

University College Committee Minutes of the October 10, 2008 Meeting

Present: B. Torff (Chair), B. Bradford, C. Pomarico, E. Deak, A. Campbell, A. Rusu, and VP Edna Wilson.

1. Meeting called to order at 3:40 PM.
2. Minutes for the September 18th meeting were unanimously approved as revised.
3. New business:
 - a. UC governance document
 - i. Review and discussion of the current version of the UC governance document. VP Wilson discussed changes made by reviewing administrators over the summer. The committee discussed the current version. The motion to approve of this version was unanimously passed.
 - b. Advisement of UC students
 - i. UC students are not currently being advised by faculty in their major department.
 1. Prof. Bradford made the point that their current advisors do not understand course content or likely career paths associated with various majors.
 2. Prof. Bradford suggested that advisement should be done by the major departments rather than by UC staff. He indicated that in his experience the academic performance of UC students is highly variable. Prof. Rusu concurred.
 - ii. Prof. Bradford pointed out that UC students are not counted among the Accounting majors in the Dolan School of Business so they are invisible to the faculty.
 1. Prof. Bradford indicated that in the Accounting Department, the number of sections scheduled for each class depends on demand.
 - a. It is important for department Chairs to know the number of UC students being served.
 - i. He suggested that teaching at night is an incontinence that is easier to accept if participation is seen as an integral part of the department's program offerings.
 - ii. He indicated that some departments in the School of Business have ended their involvement with UC and some faculty, from participating departments, have asked not to teach at night.
 2. Prof. Bradford pointed out that in the School of Business, the number of majors is the basis for resource allocation. Faculty lines, travel funds, and other resource requests are evaluated in the light of the number of students served.
 - iii. VP Wilson discussed the possibility of compensating an advisor in each department.
 - c. Setting the agenda for the year
 - i. The annual report of May 2008 listed seven topics under unfinished business.
 1. Updating the UC Governance Document (above).
 2. School/Department advisor to UC (above).

3. Data tracking and shared enrollments (above).
 4. Responding to the needs of adult learners in UC.
 - a. VP Wilson suggested that there are courses that are offered at other institutions that serve the needs of adult learners. She provided examples focusing on courses that were taught here but have been dropped from the curriculum.
 5. Establishing a UC Curriculum Committee.
 - a. VP Wilson suggested that this committee serve as a curriculum committee for UC. Why should the faculty have to create another committee when this one could serve this additional purpose?
 6. Infusion of Jesuit Mission into UC
 - a. This ongoing topic was discussed last year and will most certainly be discussed this year.
 7. Evaluation of Adjuncts
 - a. Prof. Torff indicated that this is one topic he would rather not get into this year. The first three “action items” should be more than enough for the committee.
 - b. Prof. Pomarico suggested that it is better to focus our efforts as a committee and accomplish our stated objectives.
4. Prof. Torff thanked VP Wilson for providing the room and refreshments for our meeting.
 5. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Bradford