

approved
1-18-82

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

November 9, -1981 - 3:00 p.m.
Board Room - Burruss Hall

PRESENT: Dr. Wilson, Chairman; Dr. Hall, Secretary; Deans Fordyce, Gray, Hanna, Harris, Vasey (for Ford), and Wall; Senators Barnett, Chiang and Cook; Professors Bambach, Beams, Bedford, Craig, Sherman, and Vasey (for Parrish); SGA Representatives Kailos, Kvochak, Phillips and Train.

ABSENT: Dean Bonham; Professor Rosenberry.

VISITORS: Dean Bauer and Susan Truelove (Spectrum).

1. The Meeting was called to order by Dr. Wilson and the Agenda was approved as distributed.
2. The Minutes of the CUS meeting of October 26, 1981 were approved after the secretary noted several corrections in item 4 (detailed listing of course approvals).
3. The Brief Report on the University Council Meeting of November 2 was presented by Dr. Hall. The only item of direct concern to the Commission on Undergraduate Studies was University Council action on the two resolutions concerning catalog statements on admissions recently placed before Council by CUS. At the request of Dr. Hall, who was substituting for Dr. Wilson at the University Council meeting, the resolution on in-state versus out-of-state admissions was returned to CUS for further consideration. At the suggestion of Faculty-Senate representative Wiggert, the second resolution on the consideration of auditions and portfolios as supplementary admissions criteria for Arts students was set aside (though not formally tabled) until CUS could provide Council with further rationale and context.
4. Dean Fordyce, for the Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid Policy, distributed to CUS drafts of a re-statement of the first resolution and a rationale and context statement for the second resolution. After a lively discussion the Commission agreed on revised wording for the two statements. Final wording for the two resolutions was prepared for submission to University Council.
5. Dr. Wilson introduced Dean Bauer who addressed the Commission on the subject of course duplication. The gist of Dean Bauer's remarks is contained in a draft statement on Intercollegiate and Interdepartmental Cooperation in the Design and Teaching of Courses, appended to these Minutes. In bringing the matter to the attention of the Commission on Undergraduate Studies, the Dean said that he had two concerns. First was the obvious concern over the efficient use of personnel, space, etc. However, the second concern was his major one, that academic standards suffer when a subject is taught by other

than the most highly qualified faculty in the field or when it is taught at an unjustified course level. Discussion followed the Dean's remarks centered on the difficulty of monitoring effectively the actual content of courses as they evolve over several years. The syllabus which accompanied the course proposal when it was originally approved quite commonly is no longer current; yet rarely, if ever, do college curriculum committees or the CUS re-examine course syllabi or re-approve courses except when the matter is specifically brought forward by the department offering the course. Dean Bauer agreed that it might not be possible to monitor courses continually. Nonetheless, he thought it should be made apparent that course duplication is a major concern of the University. He thought that there was a belief, too widespread on this campus, that nobody really cares about course duplication. Dr. Wilson thanked Dean Bauer for his visit and for sharing his concerns with the Commission. He promised that the Commission would keep course duplication policy as an agenda item for an upcoming meeting.

6. The results of a recent student survey on the semester versus quarter calendar question were presented by Debra Kailos. She noted that the data need refining and that some of the survey results were not yet tabulated. However, tentative conclusions could be reached that students favor an early quarter system as opposed to our current quarter system, but were not enthusiastic about the prospect of a semester system. Ms. Kailos' report is appended to these Minutes.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip L. Hall
Secretary

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