15 October 2009 Minutes of the College Undergraduate (UG) Curriculum Committee

Members Present: Terry Adler, Justine Adkisson, Kathy Brook, Kevin McNelis, Tim Query, Elliott Willman, and Tony Popp

Absent: Bruce Huhmann

Meeting Called to Order at 8:30 a.m.

First Order of Business:

Jim Shannon provided a synopsis of the new assessment process for measuring College of Business (COB) Goal 4: *Students are effective users of information technology (IT).* Data was collected in BCIS 338 in the summer 2009 session as a prototype for the new pedagogy and course assignments. Jim provided three handouts in discussing feedback from the summer session, the IS department's review of the assessment rubric and detailed project instructions used in the course for the assessment. Results indicate that while Part I and III of the assessment were adequate, Part II of student learning was troublesome. Part II of Goal 4 encompasses a student’s ability to use IT to manipulate information into a form usable in business decision-making.

**Closing the Loop:** To address deficiencies in Part II of Goal 4, the Information Systems (IS) faculty decided to change their in-class pedagogy by providing more formal instructions to improve student learning with regard to manipulating information. Their actions should improve student learning in disseminating information in the “mytihlab.com software application.” We will know more about the efficacy of these changes in BCIS 338 once the new curriculum in is more fully measured in the Fall 2009 semester.

Second Order of Business:

Eliott moved and Terry seconded a motion to approve the Finance Department’s proposal for one of two new courses. These two new elective courses are FIN 436 (undergraduate) and FIN 536 (graduate) both titled “Applied Security Analysis and Portfolio Management.” As we are the Undergraduate Curriculum committee, we can only approve undergraduate course proposals. The FIN 436 course has been taught as a special topics courses in the Finance Department to prepare students to actively manage the real dollar COB portfolio. The committee determined that since this course is small in student enrollment and that it reflects unique requirements for managing the “SIC Student Managed Investment Fund,” there would be no-to-low impact on any other COB courses. The relevant information is as follows:

Motion passed 4 yes and 0 no.

**Closing the Loop:** Also, the addition of FIN 436 represents a response by the COB faculty, in general, to improve student learning in managing financial portfolios. While this special topics course has been offered on an ad hoc basis in the past, it is now time to formally change our COB curriculum and include it every semester into our program. Gaps in student performance in managing portfolios should decrease while student performance should increase.

Third Order of Business:

Assessment data on student performance in Goals 5b on critical thinking and 6a on recognizing legal issues were completed. The AOL committee and Finance Department are actively meeting and working to improve student learning in these areas. We have no further actions to recommend at this time.

**NOTE TO DEPARTMENTS:** If departments have course change or new course proposals, our committee will be meeting on October 29 to review these proposals before the university deadline of November 2, 2009.
Meeting Agenda Item for 29 Oct 2009 meeting: Transfer credit from community college courses for ENG 203.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for 29 October 2009 from 0830 to 1000 in the Dean’s Conference Room.

Submitted by: Terry Adler, Chair