Minutes  
Academic Affairs Council  
December 6, 2005  
107 Lab of Mechanics

The meeting began at 9:10 am.

Present: Carol Roskey (Chair), Ed Braun, Sriram Sundarajan, Nikki Bado-Fralick, Ken Kruempel, Peter Reilly, David Holger, Joanna Corteau, Kay Palan (guest), Tom Polito (guest).

Minors

Kay Palan explained the minors offered by the College of Business. The general business minor is available to students that are not in the College of Business. It basically consists of the core courses that would be taken by a student majoring in the College. Twenty-one credits of 200 and 300 level courses are required for the general business minor. The faculty in the College of Business feels that it is important for the students from outside the College to be exposed to all the areas of business. Students pursuing the general business minor must meet the admissions requirements of the College of Business professional program prior to applying for admission to the minor. General business minors do not have preference in registration for the required courses. Dr. Palan indicated that there are already seats in these courses that are set aside for non-business majors.

The minors for students within the College of Business (Marketing, Accounting, etc.) would require the business core as prerequisites. The COB is very satisfied with how their program works.

Academic Probation Policy

Tom Polito summarized the report from the Task Force on Academic Probation. The major changes from the current policy include: 1) a new "Warning" status for any student earning between a 1.00 and 1.99 GPA in a single semester, 2) a "term rule" rather than a cumulative GPA rule for determining when a student goes on probation (students earning < 1.00 in a semester or between 1.00 and 1.99 for any two consecutive semesters). Students that have earned > 75 credits will be placed on academic probation at the end of any semester in which their cumulative GPA is < 2.00.
Dr. Polito stressed that required interventions are an important part of this policy. He indicated that adoption of the new policy could result in a greater number of students being placed on academic probation or being dismissed from ISU.

Many aspects of the proposed policy were discussed by the committee. Dr. Holger indicated that the Retention Task Force supports this proposed policy. The earlier notification and intervention might help students succeed and this could have a positive impact on retention. Dr. Corteau indicated that the Academic Standards Committee discussed the new policy with Dr. Polito and gave their approval. It was pointed out that there might need to be training/development activities for advisors to assure that they will be effective in working with the new policy. It was mentioned that the new policy could pose problems for the Athletic Dept. The former Athletic Director felt that it could be a problem. Dr. Holger mentioned that the undergraduate programs council, made up of advising representatives from the Colleges, support the new policy.

There was some discussion as to how the policy would function in removing students from the Warning status. It was felt that the report was not clear on this point.

Polito indicated the new policy is a series of compromises. It is hoped that the new policy will replace all individual college policies. Quality point deficiencies will not be part of the new policy.

The Academic Affairs Council approved the new policy. It will now go on to the Executive Board and the Faculty Senate.

Undergraduate Certificates

Dr. Kruempel led another brief discussion of the proposal for undergraduate certificates. He discussed what the program is, what the approval procedures will be, and how these certificates might be used.

Dr. Sundarajan moved approval of the New Program Approval Procedures for an Undergraduate Certificate. Seconded by Braun. The Council approved the proposal which will now move along to the Executive Board and the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Holger gave background on the Joint Admission Program for DMACC and ISU. This formalizes advising and student services opportunities. There is not change in the academic
requirements. Students must still meet ISU entrance requirements. There was some discussion of the potential benefits and possible problems related to the Joint Admission Program. Dr. Holger pointed out that this program will not lead to "outsourcing" of elementary courses to community colleges. The Academic Affairs Council was not required to vote on this program.

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:15. Minutes were recorded by Braun.