

**The University of Texas at Arlington
Undergraduate Assembly
Minutes**

The Undergraduate Assembly met in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at 2:15 p.m. in the UC Rio Grande. Provost Donald R. Bobbitt presided.

Attendance.

Member	Present	Excused	Absent	Alternate
Don Bobbitt	✓			
Michael Moore	✓			
Bess Alvarez	✓			
Susan Appleton	✓			
Wendy Barr	✓			
Barbara Becker			✓	
Deborah Behan	✓			
Travis Boren	✓			
Camille Broadway	✓			
Bill Carroll	✓			
Ann Cavallo		✓		
Andrew Clark	✓			
Phil Cohen		✓		
Wanda Dye		✓		
James Epperson	✓			
Donald Gatzke	✓			
Jeanne Gerlach		✓		
Ruth Gornet	✓			
Nancy Hadaway			✓	
Nancy Handy	✓			
Robert Hanks	✓			
Andy Hansz	✓			
Dan Himarios	✓			
Richard Jimmerson			✓	
Sonia Kania	✓			
Andy Kruzic	✓			
Robert Kunovich		✓		
Joo Hi Lee			✓	
Peter Lehmann			✓	
Carl Lovely	✓			
Jeffrey McGee		✓		Yongmei Liu
Diane Mitschke			✓	
Sung Seek Moon			✓	
David Navalinsky	✓			
Jaimie Page			✓	
Paul Paulus	✓			
Lynn Peterson	✓			
Karl Petruso	✓			
Martin Pomerantz	✓			
Phil Popple			✓	
Elizabeth Poster		✓		
John Priest			✓	
Steve Quevedo			✓	
Allen Repko	✓			
Lana Rings	✓			
Jamie Rogers	✓			
Kim Ruebel	✓			
Salil Sarkar	✓			

Gerald Saxon			✓	
Chris Scotese			✓	
Chandra Subramaniam	✓			
Meng Tao			✓	
Saibun Tjuatja		✓		
Beth Wright	✓			

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the regular meeting on November 4, 2008, were approved as published.

Report of the Academic Standards Committee. Michael Moore gave the following report.

There were three items that were brought to the Academic Standards Committee. Two of which will be covered in the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report.

There was a proposal from Architecture to change the requirement in their minors requiring a grade of C or better to earn a minor. They believed this requirement was already in the catalog but it was not explicit and there was some confusion. It was clearly there for majors requirement but it was not clear that this was also applied to minors. The motion was brought to the Academic Standards Committee and approved.

The second one was a similar type motion for the School of Social Work in terms of progressing to the field placement class, a supervision class. A grade of C or better would be required in the classes leading up to that course before they would send a student out into supervision.

Both of those proposals are in the reports for the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

The third item we are not reporting out at this time. There has been a request to revisit the grade exclusion language in the catalog. There was a vigorous debate and discussion but we did not have sufficient members to vote on the measure. It was tabled. We may have something for you at the next meeting. If you have comments about that particular issue that you would like to share, Andy Kruzic is a member of that committee as well as myself and you can feed those comments to either one of us. We'd be happy to take them to the committee.

Report of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. Michael Moore, filling in for Kimberly van Noort, presented the following items approved by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. No action by the Undergraduate Assembly was necessary.

AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULA SPRING, 2009

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Department of Art & Art History

Course Change

ART 4371 - Advanced Painting - change allows qualified students to upper level course/w limited space

Department of Communication

Course Change

BCMN 3340 - Electronic News - allow concurrent enrolm't w/JOUR 1345 - so students take courses earlier than later in their college career

JOUR 4327 Opinion & Persuasive Writing - making course available to other majors – deleting prereq/JOUR 3345

PREL 3355 - Public Relations Case Studies - adds JOUR 2346 as prerequisite/to give basic writing skills to upper class

Delete Course

JOUR 2347 - Professional Journalism Practicum - course, COMM 2195 added which supersedes this course

Department of History

Course Change

GEOG 2401 - Weather & Climate - drop prerequisite/"permission of instructor"

GEOG 3355 - Environmental History of the United States - clerical error in catalog--corrected

Department of Anthropology & Sociology

Delete Course

SOCI 3350 - Power & Bureaucracy - no longer taught and not essential for degree plan

SOCI 4318 - Social Change & Conflict - no longer taught and not essential for degree plan

Department of Theatre Arts

Course Change

THEA 3341 - Acting IV: Adv Act & Portfolio - remove lab/change course description for what is being taught

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Course Change

NURS 4431 - Nursing of Children & Adolescents - resubmitted to correct/contact hour allotment

NURS 4441 - Nursing of the Childbearing Family - resubmitted to correct/contact hour allotment

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Course Change

CHEM 1441 - General Chemistry - clarify Math prerequisites

CHEM 1451 - General & Biological Chemistry - course name change

CHEM 3321 - Physical Chemistry I - revise prerequisites

CHEM 4242 - Laboratory Techniques in Biochemistry - add prerequisites

CHEM 4303 - Quantum Chemistry - agree w/graduate course equivalent-previously reduced from 3 to
2 credit hours

CHEM 4311 - General Biochemistry - revise prerequisites & modify title

CHEM 4312 - General Biochemistry II - revise course & clarify prerequisites -

Blanket courses – CHEM 1442, 1446, 2181, 2182, 2285, 2321, 2322, 3181, 3182, 3307, 3315, 3317, 3322, 4313, 4314, 4316, 4318,
4346, 4461 - add "w/a grade of "C" or better" to each prerequisite course

Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences

Course Change

GEOL 1426 - Earth History - revise prerequisite

GEOL 2401 - Weather & Climate - revise prerequisite

GEOL 2402 - Geoscience & Genesis - revise prerequisite

GEOL 3442 - Stratigraphy & Sedimentary Petrology & Petrography - drop prerequisite/GEOL 3441

GEOL 4302 - Plate Tectonics - delete prerequisite/GEOL 1391

Department of Mathematics

Course Change

MATH 1301 - Elementary Math Modeling - update placement testing requirements

MATH 1302 - College Algebra - update graphing calculator & placement testing requirements

MATH 1303 - Trigonometry - update intended students & placement testing requirements

MATH 1308 - Elementary Statistical Analysis - update placement testing info

MATH 1315 - College Algebra for Economics & Business Analysis - add math placement info

MATH 1322 - Precalculus I - adjust course description & placement testing info

MATH 1323 - Precalculus II - update course description & placement testing info

MATH 1324 - Algebra & Trigonometry - update placement testing info

MATH 1325 - Analytic Geometry - update test info

MATH 1426 - Calculus I - update math placement test info

MATH 3303 - Mathematical Game Theory - course description change

MATH 3313 - Introduction to Probability - course description change

MATH 4313 - Applications of Math Statistics - course description change

MATH 4411 - Stochastic Models & Simulation - course description change

Department of Psychology

Course Change

PSYC 4350 - Sports Psychology - course cross listed/KINE 4350

School of Social Work

Course Change

SOCW 3305 - Social Work Research Methods - additional pre-requisite assigned

Kimberly van Noort then presented the following items approved by the committee for consideration by the Undergraduate Assembly. All items were approved as presented.

AGENDA ITEMS APPROVED BY THE

COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULA
FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE UNDERGRADUATE ASSEMBLY
March 3, 2009

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

Catalog Text Change

BS Degree - Include courses for History of Arch minor/department's grade requirements

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Add Course

KINE 4350 - Sports Psychology

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Add Course

NE 3301 - Nuclear Engineering

NE 4302 - Nuclear Reactor Theory/Analysis

NE 4303 - Reactor Thermal Hydraulics

Catalog Text Change

Minor Nuclear Engineering - adding a new minor

HONORS COLLEGE

Add Course

HONR 1302 - Honors Composition

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

In the Department of Communication and the Department of Political Science we're adding some courses that have to do with the Archer Fellow Program in Washington, D.C., that is run through the Honors College. Karl Petruso, Dean of the Honors College, gave the following summary.

For about eight or nine years, the Archer Program, a UT System sponsored program, has been housed in the Honors College. It provides three courses, one in Communication and two in Political Science, that are taught in Washington, D.C., by UT System faculty who are based there. In addition to those three courses, there is also an internship which is custom designed by the director of the program according to the student's professional, personal, and career plans. It could be on Capitol Hill, with the Supreme Court, with federal agencies and so on. The nice thing for our students is that it provides seamless integration with courses for which they can get UT credit. For many years each component institution numbered those courses in various ways. About a year ago, they decided to standardize them. Basically, we gave them their own dedicated numbers and put them forward with related descriptions given to us by the Archer Center.

Department of Communication

Add Course

COMM 4392 - Advocacy in Applied Settings

Catalog Text Change

BA in Communication - restructuring of some courses, & elimination of courses & prereqs

Department of Linguistics and TESOL

Add Course

LING 2351 – e-languages

LING 2371 - Language in Multicultural USA

LING 3301 - Topics in Linguistics

LING 3366 - Topics Race/Ethnicity and Language

LING 4395 - Internship

Catalog Text Change

Minor in Linguistics - restructuring of some courses

Department of Modern Language

Add Course

FREN 3320 - Localization and Translation I

FREN 3321 - Localization and Translation II

Catalog Text Change

BA in Modern Languages - course requirement changes; Germ./3000 level courses only; Fren. add/1-3000 level course; Span./translation certificate changes; German and Russian/add localization and translation certificate

Department of Political Science

Add Course

POLS 4389 - Beyond Congress and the W. H.
POLS 4390 - Policy Making in Washington
POLS 4391 - Archer Program Internship

Department of Music

Add Course

MUSI 4326 - Recording Techniques III

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Add Course

NURS 3344 - Medical Spanish - tabled
NURS 4360 - Cultural Variation in Health C

Catalog Text Change

RN to BSN Degrees - change failure policy; delete prerequisites for RN to BSN; addition of TOEFL, withdrawal policies

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Department of Biology

Add Course

BIOL 2350 - Math Modeling in Ecology
BIOL 3302 - Tissue Culture Laboratory
BIOL 3350 - Dynamical Systems in Biology
BIOL 3351 - Prob/Random Processes in Biology
BIOL 3356 - Envir Systems, Bio Aspect
BIOL 3357 - Marine Biology
BIOL 3420 - Genetics Methods Lab
BIOL 4150 - Seminar in Mathematical Biolog
BIOL 4331 - Advanced Molecular Biology

Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Add Course

CHEM 3175 - Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory

Department of Mathematics

Add Course

MATH 2350 - Math Modeling in Ecology
MATH 3350 - Dynamical Systems in Biol
MATH 3351 - Prob and Random Proc in Biology
MATH 4150 - Seminar in Math Biology
MATH 4312 - Intro to Prob and Math Stats II

Catalog Text Change

BS Degree - delete/Computer Science Opt.; add/ Actuarial Science Opt; adjust 2nd'y educ Opt/120 hrs

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Add Course

SOCW 3325 - Social Work Statistics

Catalog Text Change

Bachelor of Social Work - edit and update parameters in program; require "C" in all SW courses/& other outside courses substituted for SW work

Other Business.

Provost Bobbitt gave a summary of the talk he presented at a Focus on Faculty conversation sponsored by the Library. We are meeting the requirements or are on the road to meeting the requirements for consideration for a Tier One institution in almost all regards except one. One area where we, as an institution, are falling down is in our student success metric. He pointed out that our first year retention rate is much lower than other schools with similar demographics. Also our six year graduation rate is not where it should be. I feel this is the last hurdle we have to face in order for us to really be considered in the class of schools to which we aspire. The purpose in my offering these comments to you is to basically start the discussion. I'm interested in hearing feedback from a wide an audience as possible about possible solutions to this problem.

There is a task force which has looked into this and has recently prepared a report with recommendations designed to address some of the issues identified as being contributors to this characteristic. That report is in draft stage. Once it has been reviewed by the president and a few others including the task force itself, it will be

released to the campus community. We certainly not only want but need your feedback and input in terms of that report and what we do next.

One of the things that has been proposed is to create a degree which some people have classified as University Studies. It's different from Interdisciplinary Studies. It draws upon the coursework that they have plus puts some other constraints upon them. It doesn't really prepare them for a profession in any one particular discipline. What it does is make sure they are competent writers, competent communicators and that they can do the mathematics of a college graduate. There are a number of positions such as law enforcement, fire fighters and flight attendants where a college degree is the entrance ticket.

The other thing that is becoming clear is that schools, with student demographics similar to ours, that have faced this, have thought about the freshman year as a very special time, in the sense that we have so many first generation first time college students. These schools have looked at something very similar to a University College. All freshmen come into a University College where the appropriate resources are in place in terms of advising and counseling and other support units to make sure they make it through to their sophomore year. The schools that have entered into this, including UT Austin, have seen fairly significant improvement in first year retention.

That is the gist of a discussion that is coming to the campus. I welcome your input on this matter.

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Michael K. Moore
Secretary

MKM;jw