

U N I V E R S I T Y *of* H O U S T O N

UNDERGRADUATE COMMITTEE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Minutes for April 18, 2012

Room 306 (Faculty Senate Office), M.D. Anderson Library
3rd Floor
3pm – 5pm

A meeting of the University of Houston Faculty Senate Undergraduate Committee convened at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 18, 2012, in room 306, M.D. Anderson Library (Faculty Senate Office).

Members Present: Simon Bott, Preston Broom, Andrea Burrige, Carmen Carter, Mary Dawson, Agnes DeFranco, Martha Dunkelberger, William Dupré, Luces Faulkenberry, Tamara Fish, Christina Gola, Christine LeVeaux, Daniel Maxwell, David Mazella, William Munson, Donna Pattison, Charles Peters, David Phillips, Melissa Pierson, Ruxandra Prodan-Boul, Richard Scamell, Shishir Shah, Kevin Simon, Ron Singer, María Elena Soliño, Stephen Soutullo, Nina Tucci, Jerry Waite, Lawrence Williams, Barry Wood, Djuana Young

Members Absent: Leonard Bachman, Richard DeFrank, Debbie Henry, Reagan Herman, Richard Kasschau, Bela Patel, Dale Rude

Guests: Hildegard Glass (MCL/CLASS), Libby Barlow (Academic Affairs), Lesley Sisk (ENGR – Dean's Office), Trang Phan (ARCH), Mary Ochoa (Policy & Planning), Lois Zamora (CCS/CLASS), Thomas Behr (CCS/CLASS), Ashraf Ayoub (on behalf of Reagan Herman)

Staff: Jeanette Morales, Heidi Kennedy

I Call to Order; Minutes for 3/21/2012

The Committee was called to order by Chair Simon Bott at 3:00pm. Minutes from 3/21/2012 were accepted.

II Announcements

A NOTE: All meetings are held in room 306 (Faculty Senate Office), M.D. Anderson Library unless, otherwise noted.

Spring/Summer 2012 Meetings: June 6, July 11

B Undergraduate Committee Web Address: <http://www.uh.edu/undergraduate-committee/>
Core Curriculum Web Address: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/policies/degree-reqts/current-core/index.php>

Undergraduate Catalog Web Address: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/>

C E-mail listservs:

UNDERGRAD-COMMITTEE@LISTSERV.UH.EDU

UC-CORE-CURRICULUM@LISTSERV.UH.EDU

UC-DEGREE-PROG_CB3_1@LISTSERV.UH.EDU

UC-DEGREE-PROG_CB3_2@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-POLICIES-PROCEDURES@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-STUDENT-SUCCESS@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-NEWS@LISTSERV.UH.EDU (Agenda and Minutes)

III Administration Representatives' Reports

A Heidi Kennedy, Office of Academic Program Management

Faculty teaching excellence award ceremony will be held on April 26. Heidi announced that Larry Williams, Martha Dunkelberger, and Donna Pattison are three of the recipients who will receive faculty teaching excellence awards. Congratulations on a job well done!

This is about the time when students will be visiting the Office of Academic Program Management (APM) for medical/administrative withdrawals. APM is ready for the student traffic. Also, Heidi will send out an email on helpful resources for dealing with student issues (i.e., drops, grievances, etc.).

B Djuana Young, Office of Admissions

Freshman application deadline has closed. UH had a 15% increase in freshman applications. The average SAT score is 1135 (higher than last year). First orientation will occur next month: 2200 students have registered so far. Orientation registration is up by 1000 registrants this year. Transfer application numbers are up by 6%.

This Friday, the Office of Admissions and the Honors College are hosting an orientation focused on scholarship recipients and honor students.

New recruiting strategies and the change in application/credential deadlines improved admission application numbers.

Djuana answered various questions from UC members.

C Stephen Soutullo, Enrollment Services

Steve Soutullo reiterated that Admissions is striving to increase average SAT scores. Within the department of Registration and Academic Records, the number of enrolled students is up by 9%.

IV Undergraduate Committee Chair Election: 2012 – 2014 UC Chair

María Elena Soliño and Jerry Waite are the nominees for the 2012-2014 UC chair position. Dr. Bott asked the nominees to give a short speech. Written ballots were distributed and votes were tallied. Simon Bott announced that María Elena Soliño will be the 2012-2014 UC Chair.

V Subcommittee Reports

A Academic Policies & Procedures Subcommittee – Jerry Waite, Chair

1. UC 11763 12S: Academic Policies & Procedures Subcommittee Report - 2/15/12

UC 11660 12S: Changes to Economics Major Declaration Requirements

UC 11736 12S: Proposal for a change in the minimum GPA requirement to declare a major in Economics

The Committee approved the report and corresponding items mentioned above.

2. UC 11764 12S: Academic Policies & Procedures Subcommittee Report – 3/28/12

UC 11738 12S: Update to CLASS Change of Major and Minor Policy

The Committee approved the report and corresponding item mentioned above.

3. UC 11765 12S: Academic Policies & Procedures Subcommittee Report (UC 11762 12S) - 4/4/12

UC 11762 12S: Changes to the 2014 and 2016 Transfer Admissions Requirement

The Committee approved the report and corresponding amended item mentioned above.

4. UC 11766 12S: Academic Policies & Procedures Subcommittee Report (UC 11739 12S) - 4/4/12

UC 11739 12S: Update to CLASS Nine Hours College Requirement

The Committee approved the report and corresponding item mentioned above.

5. UC 11774 12S: Online Course Charge

Jerry Waite briefed the UC on the main points of the online course report. A brief discussion ensued among the UC members. Since it is drawing close to the end of the spring semester, this charge will be revisited in its entirety this fall when the UC resumes business. Meanwhile, Dr. Waite will come up with some objectives for this charge for the 2012 fall semester.

B Core Curriculum Subcommittee – María Elena Soliño, Chair – No Report

C Degree Programs/CBM003 Subcommittee 1 – Charles Peters, Chair

1. UC 11767 12S: Degree Programs/CBM003 Subcommittee #1 - 3/28/12

UC 11712 12S: Proposed Minor in Global and International Studies

UC 11727 12S: Pre-Nursing Program for the UH/UTSON Dual Degree

UC 11741 12S: ASLI Catalog Revisions

The Committee approved the report and corresponding items mentioned above.

D Degree Programs/CBM003 Subcommittee 2 – Luke Faulkenberry, Chair

1. UC 11768 12S: Degree Programs/CBM003 Subcommittee #2 Report - 3/28/12

UC 11481 11F: ARAB 3313: Qur'an as Literature (New Course)

UC 11625 11F: PORT 1505: Elementary Portuguese (New Course)
UC 11627 11F: PORT 2305: Intermediate Portuguese I (New Course)
UC 11742 12S: Minor in Jewish Studies
UC 11743 12S: Amending the Health Communication Minor Approved Courses
UC 11744 12S: Amending the Journalism Concentration Approved Electives
UC 11745 12S: Amending the Corporate Communication Concentration Approved Courses
UC 11746 12S: Proposed Health & Human Performance Degree Plan Changes (Tabled)
UC 11747 12S: Proposal for a B.A. in World Cultures and Literatures

The Committee approved the report and corresponding items mentioned above.

E Student Success Subcommittee - Larry Williams, Chair – Update

The subcommittee is still waiting for submissions for the orientation document (for first year students and their parents).

VI FYI Documents

UC 11759 12S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo
UC 11760 12S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo
UC 11761 12S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo

VII Old Business

A New Core Curriculum: Libby Barlow and Agnes DeFranco

Libby Barlow and Agnes DeFranco discussed with the UC the new core curriculum and the tasks needed from faculty to help implement the new core in fall 2014.

The composition of the new core curriculum is basically is the same: there name changes to the functional component areas. A new form was created to help faculty evaluate and submit their new core courses. Libby pointed out that filling out this new core form will also help the colleges when it's time for UH's accreditation (SACS) and when it's time to reassess the core. SACS is expecting to see deep assessments of general learning outcomes. Core courses will need to assess student competency through the core objectives (i.e., critical thinking, etc.). Direct evidence of student learning will need to be included in the core evaluation (i.e., Embed student work in the form: utilize excerpts of a student's paper, include certain test questions, etc. that will demonstrate student competency in core objectives.). Libby and her office will sample only the population of students taking the core classes. UC members continued to ask questions and voice their concerns.

David Mazella offered to put web links to new core information on the CTE (Center for Teaching Excellence) blog. He added that faculty should have some guidance from the assessment staff. Simon Bott suggested that CTE along with the assessment staff could provide workshops for to fill out new core forms. Mazella agreed that is a possibility.

It was emphasized that core curriculum discussions need to begin with faculty soon, if not now.

VIII New Business

A Simon Bott announced that Kevin Simon was mentioned in a Sugarland publication as a featured wine expert.

B Updates to the Academic Honesty Policy

An ad hoc committee has been reviewing the current Academic Honesty policy for about two years. The Office of Academic Program Management submitted a request for the UC to review the policy during the summer (hopefully to be included in the 2012-2013 Undergraduate Catalog if approved). Simon Bott asked the UC to review the policy and gave them three options on how to handle this item. These options are: 1) If amendments seem straightforward and minor, the UC can agree unanimously to approve the policy via email, 2) If the amendments warrant a major discussion, the UC can meet on June 6 (regularly scheduled UC meeting), or 3) Table the policy and revisit for fall 2012 semester. Dr. Bott asked that the UC email their input on this matter.

IX Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.