

Academic Council Minutes
December 12, 2007
2:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room A

Present: Mr. David Ray; Dr. Debbie Bryant; Dr. Ranelle Eubanks; Mr. Mark Spencer; Dr. Louis James; Dr. Peggy Doss; Dr. Richard Kluender; Dr. Morris Bramlett; Dr. Trey Berry; Dr. Kelly Bryant; Dr. Jim Roiger; Ms. Annette Hall; Ms. Pamela Gouner; Ms. Sandra Campbell; Mr. Bob Ware; Reporter: Ms. Rita Hyatt.

The Council approved the November 28, 2007 minutes with a correction noted.

Mr. Ray said that faculty should keep office hours during final exam week. Students should be able to reach faculty if the need arises. Faculty need to change their voice mail at the end of semester to forward to the department secretary if assistance is required.

Mr. Ray asked each Unit Head to describe efforts to improve retention in their units. Some faculty stated they are giving more homework to students and are having fewer drops or "Fs". Some faculty gave quizzes at the beginning of each class resulting in better student grades and fewer drops.

The Council discussed the problem of increasing numbers of "Ws". Mr. Ray informed the Council that Texas had a similar problem and passed a policy (Act 1230) that limited "Ws" to no more than six (6) per student. Some suggestions were to charge a repeat fee to retake a course that had been dropped by a student, evaluate teachers with a large number of "Ws", add more days at the beginning of the semester to drop a course, or allow students to audit a class. Mr. Ray stated that the Council will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Dr. Debbie Bryant stated that it was important for faculty to take roll every day of class. Faculty will need to indicate on the Enrollment Verification Roster if a student never attended class or the last day the student attended class.

Dr. Trey Berry discussed the possibility of offering an Honors Program at UAM. Mr. Ray asked the Council to review the information, and we will continue our discussion on an Honors Program at the next meeting.

Dr. Debbie Bryant asked that the Council table the discussion of scholarly intramurals until the next meeting.

Dr. Eubanks distributed a copy of the website for child abuse education (www.arkansas.gov/demo/childabuse_education/index.html) provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts. Dr. Eubanks will continue efforts to find additional resources.

Mr. Ray asked each Unit Head to send him a sample of written responses to donation gifts. He encouraged all Unit Heads to send responses to all donations with a copy to Ms. Linda Yeiser.

Mr. Ray discussed the ADA Compliance Report 2007 with the Council. Ms. Hyatt emailed a copy of report to the Council.

Mr. Ray explained the procedure for an ambulance being called for a student. He indicated that the student is responsible for all medical bills and the ambulance.

The Council discussed C & S proposals from Nursing and UAM College of Technology-McGehee & Crossett. The Council approved the following to be forwarded to C & S.

Nursing

Modify of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (RN to BSN Advanced Placement Track)

Modify of NURS 2211 Basic Skills Check Off

Modify of NURS 3065 Healthy Aging

Modify of NURS 3073 Role Transition

Modify of NURS 3333 Health Assessment

Modify of NURS 3405 Health Promotion

Modify of NURS 4057 Professional Nursing Leadership

Modify of NURS 4097 Community Health

Modify of NURS 4473 Nursing Research

Modify of NURS 4504 Leadership & Management in Professional Nursing

Modify catalog revision for RN to BSN

UAM College of Technology – McGehee & Crossett

Delete the existing Child Development Associate Certificate of Proficiency at Crossett and McGehee

Add Child Development Associate program

Add Child Development Associate courses

The Council stated that these proposals still require some adjustment on the number of hours for proficiency and revision in math and English requirements.

UAM College of Technology – McGehee

Delete the existing Heavy Equipment Operation Courses

Add Heavy Equipment Operator Program -- Certificate of Proficiency

Add Heavy Equipment Operator Program -- Technical Certificate

Add Heavy Equipment Operator Courses

Mr. Ray stated that grades are due on December 17 at 10:00 a.m. He reminded the Unit Heads to get phone numbers of faculty in case of problem with grades.

The Council adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Revised 1-30-08