MINUTES

Approved

Present: R. Beatty (BUS), S. Conklin (HHS), A. Doederlein (LAS), W. Goldenberg (VPA), D. Gorman (LAS), J. Hansen (BUS), Amber Keyes (Student/LAS), C. T. Lin (LAS), S. Ouellette (HHS), F. Sciammarella (EET), D. Shernoff (EDU), C. Snow (LIB), J. Stephen (LAS)

Absent: A. Azad (EET), J. Corwin (LAS), B. Hart (VPA), J. Isabel (HHS), C. Malecki (LAS), E. Phillips (Student/SA), E. Seaver (Vice Provost), E. Wilkins (EDU)

Guest: D. Smith, Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator

I. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by J. Stephen, seconded by R. Beatty, to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

II. Announcements

A. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the October 4, 2007, Undergraduate Coordinating Council meeting were electronically approved, with one correction of a typographical error to be made on page three.

III. Reports/Minutes from Standing Committees

A. Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee – W. Goldenberg

There was no report.

B. General Education Committee – D. Gorman

D. Gorman reported on the September 27, 2007, and the October 18, 2007, meetings of the General Education Committee. He reported that the concern expressed at an earlier GEC meeting regarding the lack of student representation on university committees was discussed and is being addressed. He reported that the committee’s agenda for the year will be a full one and will include the review of resubmissions of general education courses in arts and humanities and the re-evaluation of the general education goals in conjunction with the
assessment plan. In addition, the committee will also be taking a fresh look at and rethinking of the general education program.

He also drew attention to the fact that the Provost has formed two strategic initiative task forces that will be working directly with curricular issues. One of the new task forces, the Task Force on Curricular Innovation, will work with the Undergraduate Coordinating Council and its standing committees to address issues such as the general education program, the possibility of having additional upper division honors courses, the possibility of having a more uniform system of capstone course offerings, what more can be done to encourage engaged learning, and the exploration of implementing a "themed year" concept for new technology-based learning forums. The task force will pursue all of these issues and ask for input from the Undergraduate Coordinating Council.

J. Stephen commented, with reference to page three of the October 18, 2007, minutes, that the idea of the American Sign Language (ASL) as a foreign language has been discussed at the Liberal Arts and Sciences college curriculum committee meeting and has been supported by that committee.

D. Gorman made a motion, seconded by J. Stephen, to receive the September 27, 2007, and October 18, 2007, minutes of the General Education Committee meetings. The motion carried.

C. Honors Committee – J. Hansen

J. Hansen reported that at the October 5, 2007, University Honors Committee meeting, Harry Wright was elected chair of the committee for 2007-2008. He also reported that the committee discussed at length the point system for Honors House residents. Although no action was taken on the subject, several changes were suggested, and the issue will be revisited by the committee. The committee also reviewed the strategic plan document and will be voting to accept the document at the next meeting.

J. Stephen asked if the Honors Committee was still considering how to more closely work with the departmental audits. J. Hansen answered that this is still a topic of discussion for the committee.

J. Hansen made a motion, seconded by S. Conklin, to receive the October 5, 2007, minutes of the University Honors Committee meeting. The motion carried.

D. Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education – C. Snow

As a UCC representative was not in attendance at the October 8, 2007, meeting of the Committee on the Improvement of
Undergraduate Education, C. Snow asked UCC members to independently read and review the minutes of that meeting. There was no discussion with regard to the content of the minutes.

   C. Snow made a motion, seconded by S. Ouellette, to receive the October 8, 2007, minutes of the Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education committee meeting. The motion carried.

E. Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment - C. T. Lin

C. T. Lin reported on the September 11, 2007, meeting of the Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment. The committee heard a report from Vice Provost Seaver on the status of the implementation of the new student information system, discussed the committee’s agenda and goals for 2007-2008, elected a faculty chair, and reviewed the guidelines for the Undergraduate Special Opportunities in Artistry and Research (USOAR) student awards.

   C. T. Lin made a motion, seconded by R. Beatty, to receive the September 11, 2007, minutes of the Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment committee meeting. The motion carried.

F. Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum - R. Beatty

R. Beatty reported on the October 11, 2007, meeting of the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum. He recapped that at the October UCC meeting, UCC rejected a portion of the CUC’s September 20, 2007, meeting minutes based upon proposed wording in a section of the minutes relating to catalog effective dates. He said that the majority of the October 11th CUC meeting was spent discussing and clarifying the concerns expressed by UCC, and the consensus of CUC was that the proposed catalog effective date revisions be sent back to the Curricular Deans for their discussion with their college faculty and for further clarification of language and intent.

   R. Beatty made a motion, seconded by S. Conklin, to receive the October 11, 2007, minutes of the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum meeting. The motion carried.

IV. Other Reports

A. University Assessment Panel

W. Goldenberg reported on the October 5, 2007, and October 19, 2007, meetings of the University Assessment Panel. He reported that the panel spent a considerable amount of time reviewing the alumni survey, and a subcommittee was formed to further consider revisions to that survey. In addition, panel
members reviewed and ranked ten exceptional annual program assessment update reports. The departments of the top three ranked reports will be presented an award at the Assessment Expo in spring 2008.

The panel was also asked to look at the member composition of the UAP and the process for appointing members. He explained that elections for panel members take place in the fall rather than in the spring as is the case with other university committees; and, as a result of the late appointments, there is a delay in getting the panel work underway in the fall. The panel will discuss this further in the future.

C. Snow made a motion, seconded by R. Beatty, to receive the October 5, 2007, and October 19, 2007, notes of the University Assessment Panel meetings. The motion carried.

V. Old Business

There was no old business.

VI. New Business

J. Stephen reminded UCC members that catalog curricular changes need to be submitted in time to allow for approval by the appropriate UCC standing committees in order for submission to and approval by UCC on December 13, 2007, which is the last UCC meeting of the fall 2007 semester.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next UCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2007, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in Altgeld Hall 203.

Respectfully submitted,
Mollie Montgomery