

Minutes: 2/29/08 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) Meeting

College of Engineering CO-OP Program: At the UGCC's request, Ed Kalajian, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, and Gary Hamme, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, addressed the UGCC about the formative stages of a proposed College of Engineering COOP program. The sample discussed, Mechanical Engineering, showed how students could complete a B.S. in four years. This program would meet ABET requirements, would require no curriculum changes, and would be offered no earlier than Fall 2010. Market research suggests that such a program would be very attractive to prospective students, including international students, and to potential employers. Next steps include drafting summaries for other engineering programs, identifying space and lab equipment needs and operating and support costs, and presenting findings to the administration. UGCC members asked questions and expressed concerns about the use of COOP as a technical elective, the compromise of students experiencing the majority of certain course types (such as Humanities courses) online, and potential problems with students who might get out of sequence in their courses. Senior Vice Provost Ray Bonhomme reinforced Kalajian's and Hamme's remarks, noting that this program would be designed for exceptional, strong students. The UGCC chair expressed appreciation to Kalajian and Hamme for providing such useful, concrete information.

General Studies: At the UGCC's request, Robert Taylor, Head, Humanities & Communication, and Gary Hamme, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management, addressed the UGCC about the potential for expanding the General Studies program. Retained would be the role of the current program as a two-semester "place holder" for students who have not yet declared a major. Potentially the program could become a four-year degree with such options as Pre-Law and International Studies. Known interest has been expressed in both of these fields of study. Offering such options are ways to incubate new programs. The UGCC asked several questions. The chair expressed appreciation to Taylor and Hamme for giving such an informative overview of this possibility.

Supporting documents for the remainder of the meeting can be found at the UGCC's Web site at www.fit.edu/ugcc.

The following items were approved:

New Courses Added

- a. AVF 2102, 2103, 3101, 4102
- b. MTH 3663

Restrictions or Credits Changed

- a. MTH 1000
- b. MTH 1701

Approval forms for Same Course Numbers were reviewed for:

COM 0110
COM 1102
HUM 3275
PSF 2551

PSY 1411
PSY 3441
PSY 4441

MTH 2020 had been removed from the agenda.

There was no time for discussion of the policy that allows 1000-level foreign language courses to fulfill the core social science or humanities requirement. Continuing that discussion will be first on the March agenda.

The next UGCC meeting is Friday, March 28, 8:00 a.m. in the Physical Sciences conference room. Agenda items are due Friday, March 21.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Turner
Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee