

Commission on Faculty Affairs
Minutes
March 18, 2011

Members Attending: Debbie Smith (Chair), Jack Finney, Bruce Pencek, Sam Riley, Kay Hunnings (rep. Richard Sorensen)

Guests Attending: Steve McMullin (Chair for Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies)

The meeting was called to order by Debbie Smith, Chair, who distributed the meeting's agenda:

1. Topics of discussion from the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies by Steve McMullin
2. Policy 13005 and 3020 (Interdisciplinary research centers)

The minutes of CFA on February 18, 2011 were approved without changes by email prior to the meeting.

1. Topics of discussion from the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

Steve McMullin briefed CFA members on the current topics under discussion by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP) that CFA members need to be kept abreast of. He informed CFA members that a subcommittee of CUSP is in place whose goal is to review CUSP minutes and identify policy items that need to be acted upon. Current issues under discussion by the CUSP include:

- i. *Pass/Fail Policy.*
Dr. McMullin informed CFA members that the Past/Fail policy has been confusing to students over the years and has had adverse effect, especially on transfer students. A new revised Pass/Fail policy has already been presented for first and second reading at the CUSP.
- ii. *Course Repetition.*
Dr. McMullin informed CFA members that the number of times a student can repeat a course is not stated in policy. CFA members suggested that the subcommittee of CUSP could consider having a definite number of times a student can repeat a course. However, veteran students should be granted special accommodation for courses interrupted by military duties. CFA members suggested the CUSP might gather information from other peer institutions about their policies on course repetition. Dr. McMullin discussed course repetition in terms of scarce resources; our courses are oversubscribed and we have limited resources for increasing course offerings. Taking courses multiple times precludes other students from taking it one time.
- iii. *University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)*
Dr. McMullin informed CFA members that the UCCL E is charged with looking for ways to promote a broad interdisciplinary education and will make recommendations to CUSP.

2. Policy 13005 and 3020 (Interdisciplinary research centers)

CFA members acknowledged receiving and reviewing revised policy drafts for policy 13005 and 3020 (Interdisciplinary research centers) and no further comments were made.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Recorder, Maxwell Awando