

Minutes: 11/21/08 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) Meeting

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

The following were approved:

- Changing Graduation Requirements – Criminal Justice (with minor corrections)
- Adding a New Major/Minor – AA in Criminal Justice
- Adding a New Course – BIO 4015 (Methods in Protein Analysis)

At Alan Rosiene's request, discussion took place regarding how a pre-law program, currently under consideration by the Provost, might be incorporated into Florida Tech's curriculum. Lots of options were mentioned, including making pre-law a concentration or option or major for either interdisciplinary studies, individualized studies, Humanities, or Liberal Arts. Other factors mentioned were the availability of faculty to teach new courses, the use of new courses to fulfill other core-curriculum (humanities or social sciences) requirements, and the ongoing discussion among the Provost and deans. Rosiene commented that it is possible that local attorneys will teach some of the courses as adjuncts. Senior Vice Provost Ray Bonhomme summarized the current status of the proposed new field of study, indicating that although it is still being discussed, no decisions have yet been made. UGCC members agreed that they preferred it to be a Liberal Arts program, with its own major code. Rosiene will meet with Dean Kenkel, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, for further discussion.

A question was asked of Registrar Charlotte Young about the problem that results when a student registers for a course that has a co-requisite that has already been completed. She stated that the Registrar staff have dealt with these situations as well as possible, within the constraints of the database. They have emailed students proactively so that overrides can be put in place prior to registration. It was agreed that faculty will be copied on the announcement that goes out to students so that the faculty also will be equipped with the information in advance.

Another problem was brought up regarding students who, in anticipation of successful completion of certain courses, register for courses for which they end up not having a prerequisite course. The Registrar's office staff has worked hard on dealing with this problem, knowing that ultimately the burden to correct the scheduling problem falls on the students' shoulders, in consultation with their advisers.

J. Richard Newman, Director of the School of Computing, told the UGCC about a new department and a new program that are likely to be proposed soon. A Department of Applied Computing and a Digital Art and Design major are being investigated and

seriously considered. Studies suggest that the new program will likely attract 20 students per year, will allow for the hiring of three new faculty, and will be in keeping with the President's hope of providing more arts options for Florida Tech students. Pending the Provost's approval, a proposal regarding related new courses and this new major will be submitted for the January UGCC agenda.

The F. W. Olin Physical Sciences Building second-floor conference room has been reserved for 8:00 a.m. UGCC meetings on the following Spring 2009 Fridays:

January 23
February 20
March 27
April 24

Our next meeting is Friday, January 23, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. in the Physical Sciences conference room. Agenda items are due Friday, January 16.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Turner
Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee