

Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
October 10, 2006

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 10:15 a.m. on October 10, 2006. Myra Tobin, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order. The following members of the Committee were in attendance: Penny Brown, Ann Haney, Ernie Yanarella and Barbara Young.

Provost Subbaswamy introduced Ambassador Carey Cavanaugh, Director of the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce. Ambassador Cavanaugh thanked the committee for giving him the opportunity to briefly describe the Patterson School.

The Patterson School is a small unit providing a service to students, citizens of the Commonwealth, and the nation. The Patterson School is the smallest ranked program in international relations in the nation. The faculty have deliberately kept the program small and select. The size of the program can grow some, but they do not want to lose the uniqueness and competitiveness of the program. Due to the program size, all students receive intensive and personal attention and are exposed to international commerce. Students are well prepared when they graduate.

Ms. Tobin thanked Ambassador Cavanaugh and wished him well with the continued success of the Patterson School. Dr. Philipp Kraemer, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, was asked to give an update on the recent General Education Reform and Assessment (GERA) report.

The first comprehensive program review of the University Studies Program (USP) was launched in 2004 to consider needed changes and possibilities for renovation of the general education requirements. The General Education Reform and Assessment Committee was appointed to focus discussions on the reform of USP. GERA sponsored a faculty survey on general education, established a website, coordinated forums in each of the colleges, and attended workshops to begin a serious effort to begin general education reform. Dr. Kraemer reported that the General Education Reform and Assessment report was recently submitted to the Senate Council and Provost.

Dr. Kraemer said UK's general education requirement is similar to most universities. The next step in the reform process will be a final memo to the Provost with a recommendation to begin the appropriate process for reform to define what we do next to move our programs into the 21st century.

Ms. Tobin thanked Dr. Kraemer for his report and asked for periodic updates. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Tobin, Chair
Academic Affairs Committee