

# ***CAS Undergraduate Council Meeting***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

April 21, 2016

### **I. Call to order**

Deborah Tollefsen called to order the regular meeting of the College of Arts and Science Undergraduate Council meeting at 2:30 p.m. on April 21, 2016 at Scates 212.

### **II. Roll call**

The following persons were present: Susan Elswick (Social Work), Helen Sable (Psychology), Firouzeh Sabri (Physics), Michael Duke (Anthropology), Ladrica Menson-Furr (AAAS), Rob Marczynski (Interdisciplinary Programs), Graves Enck (Sociology), Dorian Burnette (Earth Sciences), Remy Debes (Philosophy), Peter Bridson (Chemistry), Melvin Beck (Biological Sciences), Theron Britt (English), Dennis Laumann (History), Keri Brondo (International Studies), Patsy Krech (CAS), David Madlock (Political Science), Robert Kelz (Foreign Languages), James Campbell (Math), Amanda Johnson (Criminal Justice)

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

No minutes were recorded for the prior meeting

### **IV. New business**

#### **a) Student Success**

Dean Nenon visited with the council to discuss student success rates. He asked the council to reflect on a slight dip in graduation rates for the college over the past year. He clarified a number of questions representatives had about how majors and graduates are being counted by OIR. He also encouraged the council to do what they can to increase student success while maintaining academic integrity and rigor. He mentioned that the CAS will be receiving lists of students in their fifth year who may be able to graduate within six years with some encouragement and advising. Those student lists will be forwarded to department advisors.

#### **b) New student advising**

Patsy Krech updated the council regarding the process of advising new students to the University. All incoming students will be advised through central advising starting in the fall of 2016. Departments, however, will receive lists of students who have claimed a major and Patsy encouraged

departments to plan a department event that would bring together all majors so that these students can begin to bond with their chosen department from the start of their academic career rather than having to wait until their Gen education is done. There was a question raised about how these students will be coded in banner and how emails will be sent out to these students. Patsy said she is working with various people to make sure that these potential majors are coded differently so that we don't send advising emails to them but can send emails to them about department events and so on.

c) ACT scores

The Chair of the council brought the following information to the council: TBR now allows its institutions to accept ACT scores for up to 5 years. The University of Memphis has not, to date, changed its policy regarding ACT scores. There is some indication that a proposal to do so will be forthcoming and that this proposal will be reviewed by the University Undergraduate Council. Until that time, the current policy at the University of Memphis (ACT scores are good for three years only) is still in effect.

d) ACE/ACP

The Chair shared information about the ACE alternative credit project, including a boring but not unhelpful "infomercial" produced by ACE. The representatives discussed the program and agreed to review the ACE suggested equivalences. The Chair agreed to provide them with the list of courses and equivalences as well as information on how to access course syllabi and it was agreed that any feedback should be sent to the Chair of the CAS Undergraduate Council prior to and no later than the first council meeting of October 2016. (A subsequent email was sent out to fix the date for feedback to October 20). Feedback will be collected by the Chair of the council and submitted to the Dean and Dr. Dick Irwin, Vice-Provost.

e). The council discussed a draft proposal of its by laws. They agreed that although non-tenure track faculty can serve on the committee, only tenure track faculty can vote. They also noted a few typos. The Chair agreed to revise and send to the committee. The revised version will be posted on the Council's website.

## **V. Adjournment**