4 Nov 2011 Minutes of the College Undergraduate (UG) Curriculum Committee

Members Present: Terry Adler, Greg Roth, Dennis Clason, Kevin McNelis, Michelle Jasso, Justine Adkisson, and Kathy Brook

Guests: Randy McFerrin and Nate Whitten

Members Absent: Michael Loera

Meeting Called to Order at 0930.

First Order of Business:

Randy McFerrin, Chair of the AOL Committee, presented a proposal to us that supported our efforts to streamline the number of CoB goals. The proposal was much more detailed though in also proposing a new goal for the college called “Business Knowledge” which would serve the purpose of assessing student learning in 9 important areas: accounting principles, economic principles, management principles, quantitative business techniques, information technology, financial principles, marketing principles, legal issues, and global issues. There have been on-going discussions about this topic over the past three years in having a goal that essentially allows departments to measure student learning by academic program. The benefit of adding a CoB goal to essentially measure a student’s performance by program would be to integrate several accreditation processes through one goal, thus, streamlining the assessment process. The three accreditation groups the proposal suggests integrating through this goal are as follows: 1. AACSB; 2. HLC; and 3. the New Mexico state mandated transfer matrix. In addition, Danny Arnold initiated a discussion with the AOL committee during his mock visit this fall suggesting that the college needs to have a goal like this in place. The proposal suggests using a nationwide standardized test for each of the 9 subject areas provided by ETS and to move all assessment into the CoB capstone course—MGT 449/BUSA 421. The committee discussed the pros and cons of adopting this proposal but could not reach a consensus at this time. We will review and decide on this proposal next semester as we need a little bit more data (i.e., list of schools using ETS; details of using specialized reporting function at ETS; and a copy of an entire ETS exam) from Randy. Kathy Brook will also look for an old ETS report that the college may have used.

Second Order of Business:

The committee considered eliminating 3 more CoB goals (besides Goal 5a (Legal Issues) which was eliminated last week). The 3 goals being considered for elimination are: Goals 1b (Oral Communication), 3 (Information Technology), and 4a (Problem Solving) as students are learning these topics on a consistent basis over the past three years. Kevin McNelis moved and Dennis Clason seconded a motion to remove CoB Goals 1b (Oral Communication), 3 (Information Technology), and 4a (Problem Solving) from our core set of CoB goals. Discussion followed that we could eliminate these goals since the BBA program is successfully and consistently meeting performance data for student learning. As a reminder to those reading these minutes, the removal of goals does NOT mean that we are not going to teach these important skills. It does mean that for now we are not going to measure student learning in these areas due to past student learning success. The results of the discussion were as follows:

Motion passed with a 5-0 vote

Third Order of Business:

The committee also considered the 8 applied credit hour issue brought to the committee by Kathy Brook. Our advising group is finding it more and more difficult to adequately account for applied credit hours when students transfer to our college. Nate presented data showing that most students do not want or need to transfer in more than 8 applied credit hours but in some cases it appears warranted. For instance, only 6.95% of students in our current student database would consider using more than 8 applied credit hours towards the estimated general elective total of 24 credits. We
have guessed that students will have at most about 24 credits of general elective if they come in with MATH 120 and MATH 121.

Nate also presented data showing that the average CoB student brings in 2.81 applied credit hours, say from Dona Ana Community College, which is roughly equivalent to one course. Many of these applied credit hours deal with the Business Office Technology (BOT) type of courses. Dennis Clason moved and Michelle Jasso seconded a motion to remove the 8 applied credit hour cap for our college. The results of the discussion were as follows:

Motion passed with a 3-0 vote but with some reservations

The committee would also like to note that we have met every action item on the CEC checklist provided to us at the beginning of the semester. Please see the current UG Curriculum Committee checklist (dated 4 Nov 2011) that accompanies these minutes to better understand what this committee has accomplished this semester, what action items from this committee are planned for the Spring 2012 convocation, and what we plan to address as a committee next semester.

Meeting Adjourned at 1035.

Next meeting is scheduled at the beginning of the Spring 2012 semester.

Submitted by: Terry Adler, Chair