

Minutes from Academic Policies Meeting on February 3, 2012

In Attendance: Bonnie Adams, Ayona Chatterjee, Suzanne Durham, Myrna Gantner, Donna Haley, Michael Hopper, Rob Kilpatrick, Becky Lake, David Leach, Richard Lemke, Ursula Thomas

The meeting began at 2:00 PM in the Cobb Hall Conference Room.

- I. The committee approved the minutes of the meeting from January 6, 2012.
- II. RK reported that the proposed changes to the academic calendar for Fall Semester 2012 were met with strong opposition at the faculty senate meeting, and because of this the motion to adopt the new calendar was withdrawn.

We decided that we should keep the current schedule through Spring 2013 in order to have sufficient time to develop a fine-tuned schedule for Fall 2013. During this time we will revisit the question of the 15-week vs 16-week semester and the question of which timeslots to use. We decided that input should be taken from the provost, associate deans, and especially the department chairs before making the schedule. A subcommittee of the AP committee will plan a meeting with this group to get their input. A survey will also be sent to the entire faculty, but it will be clear that the survey is just that, and not a binding vote on adopting a schedule.

- III. The three SACS subcommittees reported on their progress.
 - The Administrator Evaluation committee has complete its work.
 - The Intellectual Property committee is finished with their work and are waiting to receive a document from the president.
 - The Publications committee has collected information and is preparing the narrative.
- IV. DH has revised the graduation policy. The proposed policy was distributed and reviewed by the committee. DH pointed out the following substantive changes:
 - The graduation fee has increased from \$30 to \$40, effective March 1 for students graduating in Summer 2012.
 - Students will receive larger diplomas than in the past.
 - If a student pays a graduation fee and their graduation is deferred for one year or longer, they will have to pay another graduation fee, and may only march once in graduation.

The proposed graduation policy was approved by the committee and will be forwarded to the faculty senate.

- V. The committee discussed a microcourse on plagiarism. Someone suggested that putting this into the Core A English classes would be a good idea, so that all students (except possibly transfer students) would be exposed to it. BA said she thought that most faculty teaching ENGL 1001 already have some component like this in their courses, and that officially integrating it would probably not be an issue with most of them. UT mentioned that a microcourse could be implemented through CourseDen, and that such a thing might already be included with CourseDen. RL questioned whether such a plan would really help students to learn about plagiarism, or if it would serve more as a de-facto deliability. The committee decided to form a subcommittee consisting of Richard Lemke, Ayona Chatterjee, and Bonnie Adams to look into the issue further.
- VI. The committee discussed UWG's current withdrawal and course retake policies. This was prompted by the strong correlation between number of WDs and graduation rate. The committee plans to look at policies at other USG institutions and decide if we should consider (1) implementing limits on the number of courses a student can retake or (2) if grades from replaced courses should be somehow factored into a student's GPA. BL noted that the school of nursing already has a 2 WD limit for nursing classes. A subcommittee of Donna Haley, Myrna Gantner, and Richard Lemke will look into this.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Leach