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University Undergraduate Council
January 15, 2015
Minutes

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PRESENT (voting): Deborah Tollefsen (A&S), Lloyd Brooks (FCBE) and proxy for Judy Brown, Stan Walls (SHS), Joanne Gikas (UNIV), Russ Deaton (ENGR), Jeff Marchetta (ENGR), Shirleatha Lee (NURS), Radesh Palakurthi (HPRM), Peggy Quinn (UNIV) Barbara Taller, (BIOL), Firouzeh Sabri (PHYS), Mate Wierdl (Faculty Senate), Laurie Snyder (CFA), Helen Sable (PSYC), Sandy Utt (JOUR), Jesse Cochran, proxy for Raven Douglas (SGA), DeAnna Owens, proxy for Jennifer Nelson.

PRESENT (ex officio): Dick Irwin (Academic Aff), Carl Chando (ACC), Bess Robinson (Libraries), Karen Thurmond (Acad Advising), Melinda Jones (Honors), Barbara Kyker (Recorder)

ABSENT: Steve McKellips (Registrar), Raven Douglas (SGA), Judy Brown (MIS) Jennifer Nelson (EDUC)

GUESTS: Dr. Peter Bridson

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Irwin at 1:10 pm when a quorum was achieved.

Deb Tollefsen introduced and sought approval of the College of Arts and Sciences proposals. She then reviewed the current policy for Graduation with Distinction which required that students complete 42 hours (an arbitrary number which unnecessarily excludes some transfer students) at UM and earn a specific overall (only UM college level work) GPA. She proposed that the number of hours be lowered to 30 hours.   She also proposed that, rather than the overall GPA, the student's UofM grade point average and inclusive (combination of UofM GPA and GPA from college level transfer work) GPA be used to determine graduation with distinction. Dr. Tollefsen said that, as it stands now, we are punishing the UM student who may have stumbled early in his college career, and we are punishing the transfer student who has only 30 hours of transfer work. There were no questions, and the proposal passed.

Dr. Tollefsen then clarified that PSYC 1300 is being brought back to provide career guidance and that some of the wording for Behavioral Science needed "cleanup." Questions arose about the description change for CHEM 4916, so that proposal was TABLED awaiting further discussion and clarification.

A question arose concerning the proposal to submit A&P I and II as general education courses. Dr. Irwin explained that the UUC had approved this in the past, but it had never been formally submitted for approval to TBR. All Arts & Sciences proposals passed.

Shirleatha Lee proposed a new NURS 3900 course for experiential learning for RN-BSN students. This proposal passed.

Radesh Palakurthi said the the issues concerning last month's CCFA proposal for JOUR 4703 had been resolved, so this new course was approved by the UUC.

Before the meeting ended, Wade Jackson rose to speak. He again raised the issue of why he believes the Faculty Senate should have four members on the UUC, because he believes the Senate doesn't believe they have any "sway." He would like to see the UUC dissolved and the responsibilities turned over to the Faculty Senate. He continued, saying that the constitution "gives us the voice of the faculty" and some things had been re-written and approved inappropriately.

Richard Irwin pointed out that the Faculty Senate has representation on the UUC, but Mate Wierdl said that the information is not getting back to the departments. "If we (Faculty Senate) had more representation, we could be sure the information gets back to each college."

Russ Deaton again proposed that the Faculty Senate be allowed to vote on proposals following the approval by the UUC. The question was asked whether the Faculty Senate would have the authority to change the proposals, but the response was that no, the proposal would be sent back to the college.

Jeff Marcheta said that the Faculty Senate "needs to validate this committee," and Sandy Utt asked whether historical information exists concerning the issue.

Wade Jackson said the UUC should send him a proposal, but Deb Tollefsen replied that he needs to be the one to write the proposal and the UUC would consider it. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kyker, Recorder