PROPOSAL ONE – Link critical thinking/writing process

The Committee recommends that the College utilize the IDEAS model of critical thinking as a teaching/learning tool in several core business courses. The IDEAS model is a 5-step critical thinking and problem solving process which includes:

I = IDENTIFY the problem and set priorities (step 1)
D = DEEPEN understanding and gather relevant information (step 2)
E = ENUMERATE options and anticipate consequences (step 3)
A = ASSESS the situation and make a preliminary decision (step 4)
S = SCRUTINIZE the process and self-correct as needed (step 5)

The Committee recommends a focus on the IDEA portion of the model (step 1-4), but does not recommend including “S” or step 5, which is more appropriate for graduate programs.

The Committee further recommends that the stream of courses which would specifically utilize the model include BUSA 111; ECON 251G; BLAW 316; MGT344/MGT 470/BCIS 485; and MGT 449.

PROPOSAL TWO – Change critical thinking/communication goals to formally reflect linkage

After adjusting for feedback from the fall 2014 faculty meeting, the Committee recommends the following combined goal for critical thinking and writing:

Students can think critically and can effectively communicate their critical thinking processes through comprehensive and concise written communication.¹

The Committee further recommends that the general communication goal be retired and the related communication objectives be associated with the new critical thinking goal.

¹ Original proposal: Students can think critically and can demonstrate their critical thinking processes in a short memo that effectively communicates a comprehensive and concise written recommendation.