Northern Illinois University  
UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATING COUNCIL  
165th Meeting  
Thursday, April 2, 2009  
Altgeld Hall 203

MINUTES

Approved

Present: A. Azad (EET), T. Chinn (Student/LAS), A. Doederlein (LAS), W. Goldenberg, (VPA), D. Gorman (LAS), B. Hart (VPA), B. Henry (HHS), C. Howell (Substitute for D. Shernoff/EDU), J. Isabel (HHS), C. T. Lin (LAS), C. Malecki (LAS), K. Mantzke (BUS), C. Snow (LIB)

Absent: S. Johnston-Rodriguez (EDU), C. Jones (LAS), M. Kostic (EET), S. Morris (HHS), E. Seaver (Vice Provost), J. Stephen (LAS), J. Tharnstrom (Student/SA)

Guest: D. Smith, Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator

I. Adoption of Agenda

Serving as chair for this meeting, A. Doederlein called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by D. Gorman, seconded by C. Snow, to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

II. Announcements

A. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the March 5, 2009, UCC meeting were reviewed, with one correction to be made.

A motion was made by C. Snow, seconded by D. Gorman, to approve the minutes, with the noted correction, of the March 5, 2009, Undergraduate Coordinating Council meeting. The motion carried.

III. Reports/Minutes from Standing Committees

A. Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee

W. Goldenberg reported on the March 4, 2009, meeting of the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee meeting. He noted that the committee approved a language addition for a curricular item referred by the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum. In addition, the committee tabled a request for renewal of limited admission and retention in the Athletic Training Education Program until additional information regarding the requirement of “B or better” is provided. A request for renewal of limited retention in the Physical Education Teacher Education Program was also approved.
Goldenberg also reported that the committee approved revised catalog language regarding the transfer of more than 66 hours of community college work being used to meet degree requirements. He explained that this revision was being made to clarify for students transferring from community colleges how many hours of credit will be accepted from the student’s previous work at the community college and how many credits and what sources of credit they will need from NIU to satisfy the needed 54 semester hours.

Doederlein expressed concern with the new way of handling community college credit hours. He said that the new language does not address the fact that a student who brings in, for example, 100 community college credit hours, would be in the registration queue at 100 community college credit hours whereas, previously, a student would be in the registration queue with 66 community college credit hours. He said that it seems unfair to native students at junior standing as they have to wait quite awhile to get into the registration queue. He wondered if APASC could be asked to consider including additional language into what has already been approved to state that the community college credit hours beyond 66 would not count for purposes of the registration queue. He went on to say that it doesn’t seem practical to fill up any department’s courses because of the fact that the new system must accept everything.

Doederlein also expressed concern about the fact that, currently, if a student transfers in community college credit hours at 66, the student may petition and suppress some of those hours in favor of other hours that will work better in the student’s program. This is scrutinized by the student’s major college, and permission to suppress must be given by the major college. He said that now all of the community college transfer credit hours would count without petitioning anyone. He explained that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has students who already are coming in with all the requirements for the B.G.S. degree satisfied, and all they need are 54 hours of anything. When students are told all they need are 54 hours of anything, they become upset. They feel that if they have met all of the requirements, except for the 54-hour rule, they can take 54 hours of anything as long as they don’t exceed 100 level activity courses in P.E. Students have trouble understanding why, if they have met all the requirements, they can not just receive their degree. He said there are quite a few students in that situation.

After further discussion, the following motion was made.

A motion was made by B. Henry, seconded by K. Mantzke, to receive the March 4, 2009, minutes of the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee meeting, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF Old Business, Item A, “Catalog language regarding more than 66 hours of CC work being used to meet degree requirements,” and to refer that section back to the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee to review and provide additional information about the registration queue effect issue and provide clarification and further information as to how the new 54 semester hour rule and the old 66-hour rule can be equal policies as credited on the student’s transcript. The motion carried unanimously.

B. General Education Committee

D. Gorman reported on the February 19, 2009, General Education Committee meeting. He said that Carolinda Douglass, Director, Assessment Services, reported to the committee about the First Year Composition Report and the Annual Assessment Update Report, and Greg Long gave an update on the Baccalaureate Review process.
D. Gorman made a motion, seconded by C. Snow, to receive the February 19, 2009, minutes of the General Education Committee meeting. The motion carried.

C. Honors Committee

C. Snow reported on the February 6, 2009, meeting of the University Honors Committee. He noted that the director reported to the committee that there had been some major complications with the transition to MyNIU, but most of these issues have been resolved. He also reported that the Honors Program is increasing their recruitment efforts, as well as having a customer satisfaction survey created by Honors students. The Honors Program is also looking at models of other Honors residence programs as a means to change the operational structure.

C. Snow made a motion, seconded by D. Gorman, to receive the February 6, 2009, minutes of the University Honors Committee meeting. The motion carried.

D. Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education

K. Mantzke reported on three meetings of the Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education. At the October 13, 2008, meeting, the committee reviewed and discussed the CIUE grant proposals forms, the Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching nomination forms, and development of a rubric to create a more equitable rating scale. All of this was done in order to develop a more consistent method by which the committee would evaluate all of these proposals.

K. Mantzke made a motion, seconded by D. Gorman, to receive the October 13, 2008, minutes of the Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education Committee meeting. The motion carried.

At the November 3, 2008, meeting, K. Mantzke reported the committee focused on suggestions and comments from previous meetings to standardize the grant proposal and teaching nomination forms, and the forms were created and approved.

K. Mantzke made a motion, seconded by D. Gorman, to receive the November 3, 2008, minutes of the Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education Committee meeting. The motion carried.

At the February 2, 2009, meeting, K. Mantzke reported that the committee evaluated and approved the CIUE grant proposals for 2008-2009.

K. Mantzke made a motion, seconded by D. Gorman, to receive the February 2, 2009, minutes of the Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education Committee meeting. The motion carried.

E. Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment

There was no report.

F. Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
C. Snow reported that at the February 12, 2009, meeting of the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum, the committee approved a revised version of PHHE 325 and, after much discussion, tabled the new degree, B.S. in Applied Management for clarification of core business requirements and further discussion with the College of Business regarding the degree title.

C. Snow made a motion, seconded by D. Gorman, to receive the March 19, 2009, minutes of the Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum meeting. The motion carried.

IV. Other Reports

A. University Assessment Panel

Committee members independently reviewed the March 6, 2009, notes of the University Assessment Panel meeting.

C. Snow made a motion, seconded by A. Azad, to receive the March 6, 2009, notes of the University Assessment Panel meeting. The motion carried.

V. Old Business

A. Selection of Student Representative to the University Assessment Panel

Selection of a UCC student representative to the University Assessment Panel was postponed until the fall 2009 semester.

C. Snow made a motion, seconded T. Chinn, to postpone selection of a student representative to the University Assessment Panel until the fall 2009 semester. The motion carried.

VI. New Business

There was no new business.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. The next UCC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7, 2009, beginning at 1:00 p.m., in Altgeld Hall 203.

Respectfully submitted,
Mollie Montgomery