

I. Call to order and Approval of the minutes of December 7, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 3:02. The minutes were approved with one addition. Representing the bookstore, Lena Cervantes was present, but she forgot to sign the attendance sheet.

II. Committee Appointments *If interested in serving, please contact your University Faculty Council representative.*

A. University Security Committee

Andreas Tomaszewski (SAC) was appointed.

A representative from each of the other colleges still is needed.

B. University Technology Security Committee

Jae Park (COT) was appointed contingent on his willingness to serve.

C. Replacement of the CHHS representative to the Retention Taskforce

A representative from CHHS still is needed.

D. Replacement of the University Faculty Council representative to the University Diversity Council

Both Lori Watson and Dibya Choudhuri were appointed.

III. The First UFC Scholarship – Kathryn Prater was honored with the first University Faculty Council Scholarship

IV. Proposal for an Individualized Studies Program – Nina Contis and Bill Miller

Nina Contis and Bill Miller presented a program for Individualized Studies which meshes with Governor Granholm's "Return to Learn" proposal. Specifically, students would be able to graduate with 3 concentrations of 20-21 credit hours each, without a major or minor. Fifteen hours of each concentration would come from upper level courses. Faculty would design the concentrations from the courses offered in one or more of their programs, and perhaps from programs offered in different departments. The concentrations would go through the regular input system. The intent is to attract adult students who have a job and need further education in order to advance in their current place of work. Another use of Individualized Studies occurs when students find at the time of their applied experience, such as a teaching practicum, that their major is not working out, but they would like to graduate.

Concerns expressed include the following.

- Departments may not get recognition for the students in a concentration, but this is a problem shared with other interdisciplinary studies.
- The design of the concentrations and the advising should make sure that students do not basically take the same thing in two different concentrations.
- Sunset dates should be set for coursework in each proposed concentration, because there are many areas in which older courses do not represent the current information.

- Older, returning students should be asked which barriers they face, so that we are maximally effective in attracting them.

Nina Contis and Bill Miller were thanked for coming during the formative phase of the proposal.

V. Proposal to Realign Internal EMU Funding for Research, and Proposed Guidelines for the New Faculty Research Fellowships – Bob Holkeboer

Bob asked for and received feedback on his proposals. The new system would provide more frequent evaluations than just one per year. The application is shorter, and it requires endorsement only from the Department Head. The colleges can decide whether they want to provide feedback.

UFC representatives suggested that there be two evaluations per year, November 15 and March 15. Representatives also suggested ways to make the write-up easier to use for faculty. Bob will rewrite the proposals with these suggestions in mind.

Bob expressed appreciation for the feedback he received, and UFC thanked him for presenting his ideas during the formative phase and asking for feedback.

VI. Proposed Policy on Declaring a Major

This proposal was from the Retention Committee. Gersham Nelson has been asked to come to the next UFC meeting, because some of the issues involved need to be discussed. Further, the statement concerning the timing of choosing a major needs to be stated positively rather than negatively.

VII. Announcements

- The **ninth UFC** meeting for the 2005- 2006 Academic Year will be held on **February 1, 2006, 3 – 5 p.m.** in the Tower Room of McKenny Union.
- The **ninth UFC Executive Board** meeting for the 2005-2006 Academic Year will be held on **January 25, 2006, 3 – 5 p.m.** in the Faculty Council Office, 104 Pierce Hall
- Please make sure you read your e-mail regularly. It is the primary method of communication regarding upcoming Faculty Council meetings and announcements. Please reduce your accumulated e-mail; otherwise, **OVERQUOTA** will appear, and you will not receive current materials.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alida Westman

Present: M. Rahman (ACC); V. Okafor (AFS); M. Reedy (ART); S. McCracken (CTA); D. Crary (ECON); L. Adler-Kassner (ENGL); I. Ahmad (CIS); M. Zinggeler (FLABS); C. Mayda (GEO/GEOLOG); L. Watson (HIS/PHIL); S. Levine (HPHP); D. Clifford (HEALTH SCI); C. Haddad (TECH STUDIES); G. Mitchell (ENGIN TECH); E. Broughton (L & C); L. Shirato (Halle); K. Banerji (MGMT); D. Barton (MKT); J. Jones (MATH); J. R. Smith (MUS/DANCE); J. Porter (PHY/AST); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); M. Bombyk (SWK); L. Lee (SPED); M. McCormack (TED); S. Norton (WMST).

Ex-Officio: D. Loppnow (INTERIM PROVOST & V.P. OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS); N. Contis (ASSOCIATE V.P. FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND CURRICULUM)

Guests: R. Holkeboer (ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH), B. Miller (DIRECTOR OF COURSE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT); P. Zimmer (PRESIDENT OF GRADUATE COUNCIL)

Absent: BIOL; CHEM; COSC; NURS; PLS