September 2016 Academic Affairs Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney Academic Affairs Committee

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Present: Kay Hodge, Janice Fronczak, George Lawson, Kenneth Trantham, Rochelle Krueger, Kim Schipporeit  
Absent: Deb Bridges, Grace Mims, Linda Lilienthal, Kenya Taylor, Joel Cardenas  
Guests: Jane Strawhecker, Ed Scantling

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 by George Lawson.

Time was provided for Guests to address the committee regarding items that appear on the agenda. A request from the College of Education to alter the Credit/No Credit Policy was presented.

Dr. Jane Strawhecker was present at the meeting to discuss the basis for the proposal. Dr. Strawhecker said that members of the College of Education were concerned with the one week time frame which students are allowed to decide whether to register for classes on a credit/no credit basis. They believe the time frame should be extended so that it is in line with the policy at UNL, which allows students until mid-semester to make a decision. Justification for this would be that students have life issues that impact them and sometimes changing a course from credit to no credit would benefit them and keep them from endangering their GPA. The College of Education and Dr. Ed Scantling, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Enrollment Management, believe this could lead to increased student retention.

This issue and associated factors were discussed at length by the committee and guests.

MOTION:
Trantham moved and Schipporeit seconded that the policy change should to be sent back to the College of Education Educational Policy Committee to be rewritten focusing on four main areas:

1. Deadline for credit/no credit decisions by students.
2. Lowest grade for credit.
3. Student academic status to register for a class as credit/no credit.
4. Total credits allowed to be taken on a credit/no credit basis.

The College of Education Ed Policy Committee should then send the proposal to the Ed Policy Committees of the other colleges for feedback. Motion carried.
II. Request to change Early Entry/Dual Enrollment:

EARLY ENTRY/DUAL ENROLLMENT

The University of Nebraska at Kearney encourages high school students whose maturity, achievement, aptitude and goals warrant special consideration to seek early entry. The program provides an accelerated educational opportunity with UNK credit being granted. Acceptance is contingent upon a recommendation from a high school official. Students seeking early entry must complete the Application for Undergraduate Admission and submit the admissions application fee of $45.00. Early entry students may enroll for a maximum of eleven hours per semester and a total of 30 semester hours prior to completion of their high school requirements.

Dr. Scantling reported that high school students are bringing more college credits to UNK yearly and they want to have even more courses offered. High schools, the students and the students’ parents are requesting more classes for dual enrollment and this movement is very strong in the Omaha area. Central Community College and Kearney High are working for increased dual enrollment courses for the high school students. Dr. Scantling believes this is a move that UNK must make. It gives UNK the opportunity to create linkages with high school students and possibly increase enrollment at UNK.

MOTION: Trantham moved and Krueger seconded: Early entry students may enroll for a maximum of eleven hours per semester and a total of 30 semester hours prior to completion of their high school requirements. Motion carried.

III. Alter courses/programs.

#1. Alter, Program, Minor, Ethnic Studies, ETHS, NSS, Reduce the minimum hours required for the minor from 24 hours to 18 hours to align the minor degree with the recent change to 120 hours required for all UNK students to graduate (from 125 hours), and to make the minor degree credit hour requirements similar to those required for the UNK Women’s & Gender Studies Program (WGS), to those required for the Ethnic Studies Minor at UNL, and to those required for the Native American Studies minor at UNO, all of which require 18 credit hours;

#2, Alter Program, Minor, Women’s and Gender Studies, WSTD, NSS, Add 5 electives that meet the WGSAC criteria with at least 50% of the course content dealing with women and/or gender.

#3, Alter, Course, Title, Course Information, ENG 312, Technical and Science Writing, ENG, FAH, Change course title, Old Value: Writing in the Professions, New Value: Technical and Science Writing.

MOTION: Schipporeit moved and Trantham seconded approval of #1-#3. Motion carried.

Fronczak moved and Krueger seconded adjournment at 5. Motion carried.

The substitute recorder apologizes for the lack of wit in these minutes. Dr. Bridges has had more practice.

Respectfully submitted

Kay Hodge, substitute for Bridges for whom there is no substitute!