

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
Undergraduate Council
Minutes of February 22nd, 2010

Present: Michael LeVan (Chair), Ken Christensen, Kay Perrin, Sherman Dorn, Laura Gonzalez, Chad Michaels, Karla Davis-Salazar, Jay Coble, Cassandra Hanjian

Absent: JoAnne Larsen, Garnet Butchart (excused), Kathy Hyer, Khalid Hassouneh, Sarah Niewold

Guests/Ex Officio: Janet Moore (UGS), Michael Kanning (UGS), Diane TeStrake (CAS), Rafael Perez (ENG), Clara Ohannes, Christina Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 3:04 pm.

1. The minutes of February 8th, 2010 were approved.
2. Announcements
 - a) Diane TeStrake from the Biology department introduced the new Concentration in Cell and Molecular Biology for the B.S. in Biology. This proposal will be acted on at the next meeting.
3. New course/curriculum proposals
 - a) CEN4201 – Software Testing – The course provides the fundamental principles and tools for testing and validating large-scale software systems. The course is open to majors as well as non-majors. Course was **APPROVED**.
4. New Business
 - a) Guest Speaker – Rafael Perez, Associate Dean for Academics, College of Engineering – The College of Engineering would like to institute a requirement for all incoming Engineering students to be required to own a laptop. The justification for the requirement is that the use of software applications is now so common in many Engineering courses that laptops are an essential component of the learning experience. Computer lab sections no longer go far enough to meeting the need. Newly developed virtualization techniques will allow students to utilize advanced engineering software from their own computers while in class. A computer in the \$300-\$400 dollar range will suffice. The department was advised to clearly communicate the requirement during orientation and work with the USF computer store to provide a good way for students to buy a computer that meets the requirement. The council voted to **APPROVE** this new policy.
5. Old Business
 - a) Guest Speaker – Bob Sullins, Dean of Undergraduate Studies – Dean Sullins spoke to the council about understanding the relationship between student policies and changing catalog content. Dean Sullins spoke about the system of Common Course Prerequisites (CCP) and the rationale for students “attachment” to particular catalog years. The CCP emerged in order to simplify the transfer process between community colleges and SUS institutions. Dean Sullins spoke to the concern from the council regarding the D/F policy change recently approved for Biology and Chemistry. This change is fair to students because of the appeal policy and because it is focused on achieving student success. Many students are not achieving in the Hard Sciences majors and should be made aware of new opportunities (Health Sciences and Public Health majors) that remain in the field of Health Sciences.

- b) USF Regulation 3.007 regarding Degree Requirements: Baccalaureate – the council voted to **APPROVE** the changes to this policy.
- c) UGC Operating Procedures Revisions – These changes will be considered at the next meeting. Further discussion on the conditional approval process will need to occur.
- d) Non-substantive proposals will now be looked at by the Chairperson and brought to the council for a consent agenda if deemed necessary by the Chairperson.
- e) The following conditional approvals were cleared:
 - i. PHC3000 – Introduction to Environmental and Occupational Health
 - ii. PHC4050 – Biostatistics in Society
 - iii. Public Health Major – with the two course approvals listed above, the Public Health major is now fully approved.

6. Review Assignments

- a) B.S. in Biology: Concentration in Cell and Molecular Biology - **Dorn**

The next meeting will be March 22nd, 2010. The meeting was adjourned at 4:33 pm.