

## Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council

Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2013

Wolfe Hall 1240 3:30 – 5:00 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call – Secretary - Jon Bossenbroek

- **Present:** James Anderson, Bruce Bamber, John Bellizzi, Jon Bossenbroek, Mike Cushing, Fan Dong, Hans Gottgens, Xiche Hu, Edith Kippenhan, David Krantz, Nick Podraza, Tony Quinn, Joe Schmidt, Friedhelm Schwarz, JD Smith, Gerard Thompson, Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Don White
- **Absent:** JD Smith (excused)

*Motion to approve Minutes from January 22, 2013 Meeting pending any corrections provided by email.  
Motion –anonymous, 2<sup>nd</sup> – anonymous, Vote – Aye: unanimous*

Guest speaker – Dr. Cam Cruickshank, Interim Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

- Dr. Cuickshank gave a presentation on the current trends in online enrollment at UT and across the country. The conversation included a discussion about UTs vision for online & blended learning via UTXnet.
- Highlights of the presentation included:
  - Trends in online activity –
    - One of the challenges – students living in residence halls taking online courses
    - We haven't recruited outside of current body.
    - 2012 we had 1411 students in online degree programs.
    - Most of our online programs are certificates or associates degrees.
    - Want to increase only programs.
    - We have lots of courses, but not a lot of programs.
  - Vision for online & blended learning - UTXnet
    - Components:
      - High quality interactive content.
        - Kippenham - Some students still prefer texts.
      - Personalized, adaptive learning experience
        - Pre-assessment to place students.
      - Experiential learning opportunities.
      - Global classroom
      - Accelerated degree opportunities
        - LLS has several 3-yr degrees.
      - Scalable: One course, many learning communities
      - Multiple Learning Options
  - MOOCs
    - correspondence courses on-line
      - 90% don't pass, 50% international
      - The key is interaction, which you don't get in a MOOC.

If any department is interested in developing a course talk to Dr. Cruickshank.

Representation on University Council – David Krantz

- Issue is – as it is defined. The representatives are the heads of the different councils, e.g. council chairs.
- One problem is the faculty would turn over on a yearly basis, while the Admin. Stays constant.
- In the by-laws, the chair or his/her designate. Should we recommend have a multi-year designate?.
- Discussion:
  - White – would you be willing to stay on?
  - Krantz – Intending to be nominated to be on executive committee of Faculty Senate, and thus a good rep for Univ. Council.

**Report from Constitution & Bylaws Cmt. – Joe Schmidt**

Schmidt – See emailed changes to the Constitution & Bylaws.

Weck-Schwartz – problems with clauses.

Schmidt – all votes about chairs are advisory. I need to revisit Clause 6.

Weck-Schwartz - legal ramifications of???

Schmidt – we need to send this out, hopefully with 2<sup>nd</sup> round.

***Motion to consent that the proposed amendments to the constitution as will be provided by Dr. Schmidt can be submitted to the college faculty for a final vote.***

***Motion - from committee, Vote - Aye: unanimous.***

Report from Elections Committee. – Sibylle Weck-Schwarz

1<sup>st</sup> round of ballots are out today for UCAP and Graduate Council.

Departments need to put forth names for College Council.

Report from Curriculum Committee. – Tony Quinn

- 3 new course proposals from EEES
  - 4480/5480 GIS Applications for Environmental Sciences – elective for upper-level students.
    - Taught as special topics several times.
    - White – Does geography have a similar course?
    - Krantz – yes, but we use the tool, i.e. GIS, differently.
  - EEES 4970 Capstone course – required for ENSC, ENST.
    - Course includes an assessment tool
    - Majors work in teams to conduct a project for a client, such as grounds, TNC, metro park, etc.
- 3 program changes
  - ENST (BA):
    - adding EEES 4970 Capstone Course
    - adding diversity to geology requirement.
  - ENSC:
    - change in math requirement from MATH 2600 to MATH 2640,
    - adding EEES 4970 Capstone Course
    - adding diversity to geology requirement.
  - BIOM:
    - Now requires MATH 2640
    - From 1 to 3 advanced labs.

***Motion to accept new courses and program changes***

***Motion - from committee, Vote - Aye: unanimous.***

\*\*\*Two oversights were discovered in the ENSC and Geology (BS) programs following this meeting, which required changes. The changes were:

- ENSC – Add EEES2510 Advanced Computer Applications to degree
- Geology BS - Add EEES2510 Advanced Computer Applications and CHEM 1290 Chemistry II lab. to degree

***Motion to accept program changes was presented via email.***

***Motion - from committee, Vote - Aye: a majority of council members voted Aye via email. Nay: 0.***

- Request for Advising Office to deal with double dipping.
  - The issue is that students are using multiple courses for multiple majors, and even minors.
  - The recommendation is that the minor requirement mirrors the major requirement, such that you can't double-dip for the minor.
  - Though a student can still petition this requirement.
  - Discussion:
    - Krantz – any down side.
    - Quinn – no, considering there is a petition option.
    - Anderson – what about adding a clause about a petition?
    - Gottgens – Everything is able to be petitioned.

***Motion to approve changes that limit the double-dipping of courses for minors –***

***Motion - from committee, Vote - Aye: unanimous.***

- Minimum requirements for MATH in our college. There is no minimum requirement for BA. Should we have a higher level of Math required? There seems to be sense in making 1320/1340 this requirement, but a concern about students not making this grade.
- Should we have MATH 1320/1340 minimum requirement for the College, but have an exception for ENST.
- Discussion:
  - Schmidt – why do we need a College requirement if each Program has a math requirement?
  - Quinn – because we have a requirement established for the BS degree.
  - Kippenham – if remove the college requirement, open for lowering requirement.
  - Quinn – there is an issue of State Requirement.

***Motion that College Minimum for mathematics/statistic is MATH 1320/1340/2600.***

***Motion - Kippenham - 2<sup>nd</sup> anonymous Aye – unanimous.***

Report from Dean & Chairs meeting – David Krantz

NOTES from Krantz.

New Business from the floor

- Announcements
  - Midwest Graduate Symposium - Sat. April 20
  - College Picnic – May 1
  - Saturday Morning – Sam Keen giving the McMaster Lecture on Dark matter.

Adjournment at 5:20 PM