

Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
December 11, 2012

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 9:00 a.m. on December 11. Keith Gannon called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: C. B. Akins, William Britton, Mark Bryant, John Wilson, and Barbara Young.

Mr. Gannon distributed the minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by C. B. Akins to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Mark Bryant. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 1: Candidates for Degrees: December 2012 - Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer degrees upon each individual identified on the attached list, upon certification that the requirements for those degrees have been satisfactorily completed. Since the University will hold the December commencement ceremonies immediately following the completion of examinations, it is not possible for the university registrar to certify satisfactory completion of requirements prior to the ceremonies for those candidates who complete the requirements in December. A motion was made by John Wilson to approve the recommendation and seconded by C. B. Akins. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 2: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Arts and Sciences – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Environmental and Sustainability Studies degree in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the Spring 2013 Semester. Dean Kornbluh said the college is excited about the interdisciplinary degree that will put us at the forefront of this rapidly expanding field. A motion was made by Mark Bryant to approve the recommendation and seconded by C. B. Akins. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 3: Academic Degree Recommendation: College of Fine Arts – Resolution requesting approval to establish a Master of Arts with a major in Arts Administration degree in the College of Fine Arts, effective in the Fall 2013 Semester. Dean Tick stated that this is a completely online degree program. The program will target people who have strong backgrounds in art that are employed in nonprofit art organizations. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by C. B. Akins to approve the recommendation and seconded by William Britton. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 4: Change in the name of the College of Agriculture - Resolution requesting approval to change the name of the College of Agriculture to the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, effective July 1, 2013. Dean Smith told the committee the proposed name change is the culmination of a long-standing discussion that has included faculty, staff, and administrators. Because of the college's statewide extension mission,

in addition to research and instruction, the complications of a name change are not taken lightly. While much of the college's focus remains in the more traditional agriculture disciplines such as Animal and Food Sciences, Plant and Soil Sciences, and Horticulture, and these disciplines continue to be crucial to the state, the College of Agriculture needs to reflect a connection to all citizens of the Commonwealth and beyond. A motion was made by C. B. Akins to approve the recommendation and seconded by William Britton. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 5: Restructuring of an Educational Unit – Resolution requesting approval to restructure the College of Agriculture's Department of Merchandising, Apparel and Textiles into the Department of Retailing and Tourism Management, effective July 1, 2013. Dean Smith said this change is a result of the merger with the College of Human Environmental Sciences that provides efficiencies for all involved. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by C. B. Akins to approve the recommendation and seconded by William Britton. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussing future meeting topics, Mr. Gannon told committee members that he would like to invite Dr. Dan O'Hair to the next Academic Affairs Committee meeting. When Dr. Tim Tracy was named Interim Provost, President Capilouto specifically charged him with overseeing the continued strengthening of the University's undergraduate education and evaluating changes to the organization structure of the Provost Office. Dr. Tracy conducted a comprehensive assessment of the Office of the Provost to assure that the administrative structure was optimally aligned to enhance undergraduate education and maximize student success and graduation. A strategic realignment was undertaken resulting in the creation of the position of Senior Vice Provost for Student Success. Dr. Dan O'Hair was asked to serve in this role on an interim basis as a 50 % assignment.

Student success begins with recruitment and continues through graduation, graduate school and entering the workforce. We are vigilantly pursuing the needs of students and staff alike in order to reach our goals in recruiting, retention and the overall university experience. To coordinate and integrate efforts for greater effectiveness, the following areas are now part of Student Success: Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, International Programs, Undergraduate Education, and the Center for Enhancement of Learning and Teaching.

Several other topics were suggested for discussion at future meetings. Additional information will be gathered and will be included on the agenda as appropriate.

Mr. Gannon thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Gannon
Academic Affairs Committee