-mail that stated that the program feels that students are better prepared to move on in the program if they obtain a grade of C or better in the courses listed for the prerequisite. Umoren added that all of the courses in the prerequisite prepare students for various internships. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Unfinished Business.

a. College of Education #9 (AY 15-16). Birberick reminded the BC that these minutes were tabled for clarification of courses required for a C or better grade and to clarify a specific paragraph. The BC had also asked for clearer rationale about the C or better and GPA requirements. The college sent back revisions that should address tabled issues. Strid made a motion, seconded by Umoren, TO APPROVE THE UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULAR ITEMS IN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION #9 (AY 15-16) (5/3/16). In the revisions provided, they detail the exact courses for which students will need a C or better. However, the language in the respective emphases is less specific. There was a suggestion to add the statement “as indicated in the major requirements” to further clarify the C or better requirement. Strid also noted that the one paragraph the BC had issues with at the last meeting due to lack of clarity has been removed. Motion passed unanimously.

b. College of Health and Human Sciences #12 (AY 15-16). Tabled pending the rest of the reorganization language. It was noted that that rest of the language for the HHS reorganization is still outstanding. However, Birberick pointed out that there’s another part of these minutes that the BC can reconsider, which is the designator changes for a number of
FCNS courses to NUTR. Macdonald made a motion, seconded by Strid, to PULL THE COURSE REVISIONS CHANGING FCNS DESIGNATORS TO NUTR AND CONSIDER THOSE FOR APPROVAL. It was discussed that the designator change is to make it clear to students that these are nutrition courses. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**VI. New Business**

a. SAT/ACT catalog language. Birberick explained that the state of Illinois is no longer administering the ACT to high school students in their junior years. Also, this year SAT redesigned the exam. Therefore, revisions to the catalog language dealing with exams for admissions needed to be made. The catalog language displays two SAT scores because there is a new concordance for admission from spring 2016 on. Braun made a motion, seconded by Macdonald, TO APPROVE THE OTHER CATALOG LANGUAGE FOR ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION EXAMS. There was discussion to clarify exactly what the changes mean and several BC members expressed concern that the revisions as presented aren’t clear. Suggestions on how to improve clarity were agreed upon by Council members. **Motion passed unanimously with amendments.**

b. APPM revision re: non-duplication a motion was made and seconded to TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING. **Motion passed unanimously.**

c. New test for international students. Birberick explained that the PTE Academic is a test for international students that has been around for about six years and functions like the TOEFL. When it was first available, the Office of International Affairs looked at the exam, but felt that it was too new and they wanted to collect data on the test before offering it. So now, six year later, they looked at it again and determined that it would be a good thing to add for international students. Adding the PTE Academic will give students another option for an admissions exam. Truckenbrod made a motion, seconded by Marsh, TO APPROVE THE OTHER CATALOG CHANGE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ADMISSIONS. It was noted that the International Student and Faculty Office helps guide international students through the admissions process. **Motion passed unanimously.**

d. Human Diversity Graduation Requirement. Birberick pointed out the documents that were presented to the BC: catalog language for the baccalaureate requirement, a letter to colleagues, and the proposal for the actual requirement. For the process, the BC will make its determination, then this will go up to the University Council (UC) and they will take action as well. Atkins asked about the timing of the requirement from the state and it was clarified that Illinois Public Act 87-581 was passed around 1998. It was at that time that NIU formed the Committee on Multicultural Curriculum Transformation (CMCT) and the Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute (MCTI). Edghill-Walden gave the BC a presentation on the Human Diversity Graduation Requirement. The Human Diversity Requirement provides a consistent way to ensure that students can develop culturally competent skills and an awareness of social justice. The task force that has been developing the requirement is asking for the requirement to go into effect fall 2017; every new and transfer student starting with the fall 2017 semester would have to fulfill an approved Human Diversity course or experience before they graduated from NIU. Completing the Human Diversity Requirement will be noted on students’ transcripts. The Human Diversity Requirement will be considered...
completed for transfer students if they have a course that is appropriately coded through the IAI. For the course-based option for all other students, existing courses will be approved for inclusion at the college level. Any new course proposals will still need to go through the curricular approval process. To be included, 33% of course materials and 33% of the course grade must address one or more of the following criterion: gender, ability, race/ethnicity, citizenship, wealth/material resources, religion, age, or sexual orientation, must and also address analysis of power and different people’s access to resources. Edghill-Walden has been working with R&R on how to track fulfillment of the requirement on students’ transcripts. The non-course-based option is a different process. It must entail one or more of the same criterion and address analysis of power and different access to opportunity. It needs to be able to measure outcomes and assess if there was learning. The non-course-based option is student driven and Edghill-Walden gave samples of activities that could be considered as non-course-based options. She reported that she has shared this with a lot of university stakeholders including the Student Association (SA), college curriculum committees, and college senates. The SA passed a resolution to endorse the Human Diversity Requirement. Feedback from faculty has been included in the final proposal. Atkins asked about the approval process for the non-course-based experiences; who approves those activities? Edghill-Walden replied that the supervisor of the specific activity would sign off on it. She added that the non-course-based activities will be filtered through the Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning (OSEEL) and Engage PLUS because they have systems in place that track these types of activities. Birberick said that students must get approval for the non-course-based activity in order for it to count for the Human Diversity Requirement. Proposals will go through the CMCT and must be approved no later than the semester before the activity. Aase asked if online course work would be acceptable and Edghill-Walden replied it could be an option as long as it fulfills all the criterion for the course-based option. She added that colleges are being encouraged to develop courses that would comply with the Human Diversity Requirement but that would also address the specific needs of their students. Council members discussed the catalog language. It was suggested that the criterion be included in the catalog language. There was discussion on the next steps, such as operationalizing the requirement, and if Faculty Senate was aware of the proposal. Montag said that his staff will be working on the transcript notation and it was confirmed that the Faculty Senate knew about the proposal and that Faculty Senate President Greg Long has provided feedback. There was a suggestion to remove the last sentence of the catalog language and replace it with a statement that points students to the list of course-based options as well as a place where they can get information about non-course-based options. Birberick explained the timeline. In order to implement this for fall 2017, the BC needs to approve at this meeting (October, 2016) so it can go to the UC for their next meeting (November 2, 2016). There has to be allowance for this proposal to work its way through the processes of the UC. Marsh made a motion, seconded by Estes, TO APPROVE THE HUMAN DIVERSITY REQUIREMENT AND THE OTHER CATALOG CHANGE THAT ADDS IT TO UNDERGRADUATE REQUIREMENTS WITH THE REVISIONS AS DISCUSSED ABOVE. Marsh said that she feels comfortable with all the research that has been done and the catalog language. Kot expressed her concern that students have one more requirement they can fulfill through non-course work. Motion passed with two in opposition.

**e.** General education compact benefits for accredited out-of-state community college students.
Birberick explained that this proposal started with advisors in the colleges. What they are asking for is to allow students with A.A. and A.S. degrees from out-of-state community colleges that are regionally accredited to transfer with the same compact benefits as students from Illinois community colleges with the same degrees. Currently compact benefits allow students transferring from an accredited community college in Illinois with an A.A. or A.S. degree to enter NIU as a junior with all general education requirements met. The proposal before the BC is to allow the same benefits for students with those degrees from regionally-accredited community colleges in other states. Birberick added that these students would still need to fulfill all the other requirements for graduation, e.g., writing infused course work and major course requirements. Jaffee asked about degrees that aren’t included, because the College of Visual and Performing Arts is looking at transfer credit for students with an associate’s in fine arts. It was explained that the proposed policy parallels what is the current policy for Illinois community college students. Marsh asked about the mention of the A.A.T. and it was decided to remove that from the catalog language. Marsh made a motion, seconded by Johnson, TO APPROVE THE POLICY AS PRESENTED AND CATALOG LANGUAGE AS AMENDED FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS FROM Regionally-ACCREDITED OUT-OF-STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGES. Motion passed unanimously.

f. STAMP catalog language. There was no catalog language for the BC to consider at this meeting.

VII. Informational Item.
   a. Draft Policy on Faculty Qualifications. Birberick explained that this is informational. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) requires that NIU credential its faculty so that they’re teaching at the appropriate level given their credentials. There was a committee that worked on this policy, which is currently in draft form. The policy is designed to make sure that if faculty teach undergraduate courses they have at least a master’s degrees, if they teach at the graduate level, they should have a doctoral degree. The policy also recognizes that there are exceptions. Examples of those are faculty who are in fields where the terminal degree is a master’s degrees and professionals with no degree who are qualified to teach college-level courses (e.g., performing artists). Birberick reported that this draft policy is moving its way through various committees and she brought it to the BC so council members can share it with their colleagues and provide input. Council members were asked to e-mail Birberick with any comments and she will pass those comments on to the ad hoc committee that is working on this policy.