

DRAFT

Minutes  
MBA Committee  
Warrington College of Business  
Thursday, September 28, 2006  
9:30 AM  
Dean's Conference Room

Members attending: Jason Karceski, Ginny Maurer, Anand Paul, Alan Sawyer, Stephen Asare, Sandy Berg

Also attending: Alex Sevilla, Selcuk Erenguc, Fiona Barnes, Laura Corpus

Agenda items:

- I. Approval of minutes from the last meeting
- II. Review of Spring Committee Work
  - a. Certificate in Hospitality Management – modifications
  - b. Entrepreneurship Certificate
  - c. Integrated Technology Venture Certificate
- III. Curriculum Proposed: GEB 6119 to count towards MBA degree
  - a. Alex Sevilla suggested that the course would be beneficial, but students may find it difficult to fit into their schedules. He is in favor of this course being counted as long as it has strong academic content rather than just team project content. Course would be counted for traditional on-campus MBAs only.
  - b. Jason Karceski expressed concern about the grading of the course as described by the syllabus. He also had questions about the academic rigor of the course.
  - c. Ginny Maurer expressed that different forms of experiential learning are beneficial and increasingly important in MBA education and should be judged on a more level playing field. Other committee members expressed agreement.
  - d. Motion by Jason Karceski, seconded by Sandy Berg to approve the course for MBA credit. The motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Global Leaders MBA Program
  - a. Dean Erenguc discussed the Global Leaders MBA program. The proposed format consists of three 2-week residencies and two 1-week global discovery experiences. Students will be able to earn degrees from all 3 schools (UF, Vlerick, and Aston). The program plans to recruit students world wide. The program should not tax the UF faculty, but should contribute to building our reputation. Participants must have at

least 12 years of management experience and may be exempted from GMAT requirement.

- b. Dean Erenguc handed out additional information and requested feedback on this program from the committee members at the next meeting.

V. Accountability in Grading and Student Conduct

- a. Alex Sevilla discussed the problem of stronger students wanting more challenges academically while the weaker students may be taking advantage of the grading scale. Grade distribution and student accountability go hand-in-hand. He expressed concern about gaining a negative reputation due to the grade distributions. MBA students feel that the bar is lowered when they are in a class with other types of graduate business students.
- b. The committee discussed the efficacy of peer evaluations for group work.
- c. Ginny Maurer asked for ideas on how to promote discussion among MBA faculty regarding grade distribution
- d. The Committee favorably reviewed a proposal by Alex Sevilla and Richard Romano for an on-campus retreat in the spring, possibly on a Friday to maximize the number of participating faculty. The proposed retreat would utilize focus groups to come up with guidelines for recommended grade distributions to be endorsed by a larger group of faculty. .
- e. Jason Karceski suggested that faculty members would be much more likely to come if the retreat were two hours long and focused on a specific proposal that had been developed by the MBA committee.
- f. Ginny Maurer mentioned Thunderbird's "Code of Honor" and explained the project she has developed in the new ethics class to have students develop their own code.

VI. Summary of MBA Program Enrollments

- a. Alex Sevilla distributed handouts with program enrollment information.
- b. Alex Sevilla outlined a new partnership program with the College of Engineering. The MBA program will seek to admit 5-10 recent graduates from the College of Engineering. In order to be competitive for the MBA program, these candidates must have a high GPA, a 700+ GMAT score, and a minimum of 12 months of professional work experience in either a co-op or internship setting (18+ months preferred). Through feedback from corporate friends, Alex and the program office believe these students will be highly sought after by technology driven corporations. The infusion of these high GMAT candidates will enable the program to admit a larger number of students who have outstanding work experience and leadership qualities, but may have a GMAT score in the 600-650 range.

- c. The admissions office has looked for candidates with high GMAT scores among current graduate business students in other master's programs such as DIS.
- d. The admissions process seeks to maximize group with strong work experience while maintaining the current GMAT average.
- e. The current strategy is to maintain a smaller program offering stronger packages to the better part of the applicant pool.
- f. Alex Sevilla explained efforts to improve alumni relations and refocus the advisory board with subcommittees.

VII. Next meeting

- a. The MBA program office will survey members for another committee meeting in early December or in November.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laura Corpus