The meeting began at 8:30 AM - note the new time!

Present: Suzanne Hendrich (Chair), Ed Braun, Greg Luecke, Ken Kruempel (FSCC), David Holger (ex officio), Nikki Bado-Fralick, Joanna Courteau (ASAC), John Wong

Karen Zuenkel, guest

We had a discussion on the outcomes assessment and continuous improvement of learning while waiting for a quorum. There is some interest in a more uniform way of applying student evaluations. We talked about ways to focus on learning evaluation rather than course evaluation. It is possible to have an approach to identify barriers, what to do to get around these, can we get help from CELT? It was proposed that AAC focus on university-level policy changes that could facilitate improved student learning at ISU.

Quorum established at 9:00 am.

Karen Zuenkel presented the proposal from ASAC to add differing levels of recognition for students graduating “with distinction”. Many of the peer 11 use the Latin terms, although some use English terms for the levels of distinction. If we want to get this in the catalog, we need to approve and get the Faculty Senate to act on it in the December meeting. This will not be applied retroactively. Even if students graduate on the old catalog, they will be recognized using the new system.

Motion unanimously approved (document for Faculty Senate approval is attached).

Minutes of last meeting were approved with minor changes (amended minutes appear on the Faculty Senate website under AAC).

Ed Braun moved, Joanna Courteau seconded, motion passed.

Proposals approved by FSCC for the discontinuation of programs were discussed.

Minor in Portugese:
All but one of the 300-level Portuguese classes has been dropped. Concern was expressed that the department should be asked to commit more resources rather than dropping these classes.
Motion was passed, one opposed.

MS in Enterprise Computing:
The people interested did not take the steps to get students enrolled, and there have been no students in this program. The departments involved would rather discontinue this major.
Motion passed unanimously.
Ken Kruempel presented the numbers of course additions and deletions in the next catalog. While new courses are up, some are due to distance/web-based name changes and additions. Title changes are driven by departments changing names of existing courses. The college summaries and the FS-approved policy changes as they will appear in the catalog will be sent to FS before the Dec. 12 meeting. Full reports of catalog changes are available through the FSCC website.

Last meeting the name change of the Interdepartmental Plant Physiology Major to Plant Biology was introduced. There was some concern that this change may not have had adequate input from ecologically-oriented plant biologists. Ed Braun will get feedback from Chairs of NREM and EEOB.

Motion to forward catalog changes to the FS was made and approved unanimously.

Joanna presented an account of activity from Academic Standards Committee.

The grade of “C-“ as prereq for Engl 397; special GPA for some HHP courses, and changing policy to have “F’s” on retaken designated repeats and non-designated repeats count the same (If a student earns an F in a retaken course, this F will invalidate any previous grade for the course) were discussed. Special GPA requirements have been in effect for CI 438 and 448 through agreement between IA Dept. of Education and the University Teacher Education Program (UTEP). This involves State teacher licensure certification and has been in place for some ten years, but not shown in the catalog. Joanna will recheck ASAC minutes to determine what action ASAC took on the request to include these GPA requirements in the catalog. AAC referred the request to list these special GPA requirements back to ASAC, pending Joanna’s review of ASAC actions on this matter. AAC suggested that the documentation of the IA Dept. of Ed./UTEP agreement be made available to ASAC.

Dave discussed the undergraduate Admissions Study Task Force recommendations. The Board of Regents Office sought people at the three Regents’ universities with expertise to find a better way to gauge the likelihood of student success. Graduating in the upper 50% of high school class is not the best predictor of university success. Faculty representation was not included in the Regents’ task force; this seems to have been an inadvertent omission. University and faculty leaders have been kept informed regarding the Admissions Study Task Force. Faculty input will be needed in establishing new admissions standards if the current state law on Regents’ university admissions is changed. This possible change in admissions policy has complex implications for policy changes that faculty senate will need to be involved in. Expectations for high school core course prerequisites are set by faculty and this does not change that aspect.

The GSB proposal on religious observance was briefly discussed, but will be discussed as old business at the next meeting.

It was proposed to set a biweekly meeting schedule for Spring 2007 to facilitate better discussion of issues. Meetings will be scheduled as soon as possible through the FS office.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.
Minutes taken by Greg Luecke