

Minutes  
Academic Affairs Committee  
Board of Trustees  
May 3, 2011

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor Patterson Office Tower at 10:00 a.m. on May 3. Penny Brown called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Dermontti Dawson, Keith Gannon, Charles Sachatello and Barbara Young.

Ms. Brown distributed the minutes of the March 29, 2011 meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by Barbara Young to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Keith Gannon. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 1: Candidates for Degrees - Resolution requesting approval that the president be authorized to confer upon the individuals whose names appear on the attached list the degree to which he or she is entitled. Since commencement exercises are held immediately following completion of examinations, it is not possible for the university registrar to certify satisfactory completion of requirements prior to commencement exercises for those candidates who complete their requirements in May. A motion was made by Dermontti Dawson to approve the recommendation and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 2: Change In Name of an Educational Unit – Resolution requesting approval to change the name of the College of Agriculture’s Department of Family Studies to Department of Family Sciences, effective July 1, 2011. Departmental faculty members voted to change the name of the department to create a consistent identity and better reflect the teaching, research, and engagement activities in the department. A motion was made by Keith Gannon to approve the recommendation and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 3: Academic Degree Recommendation – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences (CIP Code: 01.1199, PROG: GS PHD IPSS), effective in the Fall 2011 Semester. Graduate faculty in the departments of Forestry, Horticulture, and Plant and Soil Sciences, propose an umbrella degree program to provide an integrative and creative approach to graduate education in the plant and soil sciences. The objectives are to build strength in the current M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Crop Science, Plant Biology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Horticulture, and Soil Science by combining them into an overall Integrated Graduate Program in Plant and Soil Sciences. The integrated program offers advantages in student recruitment, training, assessment, program student numbers, and administrative efficiency. The program would provide a unique opportunity to cultivate and exploit the benefits that can be derived from an interdisciplinary approach to graduate education and research.

The IPSS program would provide (a) a dynamic environment that can evolve interdisciplinary credentials and programs tailored to suit the needs of current and future graduate students in the plant and soil science disciplines and develop options responsive to developing scientific trends

in agricultural science; (b) interdisciplinary coursework required of all students in the program without creating intrusive changes to the existing graduate curricula; (c) the opportunity for increased visibility and identity for research programs currently without a graduate identity; (d) a more inclusive approach to graduate education for existing graduate programs and faculty.

With the establishment of the new IPSS degree, admission to existing doctoral programs in Crop Science, Plant Biology, and Soil Science will cease. Students already enrolled in the programs will have the option to continue their existing program or be grandfathered into the new IPSS program. The existing programs will be suspended once the last enrolled student has graduated. A motion was made by Dermontti Dawson to approve the recommendation and seconded by Keith Gannon. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 4: Change in Degree – College of Agriculture – Resolution requesting approval to change the name the name of the Master of Science with a major in Plant and Soil Sciences to Master of Science with a major in Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences (CIP Code: 01.1199, PROG: GS MS IPSS), effective in the Fall 2011 Semester. Graduate students in plant and soil sciences and horticulture come from diverse backgrounds with diverse interest. The existing rigid core structure of the program is an impediment to students who arrive with significant prior experience or who have specific career objectives. The revised program maximizes the flexibility of coursework to which students may be exposed, yet provides key common skills in required courses. The exposure of all students in the Integrated Plant and Soil Sciences program to the value of interdisciplinary approaches to problem solving as well as the merits of cross-disciplinary education will serve as a cohesive tool for generating mutual respect and admiration among IPSS students, and help them develop more creative approaches to problem solving in their own research programs. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Dermontti Dawson. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 5: Change in Degrees – College of Agriculture – Resolution requesting approval of the following changes:

1. Change the name of the Bachelor of Science in Family Science with a major in Family Science to Bachelor of Science in Family Sciences with a major in Family Sciences (CIP Code: 19.0101, PROG: AG BSFSC FASC), effective in the Fall 2011 Semester.
2. Change the name of the Master of Science in Family Studies with a major in Family Studies degree to Master of Science in Family Sciences with a major in Family Sciences (CIP Code: 19.0701, PROG: GS MSFA FASC), effective in the Fall 2011 Semester.
3. Change in the name of the Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Family Studies degree to Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Family Sciences (CIP Code: 19.0704, PROG: GS PHD FASC), effective in the Fall 2011 Semester.

Departmental faculty members voted to change the name of the degrees to create a consistent identity and better reflect the teaching, research, and engagement activities in the department. A motion was made by Barbara Young to approve the recommendation and seconded by Keith Gannon. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 6: Proposed Amendment to Governing Regulations: Faculty Entrepreneurial Leave -

The proposed amendment to the Governing Regulations relates to faculty leaves of absence for preliminary consideration. The proposed revision creates an entrepreneurial leave for faculty employees who wish to take time off from their University position to pursue entrepreneurial activities. The University encourages faculty employees to engage in entrepreneurial activities and supports the efforts of faculty who wish to commercialize their discoveries. Therefore, the pursuit of entrepreneurial endeavors is a valid reason for establishing an entrepreneurial leave. Faculty employees desiring to take entrepreneurial leave must submit a proposal through the regular leave approval process. The leave must be recommended by the faculty employees unit administrator and approved by the dean of the college and the Provost. Entrepreneurial leaves will be reported to the Board of Trustees. A motion was made by Charles Sachatello to approve the first reading and seconded by Barbara Young. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Brown thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Penelope A. Brown  
Academic Affairs Committee