

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**  
**Undergraduate Council**  
**Minutes of January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Present: Michael LeVan (Chair), Garnet Butchart, , Laura Gonzalez, Ken Christensen, Sunita Lodwig, JoAnne Larsen, Sherman Dorn, Eric Holland

Absent: Jay Coble (excused), Kay Perrin (excused), Dell deChant (excused)

Guests/Ex Officio: Janet Moore (UGS), Tony Embry (Registrar), Patricia Muisener (CAS/Chemistry), Michael Kanning

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm

1. The minutes of December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008, were approved.
2. Announcements
  - Sherman Dorn warned the council about a new web service that allows students to see the grade distribution of particular courses and sections. Though this information is part of the public record, easy access to the aggregated numbers may cause students to gravitate towards particular sections.
3. New course/curriculum proposals for discussion and approval
  - The following new course approvals were discussed:
    - CHS2440 – General Chemistry for Engineers - Introduction to important concepts and principles of chemistry with emphasis on areas considered most relevant in an engineering context. **Approved** pending minor changes to the syllabus.
    - CHS2440L – General Chemistry for Engineers Lab - Laboratory portion of General Chemistry for Engineers. Introduction to laboratory techniques, study of properties of elements, synthesis and analysis of natural and commercial materials. **Approved** pending minor changes to the syllabus.
    - ANT4410 – Anthropology of American Culture - This course examines American culture from an anthropological perspective. Various sources and methods will be used in formulating our portraits including readings, films, fieldwork, and personal experiences. **Approved** pending revision to the stated learning outcomes.
    - COM3600 – Analyzing Culture & Media - Applies theories of media and media industries to analysis of media texts to investigate relationships among culture, media, representation, and democracy. **Approved** pending revision to the stated learning outcomes.
    - COM4607 – Race & Gender in Popular Film & Television - Explores representations of race and gender in contemporary TV and film and utilizes feminist and critical race theories to interrogate social inequalities. **Approved** pending revision to the stated learning outcomes.
  - The curriculum changes to the Nursing RN-BS/MS program were **approved**.
4. New course/curriculum proposals needing assignment
  - The following new courses were assigned for review:
    - GER3330 – German Languages & Culture through film (Larsen)
    - REL3505 – History of Christianity (Larsen)
  - The following curriculum change was assigned for review:
    - Undergraduate Finance Major/Minor changes (Gonzalez)

5. New Business

- Sherman Dorn argues for changes to the I grade policy that would place more of the paperwork burden on the student instead of the instructor. Also, language was recommended that allowed for exceptions when students encounter exceptional circumstances. There was some discussion of the technological implementation of the new system, as well as how the paperwork and contracts should be handled. Voting on the policy was tabled, and it was decided that a representative of the Graduate Council, which initiated the policy changes, can speak to the council on the rationale for the changes.
- The changes to the Testing and Final Examination policy serve to extend by one additional day the final exam period to accommodate the increasing need for space. The additional day is also the day of the graduation ceremony, so the council considered possible alternative solutions that would avoid this conflict. Michael LeVan will distribute an email looking for possible solutions to this problem.

The next meeting will be Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The meeting was adjourned at 4:56pm.