

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

UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL Minutes for March 24, 2010

A meeting of the University of Houston Undergraduate Council convened at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24, 2010, in the Elizabeth D. Rockwell Pavilion, M.D. Anderson Library (2nd floor).

Members Present: Betty Barr, Amanda Baumle, Miranda Bennett, Joel Bloom, Martha Dunkelberger, Luces Faulkenberry, Sarah Fishman, Erica Fletcher, Debbie Hermann, Stephen Huang, Richard Kasschau, Bill Kretlow on behalf of Ron Singer, Iain Morrison, William Munson, Charles Peters, Ruxandra Prodan, Richard Scamell, Kevin Simon, John Snyder, María Soliño, George Trail, Nina Tucci, Jerry Waite, Larry Williams, Djuana Young, John Zemanek

Members Absent: Roger Blakeney, Simon Bott, Dennis Bozeman, Elaine Charlson, Agnes Defranco, Williams Dupré, Martha Haun, Randy Hayden, Christina Hughes, Melissa Pierson, Laurence Rapp, Louis Williams, Mariam Zakaria

Guests: Helena Cong (UScholars), Sal Loria (SFA), Corrine Occhino-Kehoe (UScholars), Judson Simmons (UScholars), Lesley Sisk (ENGR), Steve Soutullo (Academic Affairs), Diana Velez (UScholars), Greg Weiher (POLS)

Staff: Jeanette Morales, Heidi Kennedy

I Call to Order; Minutes for 2/24/10

Council was called to order by Dr. Lawrence Williams at 3:06p.m. Minutes from 2/24/10 were accepted.

II Announcements

A NOTE: All meetings are held in the Elizabeth D. Rockwell Pavilion, M.D. Anderson Library (2nd floor), unless otherwise noted.

Spring 2010 Meetings: 4/21/10, 6/2/10, 7/7/10

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)

D Chair Larry Williams announced that there will be a special meeting/panel discussion on April 15, 2010 on developing teaching excellence. An email notification will be sent out to faculty in the near future regarding this event.

III Creation of UC Chair Nomination Committee

Council members Luke Faulkenberry, Joel Bloom, and John Snyder volunteered as members of the UC Chair Nomination Committee. The committee will be responsible for contacting the Council to see if any members would be interested in running for Council chair of the 2010 – 2011 academic year. The UC chair election will be held during the April 21, 2010 UC meeting. Open floor nominations will be accepted as well.

IV Administrative Reports

A Djuana Young, Executive Director for the Office of Admissions

Djuana Young informed the Council that the Office of Admissions is having a very good recruiting year. The average SAT score of students recruited is 1094. She also announced that when Orientation had moved to Admissions last fall, two orientation programs were created: ART for transfer students (begins in April 2010) and New Student Orientation for freshmen (begins in May 2010). Tara Boyle is the new assistant director who manages these programs. Thus far over 200 students have registered for orientation (bulk of registrants are transfer students).

A new recruitment program called Cougar Path will begin this summer and assist students with an SAT score of 1850 or higher to get a head start at the University of Houston.

V PeopleSoft update: Debbie Hermann, Registrar

Web address: <http://www.uh.edu/peoplesoft/>

- A** Council members were reminded that summer 2010 registration is April 2, 2010. The spring 2010 late graduation application deadline is March 26, 2010 (Friday). Faculty can now view the graduation status feature on grade rosters. They can check to see if a student has applied for graduation or not. The number of days to process graduation certifications has decreased to 60 days (significant achievement). Debbie Herrmann thanked the C. T. Bauer School of Business for encouraging students to register early by holding an early registration event.

VI Committee Reports

A Degree Programs Committee (Richard Scamell)

UC 10790 10S: Degree Programs Committee Report - 2/10/10

UC 10763 10S: National Security Studies Minor

UC 10789 10S: Degree Programs Committee Report (SPAN) - 3/15/10

UC 10777 10S: Change in Requirements in Spanish Major

UC 10778 10S: Change to Requirements in Spanish Minor

The reports and related items mentioned above were approved by the Council.

The Degree Programs Committee will meet next Wednesday.

B Degree Programs – CB3 Committee (Luke Faulkenberry):

UC 10788 10S: Degree Programs CB3 Report (SURY & PETR) - 2/10 & 17/10

UC 10595 09F: SURY 2372: Geographic Information System (New Course)

UC 10707 09F: PETR 5304: Evaluation of Petroleum Bearing Formulations I (Course Change)

UC 10708 09F: PETR 5328: Petro Fluid Properties & Phase Equilibria (Course Change)

UC 10709 09F: PETR 5361: Modern Petroleum Engineering (Course Change)

UC 10710 09F: PETR 5362: Reservoir Engineering I (Course Change)

UC 10711 09F: PETR 5364: Origin and Development of Oil and Gas Reservoirs (Course Change)

UC 10712 09F: PETR 5368: Well Drilling and Completion I (Course Change)

UC 10713 09F: PETR 5397: Special Topics (New Course)

The report and items were approved by the Council.

UC 10791 10S: Suggestion to simplify CBM form process for course rubric changes

Luke Faulkenberry asked the Council members for their input regarding a new procedure for submitting rubric changes for numerous courses.

VII Old/New Business

A Diana Velez, Director, UScholars and Core 1101 Success Report

Dr. Velez presented to the Council the report on the success of Core 1101. In 2009, the new Core 1101 was implemented as a mandatory course for undeclared students. Core 1101 helped improve retention rate and classroom performance level, whereas before (when Core 1101 was voluntary) student retention rate improved, but performance level wasn't up to par. Diana Velez said that Core 1101 utilizes interactive learning and more tutors and mentors were hired to focus on student needs. She felt that these factors contributed to the success of Core 1101. Diana Velez thanked the UScholars staff, Admissions, Scholarships & Financial Aid, Undergraduate Council, Heidi Kennedy, and the academic taskforce for their help in making Core 1101 a success.

B Provost John Antel & Proposal to Raise New Freshman Admission Standards for 2011

Dr. Antel informed the Council that the Proposal to Raise New Freshman Admission Standards needs to be amended since he has received opposition from legislative stakeholders and constituents. Stakeholders are very concerned that raising the freshman admission standards will portray UH as an "elitist" institution and that minorities may have a difficult time being admitted to the university. John Antel said that amendments are needed to the automatic admissions aspect of the proposal only. He proposed that automatic admissions be changed from the top 10% to the top 15%. Individual review will still be in place for students who don't graduate from the top 15% of their high school class. Eventually, UH will increase the automatic admission standard to the top 10% graduating high school seniors of thing go well (an incremental approach).

John Antel said that an amendment to the former proposal would need to be created in order to present the new proposal at the May 2010 Board of Regents meeting. He asked the Undergraduate Council for their input about the new compromise. Council chair Larry Williams asked John Antel to send a memo to him with a revised proposal and to forward it to the UC (Libby Barlow will forward IR data to be attached to the amended proposal). The UC will discuss and deliberate the new compromise via email.

VIII FYI Documents

UC 10776 10S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo
UC 10779 10S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo
UC 10780 10S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo
UC 10781 10S: Executive Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Approval Memo

IX Adjournment at 4:27pm