

U N I V E R S I T Y of H O U S T O N

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes for January 28, 2009

A meeting of the University of Houston Undergraduate Council convened at 3:10 p.m. on Wednesday, January 28, 2009, in room 222A of Farish Hall.

Members Present: Betty Barr, Amanda Baumle, Roger Blakeney, Simon Bott, Elaine Charlson, Lawrence Curry, Agnes DeFranco, Luces Faulkenberry, Sarah Fishman, Catherine Hatfield, Martha Haun, Stephen Huang, Partha Krishnamurthy, William Munson, Iain Morrison, Melissa Pierson, Richard Scamell, Kevin Simon, Ron Singer, John Snyder, María Soliño, Rebecca Achee Thornton, Nina Tucci, Jerry Waite, Dana Wierzbicki, Lawrence Williams, Djuana Young

Members Absent: Bill Barnes, William Dupré, Debbie Hermann, Christina Hughes, Richard Kasschau, Rincy Mathai, Norma Olvera, Charles Peters, Laurence Rapp, Michelangelo Sabatino (for John Zemanek, spring 2009)

Guests: Dmitri Litvinov (ECE, ENGR), Dave Mazella (ENGL)

Staff: Heidi Kennedy, Jeanette Morales

I Call to Order; Minutes for 12/10/08

Council was called to order by Dr. Lawrence Williams at 3:10 p.m. Minutes from 12/10/08 were accepted.

II Announcements

A NOTE: Meetings for spring 2009 will be held in the Elizabeth Rockwell Pavilion, M.D. Anderson Library (2nd floor), unless otherwise noted.

Spring 2009 Meetings: 2/25/09, 3/25/09, 4/22/09, 6/3/09, 7/8/09

**B Undergraduate Council Web Address: <http://www.uh.edu/undergraduatecouncil/index.html>
Core Curriculum Website Address: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/corecurriculum/>
Undergraduate Studies Catalog Web Address: <http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/>**

C E-mail listserves:

UNDERGRAD-COUNCIL@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-DEGREE-PROGRAMS@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-POLICIES-PROCEDURES@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-CORE-CURRICULUM@LISTSERV.UH.EDU
UC-NEWS@LISTSERV.UH.EDU (Minutes only).

III Administration Representatives Reports:

A Agnes Defranco informed the Undergraduate Council that enrollment registration is up 4.1%. Elaine Charlson commented that in general most colleges are up by 5% in semester credit hours (SCH).

B Djuana Young announced that the Office of Admissions is up by 1000 applications. Admissions counselors are currently recruiting for prospective students.

IV PeopleSoft update: Debbie Hermann, Registrar.

Web addresses: <http://www.uh.edu/peoplesoft/>
<http://my.uh.edu>

A Chair, Larry Williams commended Debbie Hermann on grade changes being processed in a timely manner. Kudos Debbie!

V Committee Reports

D Degree Programs Committee – Programs:

UC 10226 09S: Degree Programs Committee Report 1/21/09 – Approved

UC 10056 08F: B.S. in Chemical Engineering degree plan change

UC 10059 08F: Nano Engineering Minor (new minor)

VI Old Business/New Business:

A Lawrence Curry proposed a resolution that Undergraduate Council members of the UH, in a regular meeting assembly, “express their appreciation for the leadership and valuable contributions made to the university by Wilhelmina Cullen Robertson Smith during her long life and offer their condolences to her husband and family on the occasion of her death.” Undergraduate members passed forth a motion to accept this resolution unanimously.

B Unification Process

Chair Larry Williams brought forth to Undergraduate Council members that President Khator would like to explore ways to strengthen ties between the campus councils and Faculty Senate. Ultimately, Dr. Khator would like to see a unified process in which communication among governance groups and Faculty Senate be improved. One of the proposals is to have the council chairs (UC, GPSC, Research Council, etc.) become members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The main purpose is to have these chairs inform the Faculty Senate of current council business. Dr. Williams emphasized that the underlying council structure and meeting processes will not change and that the Faculty Senate will not become an additional reporting line of the councils. He also expressed that this proposal is one of many small steps in meeting President Khator’s unification goal. Dr. Williams then invited the council members to ask questions and/or make comments.

C Introduction of newly-appointed Senior Vice President and Provost, John Antel

Due to a previous engagement, Dr. John Antel was unable to attend today’s Undergraduate Council meeting.

VII Adjournment at 3:48 p.m.