Northern Illinois University

UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATING COUNCIL
206th Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2014
Altgeld Hall 203

MINUTES

APPROVED

Present: G. Aase/BUS; T. Atkins/LAS; M. Ayers/LIB; A. Birberick/Vice Provost; P. Braun/HHS; L. Guo; W. Hung/EDU; H. Joung/HHS; M. Kolb/ Associate Vice Provost; J. Kot/LAS; L. Matuszewski/BUS; M. Shokrani/HHS; J. Stafstrom/LAS; C. Thompson/LAS;

Absent: C. Campbell/EDU; J. Gau/EET

Guest: D. Smith, Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator; J. Ratfield, Vice Provost’s Administrative Assistant

I. Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by J. Stafstrom, seconded by M. Shokrani, to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee members introduced themselves.

II. Election of Assistant Committee Chair

Birberick invited nominations for assistant chair of the committee. A motion nominating J. Stafstrom was made by M. Shokrani, seconded by C. Thompson. By acclamation Stafstrom was elected assistant chair.

III. Announcements

A. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by T. Atkins, seconded by J. Kot to receive the minutes of the May 1, 2014 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.
IV. Reports/Minutes from Standing Committees

A. Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee

Both M. Kolb and J. Kot were in attendance at the April meeting of APASC. The minutes are straight-forward and no additional information was added. C. Thompson made a motion to receive the minutes from the April 9, 2014 APASC meeting, seconded by L. Guo. **Motion passed unanimously.**

B. Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education

No minutes to review.

C. Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Environment

No minutes to review.

D. Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum

No minutes to review

E. General Education Committee

Kolb recapped that the GEC had much to discuss. The PLUS Task Force was in the process of vetting various models – receiving public comment/feedback on three potential models for Gen Ed revision. Presentations were being made to various colleges. Assessment was another topic of much discussion. Discussion of existing assessment of gen ed and what the future assessment would be.

Kolb mentioned the course revisions and submissions discussed at the April 17th meeting as well. ENGL 350 was accepted as a new submission for General Education credit.

A motion to receive the GEC minutes from the April 17, 2014 meeting was made by C. Thompson, seconded by J. Kot. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Kolb indicated that the GEC continued their discussion of the assessment plan. In particular they discussed about how the Gen Ed revisions are going to adopt the baccalaureate student learning outcomes (SLO). There was some discussion about whether some would be prioritized, especially writing and oral communications. Further discussion of the impact of the new changes on transferees - concerns
discussed and resolved a bit. There was also discussion about operationalization of the new models which, ideally would go into effect next academic year. Discussion ended with more discussion of the pathways model. Kolb said student member, Stephanie McDonald, expressed her support of that model.

J. Kot raised concern regarding assessment of Gen Ed. Birberick said the assessment discussion now involves how assessment will be done with the new model. She also talked about NIU’s participation with the IAI (Illinois Articulation Initiative) and how the new model impacts that agreement.

W. Hung asked about the committee’s involvement. Birberick explained that after the public comment period, the proposed changes would go through the curricular process and make its way to UCC (from the various curricular committees).

Birberick pointed out the operational pieces of the curricular changes are still being discussed and will evolve as public comment is received. A meeting for all members of this committee and the other standing committees of the UCC will be held September 19th for members to obtain more information and ask questions.

There was also discussion regarding catalog use flexibility. It was pointed out that students can currently select two catalogs, one for Gen Ed and one for their major. There is no intention to change that policy.

A motion to receive the GEC minutes from the April 24, 2014 meeting was made by T. Atkins, seconded by J. Stafstrom. Motion passed unanimously.

**F. University Honors Committee**

Minutes from March 7, 2014 were not included with the agenda packet and will be discussed at the next meeting.

**IV. Other Reports**

**A. University Assessment Panel**

No notes.

**V Old Business**

None.
VI  New Business

Selection of representatives for standing committees of UCC:

APASC – Patricia Braun
CIUE – Linda Matuszweski
CUAE – Joel Stafstrom
CUC – Taylor Atkins
GEC (2) - Carol Thompson and Joanna Kot
HONORS – Masih Shokrani

University Assessment Panel – Meredith Ayers

Aase requested that UCC use VIBE for meeting materials. Stafstrom agrees and asked that the materials still come via email as well. Birberick indicated she would work with Smith on a UCC Vibe site.

VII  Adjournment

J. Stafstrom made a motion, seconded by L. Matuszewski to adjourn @ 2:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Ratfield
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Provost