Senate Minutes 5/5/03


Guests: P. Dahl, C. Parson, J. Brouwer, G. Richgels, M. Fulton, D. Lyren, E. Dunn, R. Weaver, L. Jackson, S. Gritzmacher

Minutes of March 17, April 7, 14, 21,28 Approved

President’s Report (C. Brown)

- We should endeavor to get the lapel pins out to all faculty.
- The Recruitment and Retention Committee seeks to change its name. B. Donovan moved that this be referred to Constitutional Review Committee. APPROVED

Committee Reports

Curriculum (M. Fulton)

- Curriculum Report #15.
- Changes to Business Administration with respect to increased flexibility in internships. Recommend Approval.
- Changes to Environmental Science 2000 to be added to Liberal Education options in Categories 3 and 8. Recommend Approval.
- Addition of First Year Experience Course. Sent forward without recommendation.
- Motion to Divide. BUAD and ENV changes APPROVED.
- Committee concerns about FYE involved faculty resources, the placement of the course at the 1000 level, faculty oversight. R. Gendreau motioned that the course be approved.
- S. Hauser proposed amendment that that the requirement of enrolling in FYE section for first year registration be deleted. NOT CARRIED.
- K. Robinson proposed and amendment that the course requires more of academic content to be listed at the 1000 level. NOT CARRIED.
- A vigorous discussion ensued and eventually the FYE Course was APPROVED.

Academic Affairs and Student Services (D. Peterson)

- Too late in the semester to decide on the issue of cross listing courses.
- Introduction of two options (A and B) for the academic calendars for the 2004-5, 2005-6 Academic Years (see attachments)
Memo from P. Waletzko, President of the Student Senate, that the Student Senate does not support starting before Labor Day. They would trade Veteran’s Day for a full week at Thanksgiving.

- D. Peterson moved that the Senate select either Calendar A or B.
- R. Henry moved that a third option be added for consideration, a calendar prepared by Pat Welle, which involved a start date after Labor Day, but a reduction in breaks through the semester. This CARRIED. This calendar (see attached) will hereafter be referred to as C.
- S. Hauser proposed that the meeting be extended to 5:45 PM CARRIED
- After a long debate, Option C was selected as the recommendation of the Senate, with the vote being 9 (A), 5 (B) and 13 (C).
- P. Rosenbrock moved for a roll call vote on the choice of Academic Calendars for 2004-5, 2005-6 Academic Years. Vote went as follows.

Option B: R. Bennett, S. Bland (2)

Academic Computing (G. Richgels)

- BSU will not be hiring a webmaster, so AC will gather information about the website and suggest changes.

Liberal Education (B. Donovan)
Liberal Education Committee Annual Report, 2002-2003

Items for 2002-2003

- Donovan (CAL, chair), Dunn (CAL), Gilman (CoPS), Conely (SAS), and Greer and Kroeger (SNS) have met weekly throughout the AY. Our meetings have been open.
- We filled the Lib Ed Director job with Susan Hauser.
- I have communicated by e-mail with Linda Lade for purposes of assessing how much leeway we have.
- Interim forms were developed and approved by the Senate; they are in use. A signature line for P & E Coordinator has been added to the Category 10 form.
- At a retreat in October we began working out just how we were going to use the competency lists for Categories 3-10 as criteria for accepting or rejecting courses in those categories, and we have been working on this matter whenever possible ever since. The revisions will be brought to the Senate for approval when the remaining categories (1, 2 & 11) have also been reviewed.
Area 4, which we shall be calling simply “Mathematics,” occasioned some very interesting philosophical discussions and disputations with interested faculty.

Languages are now to be included in both 6 and 8 (though with some differences).

- Misc. Policies:
  - “Students may use courses approved for Liberal Education even if they took the courses prior to the date of their approval for Liberal Education. However, the courses can only be used in the categories for which they were approved.” (01/21/03)
  - “Courses not approved for Liberal Education will generally not be accepted as substitutions for approved courses.” (01/21/03)
  - Existing curriculum flow chart was reaffirmed for Liberal Education proposals.
  - We set a permanent meeting time: Noon on Fridays.

- Student petitions acted on: 14 (approved 5, denied 9); Course applications acted on: 6 (approved 5, denied 1).

- We participated through representatives in the deliberations of two ad hoc committees.
  - Gilman served on ad hoc committee on web delivery of courses.
  - Dunn served on ad hoc FYE committee.

- Long-range planning: We ran questionnaire and focus groups to take the pulse of faculty feeling and opinion on the current lib ed program and where it needs to go.

For next year:

- Review and revise competencies/criteria for categories 1, 2, and 11; bring the whole package to Senate for approval.
- Review and revise Liberal Education assessment procedures, with a view to distinguishing more clearly between the assessment of courses and the grading of students, and also piggybacking this assessment onto assessment already required of departments (so as to make the assessment process less burdensome to all).
- Review concerns raised in the ETS Academic Profile regarding the critical thinking abilities of our students.
- Survey students (as we have faculty) on long-range Liberal Education planning.
- Prepare a Liberal Education handbook or brochure to guide students and advisors through lib ed—“learning to speak the language of recommendations, to supplement the language of requirements.”

On-line Ad Hoc Committee (B. McManus)

Issues related to on-line learning
Committee members: Brendan McManus, Muriel Gilman, Pat Rogers, Mike Morgan, Gerry Morine, and Barb Hanus. Invited guests were Mr. Bob Griggs and Dr. Joann Frederickson. Other visitors attended on occasion.

We organized our report into three main categories with subcategories in each.

Faculty Issues

Load.

Teaching on-line classes.
Should on-line classes be a part of load?
Should additional credit be granted for teaching on-line, i.e., ITV, graduate (6000 level) classes.

Developing on-line classes.
Should extra pay or reassigned time be given?
CEL pays for course development
Several departments are provided reassigned time for course development.

Compensation for teaching if it’s not part of load.
Should the pay be per student, i.e., Guided, Self-discovery classes?
Should pay be per class, thus requiring a critical mass.

Academic freedom. See curricular issues
Qualifications. See curricular issues

Curricular Issues

**Departmental Curricular Process. New courses or changes to course content require the curricular review process.**

Academic freedom. The department should have oversight as to course content and how course objectives are achieved.
Quality of a course. Department determines this.
A Best Practices Self-study for on-line classes can be used.
Departmental expertise can determine if teaching methods are appropriate to meet course objectives and assessment procedures.

**University curricular process**

New or changed courses and programs, i.e., content, description, credits
Follow University curricular procedures

Accreditation.
Working towards North Central Accreditation (NCA)/Higher Learning Commission accreditation for on-line program delivery

On-line offering of existing courses and new CEL course development
requires department chair and Dean’s approval
Campus and Community Issues

Information about online learning for all members of the campus community is needed.

- Dispel rumors about quality, who owns a course, etc.
- Education about economic and political importance of online programs and courses
- All vacancy notices indicate that successful candidates may be asked to participate in distance education.

The fit of online learning and it’s importance to BSU’s mission.

- How should resources be committed to online learning opportunities?
- How do online offerings affect educational opportunities for our service region?
- Does limiting liberal education offerings alter lib ed goals?

MnSCU policy

- The need to be developing programs in the event that MnSCU limits a program to only one school in the system
- Who owns course materials? MnSCU is working on policy regarding this issue.

Adjourned 5:45 PM