

Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
June 9, 2009

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 9:45 a.m. on June 9. Ernie Yanarella called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Penny Brown, Everett McCorvey and Tyler Montell.

Dr. Yanarella distributed the minutes of the April 21, 2009 meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by Penny Brown to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Tyler Montell. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 1: Creation of the Department of Gender and Women's Studies – Resolution requesting authorization to create the Department of Gender and Women's Studies in the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Yanarella reminded the committee that the degree was approved at the last Board meeting and this request is to create the department where the degree will be housed. A motion was made by Everett McCorvey to approve the recommendation and seconded by Penny Brown. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 2: Academic Degree Recommendation – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Science degree with a major in Reproductive Sciences and Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Reproductive Sciences (CIP Code 26.0905, PROG = GS MS RESI and GS PHD RESI) in the College of Health Sciences. A motion was made by Everett McCorvey to approve the recommendation and seconded by Tyler Montell. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 3: Academic Degree Recommendation – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Science in Clinical Research Design degree with a major in Clinical Research Design (CIP Code 51.1401, PROG = GS MSCRD CRDE) in the College of Public Health. A motion was made by Tyler Montell to approve the recommendation and seconded by Penny Brown. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR4: Academic Degree Recommendation – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Epidemiology and Biostatistics (CIP Code 26.9999.04, PROG = GS PHD EPBI) in the College of Public Health. A motion was made by Everett McCorvey to approve the recommendation and seconded by Tyler Montell. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR5: Change in Degree – College of Agriculture
Resolution requesting approval to change the name of the Master of Science in Career, Technical, and Leadership Education with a major in Vocational Education to Master of Science in Career, Technical and Leadership Education with a major in Career, Technical and Leadership Education. A motion was made by Everett McCorvey to approve the recommendation and seconded by Tyler Montell. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR6: Proposed Revision to Governing Regulation: University Organization – Chairs of Departments – The proposed revisions of the Governing Regulation relates to mandatory consultation by an educational unit administrator with the appropriate faculty members of his or her educational unit in faculty personnel matters was distributed for preliminary consideration. The proposed revision redefines with whom an administrator must consult. Dr. Subbaswamy stated we are systematically trying to simplify and clarify the Administrative and Governing Regulations to try to bring them up to date with best practices. A motion was made by Everett McCorvey to approve the first reading and seconded by Tyler Montell. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR7: Candidate for Degree University System - Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer the degree to the individual identified on the attached list upon certification that the requirements for the degree have been satisfactorily completed. The student has been offered an impressive position with Sony in Japan. In order to begin processing his visa/work permit, the Embassy must see his diploma to verify his graduation as soon as possible. A motion was made by Tyler Montell to approve the recommendation and seconded by Penny Brown. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Yanarella asked Provost Subbaswamy to make a few remarks about the academic year and give an update on the status of the General Education initiative. Dr. Subbaswamy stated that this was a year for the records. Even with the budget and economic issues, the faculty and staff have been working hard and we are very proud of them. We have had a record high number of freshman applicants; record high number of Governor's Scholars/School for the Arts Students; record high retention rate; record high number of African-American first year students; record high number of African-American undergraduate students; record high doctoral student enrollment; record high number of doctoral degrees awarded; record high number of master's/specialist degrees awarded; record high first-professional (dentistry, law, medicine and pharmacy) enrollment; record high number of full-time faculty; record high number of African-American faculty; record high number and percent of women in Executive/Administrative/Managerial positions; and record high research expenditures reported to NSF.

Dr. Subbaswamy reminded the committee that the General Education Reform and Assessment Committee initially looked at what needed to be changed and it has been a four year process to get to this point. The General Education curriculum changes will be implemented in the Fall Semester 2011. He distributed copies of the curricular templates with the proposed general education curriculum, consisting of ten courses within four broad areas: Intellectual Inquiry; Composition and Communication; Quantitative Reasoning; and Citizenship. He stated that every course must have outcomes and assessment, every class will have a break out session experience for discussion and assessment, and the courses cannot be used for double duty.

The Learning Outcomes of General Education as approved by the University Senate are:

I. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ the processes of intellectual inquiry. (12 credit hours)

II. Students will demonstrate competent written, oral, and visual communication skills both as producers and consumers of information. (6 credit hours)

III. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and ability to employ methods of quantitative reasoning. (6 credit hours)

IV. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of citizenship and the process for making informed choices as engaged citizens in a diverse, multilingual world. (6 credit hours)

For 25 years we have operated using a different model. Now we are looking at modifying courses and developing new courses. He stated we are going to need another \$4 million to be used for these changes, but it is imperative and must be done. Of course there is some anxiety, but faculty are excited and 2011 will be an exciting year.

Dr. Yanarella thanked Provost Subbawamy and congratulated all that have worked so hard to make the General Education reform successful and stated we can be very proud of our accomplishments. He also thanked David Randall who has worked hard to deal with a number of academic issues this year.

Dr. Yanarella thanked the members of the Academic Affairs Committee and wished Tyler Montell success in his future pursuits. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernest Yanarella
Academic Affairs Committee