Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Minutes
March 26, 2009

Academic Affair Conference Room, Founders Hall

Present: Marc Albrecht, Greg Anderson, Sylvia Asay, Debbie Bridges, Derrick Burbul, Kim Elliott, Martha Kruse, George Lawson, Janet Lear, Kim Schipporeit, Theresa Wadkins

Absent: Brandon Pettigrew, Cliff Summar, Nate Summerfield, Jane Ziebarth-Bovill

The chair called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. It was moved (Lawson) and seconded (Anderson) that we accept items #104-114. Discussion followed. Major Prusia from the ROTC program was a guest to answer any questions regarding items #107-110 about the Military Science minor proposed. Major Prusia stated that the purpose of the minor was to prepare students for future careers in the military or for students looking for other opportunities. There are no plans for the creation of a major in Military Science. A unanimous vote was taken and the motion was approved.

The previously tabled proposal from the College of Natural and Social Sciences (see attached – Major/Minor Issue, CNSS Educational Policy Committee, February 2008) regarding the overlap rule was then discussed. It was moved (Lawson) and seconded (Anderson) that the proposal be separated into three separate items to be considered one at a time. A unanimous vote was taken. A motion was made (Anderson) and seconded (Burbul) to consider bullet item #1 that would change the number of hours for a minor from 24 to a range from 18-24. Discussion followed. Scott Darveau was present as a guest to answer questions regarding the proposal. He stated that one of the reasons why the proposal had been created was that there was a problem with the present overlap rule for students who wanted to major/minor in Chemistry and Biology. Discussion followed. A unanimous vote was taken to approve bullet item #1. A motion was made (Anderson) and seconded (Albrecht) to consider bullet item #2 with the change of wording from “The review would ensure…” to “The review must ensure…” Discussion followed which resulted in the motion being withdrawn for further consideration. A new motion was made (Anderson) and seconded (Wadkins) to eliminate the overlap rule with the understanding that majors and minors must be from different disciplines as defined by the Education Policy Committees of each college. After much discussion, a motion was made (Schipporeit) and seconded (Lawson) to postpone a vote on the motion in order to ask the Educational Policy Committees of each college to provide a list of disciplines within each of their departments so the Academic Affairs Committee might better address the overlap issue. Discussion followed. A unanimous vote was taken. Further discussion on bullet items #2 and 3 will resume at the next meeting.

A motion was made (Schipporeit) and seconded (Asay) to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.
2008-09 ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Academic Affairs Full Committee 3/26/09

NUMBER, REQUEST, LEVEL, SPECIFIC REQUEST, DEGREE/COURSE, PROGRAM/COURSE, TITLE, DEPT, COL, REASON

**NOTE**
February items were misnumbered and should have been numbered 100-103. Thus, the numbering of March items commences with #104.

#104, Alter, Course, Title and Course Description, BMIS 282, Decision Support Software, Decision Making, and Databases, Marketing and MIS, B&T, Industry terminology has changed. Updating the course title to reflect current industry terminology allows potential employers to better identify the skill set when looking at a resume. New Course Title: Business Intelligence using Databases.

#105, Alter, Course, Title and Course Description, BMIS 350, Decision Support and Data Warehouse System, Marketing and MIS, B&T, Industry terminology has changed. Updating the course title to reflect current industry terminology allows potential employers to better identify the skill set when looking at a resume. New Course Title: Intermediate Business Intelligence through Data Mining.

#106, Alter, Course, Title and Course Description, BMIS 410, Neural Networks and Advanced Data Mining Techniques, Marketing and MIS, B&T, Industry terminology has changed. Updating the course title to reflect current industry terminology allows potential employers to better identify the skill set when looking at a resume. New Course Title: Advanced Business Intelligence using Neural Networks and Advanced Data Mining.

#107, Create, Course, MLSC 399, Independent Study, MLSC, B&T, Army ROTC and MLSC classes have not been on the course inventory at UNK since Fall Semester 2001. Creating an independent study course will allow students to receive credit for attending the Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky for four weeks in the summer. Addition of this course will also allow students to expand the study of Military Leadership and Army ROTC beyond the levels presented in programmed courses.

#108, Create, Course, MLSC 405, Officer Candidate School - Phase 3, MLSC, B&T, MLSC 405 is being created to complete the GOLD Program established in August 2007. MLSC 405 is the culminating course for students participating in the GOLD Program. Upon completion of MLSC 405, students are commissioned as Army officers in the Army National Guard.

#109, Alter, Course, Title, MLSC 499, Directed/Independent Study, MLSC, B&T, This course has not been offered since Fall Semester 2001. This course is being renamed as it is being “reactivated” for re-establishing Army ROTC. New Course Title: Independent Study.
The Military Science Minor is being altered to “reactivate” it with the “reactivation” of Army ROTC and the Military Science Program at UNK. The minor prepares students, while pursuing degrees in a major discipline of their choice, for positions of leadership within the national defense structure of the United States. The minor also provides ROTC cadets with an understanding of the fundamental concepts and principles of military science and the requirements for national security.

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The attached request to Alter a Program form is being submitted for the Health Science Minor. The minor was originally created in 2003 and we have now had sufficient time to reflect on the effectiveness and possible ways to improve the minor, as well as monitor which majors are utilizing the minor. There are really three main reasons for the alterations at this time. First of all, since this is an interdisciplinary minor, we commonly have overlap issues with some of the majors that most commonly choose this minor, most notably the Exercise Science Major. Several of the changes being requested will alleviate that problem. Since then there have also been new classes developed that would be very appropriate for the Health Science Minor. Finally, some majors that commonly utilize the minor are in need of upper division hours and several electives being added will give them the opportunity to get those hours from their minor.

This request is to reactivate and alter the Bachelor of General Studies program. The previous program was placed on inactive status because of problems associated with the assessment of the program. The new proposal expands and strengthens the previous program and provides a mechanism for assessment. The program will be housed in the College of Natural and Social Sciences. This proposal was sent to all the UNK undergraduate colleges.
The Problem
A minor at UNR is defined as exactly 24 credit hours, with a maximum of 6 hours that can apply to both a minor and a major. This has been a problem for some students in Biology and Physics, wherein a major program requires substantially more than 6 hours from another department (Chemistry for Biology, Mathematics for Physics). However, only 6 of those hours can be applied to a minor (in Chemistry or Physics). This may result in students having 16 hours of Chemistry with only 6 hours applicable to a minor. Either these students go on to a double major in Chemistry and Biology where no overlap rule exists, or they simply "carry" the extra hours. As a result, a Psychology major can earn a minor in Chemistry with fewer Chemistry hours than a Biology major/Chemistry minor.

Data
The majority of universities in our comparison group have minor programs at 18 hours, some as small as 16 (Western Illinois University). It is not clear how many have an "overlap" rule. UNO has minors that have as few as 18 credit hours. CNL has 18 hour minors (Plan A), but in the case of a double major, each minor can have as few as 12 hours (Plan B).

The Goal
If a student has completed significant work in an area of study in the opinion of the faculty in that area, the student should receive acknowledgment of that work by earning a minor and having it indicated on their transcript.

Proposal
• Change the number of hours for a minor from 24 hours to a range from 18 to 24.
• Eliminate the overlap rule and allow the judgment of overlap to be made by departments with the approval of the Ed Policy (or Academic Affairs) committee from the affected Colleges and the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee. This review would ensure that a Major and a Minor are from different disciplines so that "empire building" is prohibited.
• Regardless of the rule structure, allow for application of "exceptions to the rule." This is the current state of affairs with regard to Comprehensive majors. Many programs exceed the maximum hours for a comprehensive major by appealing to the Academic Affairs Committee. Under the existing rules, the same process can be established for requesting a minor be less than 24 hours or requesting a minor have greater overlap with a major. The Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee could host proposals that are exceptions to the University 24-hour minor, 6-hour overlap rule.

Approved 3-5-08

William Wymond
CNSS ED POL. CO-HAIR