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Departmental Announcements


Positions in Our Department

As you may know, we are attempting to hire three new individuals to join our department.

Erich Bergiel, a Ph.D. candidate from Mississippi State, has already agreed to join us next year. Erich will be primary teaching our Management and Organizational Behavior courses.

Our searches for the management strategy position and the MIS position are still underway. Bill Lankford is chairing the committee for the strategy position and Doug Turner is chairing the search for the MIS position. If you know of any qualified candidates that might be interested in joining us at UWG, please let Bill or Doug know.

Birthdays

Jorge Gaytan  
January 17

William Lankford  
January 30

Happy Birthday!

From the Workshop

Currently, there are four efforts underway in our department. First, we are revising the senior exit survey. Second, we are creating an advising book that will serve as a guide for our majors as they prepare their schedule each semester. Third, we are in the initial stages of examining how we might assess each of our major programs. Fourth, we are developing a more long-term schedule of our classes.

As always, I welcome your input into these projects. Also, if you would like more information (or would like to volunteer to help), please stop by my office and I’ll fill you in.
Chair’s Corner

The January DAC meeting was held on Thursday, January 26. The meeting was rather lengthy and a number of handouts were provided. Below, I provide you with the highlights of this meeting. Please notice that certain items (highlighted in red) ask for your participation or feedback.

Attached to your paper copy of the *MABS Messenger* are a few of the handouts provided during the DAC meeting. I refer to these handouts in the text below.

**Salary Compression**

We anticipate getting a 4% salary increase next year. Of course, this will vary by individual based on merit.

The proposal has been made that the Dean’s office withhold $\frac{1}{2}$% of the increase and uses it to address compression concerns within the college and/or provide additional increases for high performers within the RCOB.

*Please give me your thoughts on this matter and I will forward them to Faye.*

**Publication Incentive Plan**

There was some discussion about establishing an incentive system for rewarding individuals who publish in high-quality journals. No decisions were made during this meeting. However, one possibility is setting up a tier system that offers higher rewards for higher quality (possibly based on acceptance rates).

**Graduate Enrollment**

The number of graduate students is down across UWG. One of the requirements to get into our M.B.A. program is that students provide three letters of recommendation. In an effort to make the admission process more user-friendly and to attract more students, it has been proposed that UWG business students with at least a 3.0 GPA be pre-admitted to the MBA program, pending a score of at least 450 on the GMAT and signatures from three professors in their major indicating that they believe the person is a strong candidate.

*A list of recent graduates in the program in which you teach will soon be circulated to you. Please place your signature beside any of the graduates that you believe could successfully complete the MBA program at UWG.* Once the list has been circulated, it will be forwarded to the Dean’s office.
Graduate Assistants

Next year, we plan to increase the pay of our graduate assistants. This will be possible by using more undergraduates instead of strictly graduate students. Over recent years, it has been increasingly difficult to compete for graduate students because the pay in our college is not competitive. This increase will allow us to increase levels of pay to be more in-line with other areas at UWG. Also, there is a desire to include graduate students in more research-oriented activities to help prepare them for continuing their graduate education.

In our department, we can expect to have two graduate students, one undergraduate student, and two lab technicians (paid for by technology fees).

Prerequisites for MBA Program

One of the complaints of individuals entering the UWG MBA program is that they often have to sit through a bunch of undergraduate business courses. This has certainly discouraged many individuals from pursuing the degree.

We are examining using the Kennesaw State program for exempting students from undergraduate business classes. At Kennesaw State, they let students review materials for a course (e.g., marketing) on-line or on CD. Then the students can simply take a test when they feel adequately prepared. If they pass the test, they exempt the course.

If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations about this program, please let Jon Anderson know.

Summer School Estimates

Current projections show that we will make money on the 2006 summer schedule. However, we do not anticipate making as much as last year.

We really need to push summer enrollment during registration.

Another look will be taken at the summer schedule once registration is underway. While there are no immediate plans to reduce courses, it is possible that additional changes will be necessary.

AACSB Update

We are now only about 9-10 months away from the maintenance of accreditation visit. And, at this point we are in relatively good shape. Table 1 (Faculty Sufficiency) is now complete and Table 2 (Faculty Qualifications) is being prepared.

I have attached several handouts so that you can have a more complete picture of what is taking place in this re-accreditation effort. Handout A (Materials For The Team) outlines the various types of reports that will need to be in place. Handout B (Strategic Plan 2005-2010) provides a summary of Jon Anderson’s work to tie our action items to the strategic goals (derived from the mission statement) and a list of many of the relevant documents in this process. Handout C (Learning Goal Assessment Timelines) show the assessment timelines for both the undergraduate and graduate learning goals.
I must mention that there is still some confusion on whether we will be assessed strictly on our six B.B.A. goals or whether specific programs of study will also be assessed. I will let you know as soon as I get additional information. In the meantime, we have been asked to prepare one goal specific to each of our degree programs. I will be contacting certain individuals to help me in this task over the next few weeks.

2007/2008 Schedule

There has been some ongoing discussion about the changes to the 2006/2007 academic schedule. Thus, we are being asked to consider some additional options for the 2007/2008 academic year.

Handout D includes Option #1, Option #2, and the “New Option” (which I guess we can consider Option #3).

Please let me know if you have a preference for a particular option. I will collect all responses and forwarded them to Faye.

Semester Suspension

There was some discussion about whether the summer session should be allowed to count as the semester of suspension for a student put on probation after the Spring semester. One individual suggested that students should be required to attend summer courses to make up deficiencies.

No policy was recommended during this meeting. If you have suggestions, please let me know.

Student e-mail Policy

A policy requiring students to check their UWG e-mail account each day for important University-related information was presented in the meeting. The idea is that the student would be responsible for any information forwarded to the student through this e-mail account. Handout E shows a copy of this policy.

After the 1/26/06 DAC meeting, the committee responsible for this policy asked that it be tabled during Friday’s (1/27/06) Faculty Senate committee.

ABED 3100 Prerequisites

It was decided that the e-core, public speaking course at UWG would not be considered as an adequate replacement for an Area B1 course. The prerequisites to ABED 3100 will be modified to reflect this.

If you have any questions or comments about these items, please let me know. The February DAC meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Tom G.
The guests of honor were two parents and six young children who had been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Many members attended the party to enjoy food, laughter, and gift giving with the family. Thanks to each of our club members, we were able to provide each child with new clothes and toys. We also gave the family a Honey Baked Ham for Christmas Day. The family was extremely gracious for your generosity. The look upon the children’s faces as they opened their gifts was priceless. The party was a terrific way to begin the Holidays. I have attached photos of the event. A special thanks to all of the officers, Heather Sarber, Lindsay Glisson, and Liz Burroughs, for their help!