Facility Senate Academic Standards & Admissions Committee (FSASAC)
Minutes
September 20, 2006

Members present - Kathy Jones (Registrar), Robert Bergmann (Institutional Research), John Maves (Design), Sung Song (LAS), Nancy Boury (Agriculture), Karen Zunkel (Provost), Frank Peters (Engineering), Matthew Moscou (GPSS-BCB), Geoff Abelson (Human Sciences), Carmen Flagge (MSA), Ron Griffith (Veterinary Medicine), Joanna Courteau (Chair).

Joanna Courteau, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Carmen Flagge will take the place of Leonard Perry from Multicultural Student Affairs.

Matthew Moscou volunteered to be Secretary.

A rotation was established until the end of the year with the following order, John Maves, Carmen Flagge, Sung Song, and Kathy Jones.

It was established that the original secretary, who records the minutes, will also correct and send them to Sherri Angstrom for posting on the WEB.

Minutes from the April 24, 2006 meeting were reviewed and corrections were added. Abelson moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Peters seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Courteau scheduled meetings for the remainder of the year with the following dates, October 20, November 17, and December 8, 2:10-3:30 PM.

Karen Zunkel introduced a proposal for review on a change in current standards for recognition during graduation ceremonies. At present students graduating with a GPA greater than or equal to 3.50 are awarded the title “with distinction.” The proposal would add a differentiated recognition system (e.g. cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude) based on fixed GPAs. The proposal will be under review until the next FSASAC meeting.

The Executive Board rejected the proposed discontinuation of tracking Unmet High School Requirements. As this proposal has passed in FSASAC, it will be forwarded to the Academic Affairs Council.

No response was received from College Deans with reference to Special GPAs. Ken Krumpel has observed “invisible changes” are still occurring in the Course Catalog. Courteau proposed that College Representatives write letters to each department before the new cycle of the Course Catalog asking for special GPA requirements they wish to add. Special GPAs will not be permitted in the Course Catalog unless they have been
approved by both the College and FS ASAC. A current draft statement to department representatives is as follows, “College Representatives will solicit any new special GPA requirements for programs or courses in January of even numbered calendar years. Following approval by the College Academic Standards Committee, the college committee chair will inform the College Curriculum Committee and will forward the request to the Faculty Senate Committee on Admission and Academic Standards for approval prior to inclusion in the University Catalog.” Peters moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Song seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Frank Peters will represent the FSASAC at the Academic Affairs Council meeting on September 25, 2006 to convey this new policy to the Council.

Special GPAs have been added to the following courses Com S 477, Com S 577, CI 438, CI 448, and Engl 397 (Com S 228, 229, 309, 311, 331, 362, 363, 477, 577) without the approval of the FSASAC. As such, they shall be excluded from the Catalog unless a rationale/justification is submitted to, and approved by, FSASAC (Addition from Joanna: We have asked the college reps to contact the soliciting departments in their respective colleges regarding the rationale and to submit these to FSASAC once the college committees have approved the requests).

The Iowa Legislature has recently passed a bill during the last session that directed the Board of Regents to conduct a review of admissions standards for direct from high school applicants – currently top half of high school graduating class plus completion of high school core. Jones, Zunkel, and Caffrey are all members of the review committee, and they will keep FSASAC informed as the committee’s deliberation continues. The review process and report will be completed by the end of fall semester.

Matthew Moscou, Secretary Pro-Tem

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 20, 2:10-3:30, 107 LOM