

DRAFT

Minutes

MBA Committee

Warrington College of Business

Thursday, September 27, 2007

2:00 PM

200 Stuzin Hall

Members attending: Sandy Berg, Joel Houston, Ginny Maurer, Janice Carrillo

Also attending: Alex Sevilla, Selcuk Erenguc, Ana Portocarrero

Agenda items:

- I. Approval of March 2007 meeting minutes
- II. Assurance of Learning Project: Sevilla introduced the Assurance of Learning project to the committee and mentioned that they had a quick timeline to develop learning goals. Sevilla asked the committee for guidance on how to get started on this project. Maurer asked if it was possible to focus on core curriculum and Sevilla confirmed that it was possible to focus on it. Berg suggested that someone create a draft/matrix so that the committee could provide feedback on it. Erenguc suggested looking at the University of Wisconsin's accreditation guidelines. Sevilla suggested that the objectives should be faculty driven, not program driven. After the committee receives faculty feedback, it can send the revised learning goals to the corporate board (external sources) for their feedback. Maurer stated that the learning objectives should not be discipline-specific. Maurer suggested for the committee to develop 10-15 learning objectives and to ask faculty to make those learning objectives explicit in their syllabi. Maurer asked to schedule another meeting to discuss learning objectives. Sevilla will look for examples from other colleges.
- III. Grade Distribution and MBA Student Accountability/Behavior: Maurer suggested using a percentage system, that would restrict faculty to giving 25% A's and 50% B+'s. Berg suggested the grading policy should be based per section, rather than across sections. In mixed classes (e.g. MBA and MSMs), all students would be graded on the same standard. Erenguc suggested developing a fixed or automated grading system. The committee expressed concerns about faculty's willingness to adopt the policy, lack of enforcement mechanisms, and logistical problems to develop automatic grading systems between ISIS and the MBA program. Berg suggested for the Dean's office to publish a grade distribution list to show who followed or violated the policy. Sevilla suggested developing two documents, one for faculty and one for students, outlining the expectation that all faculty and students would adhere to the policy. Sevilla will inform existing students about the policy and introduce the policy during new student orientations. Maurer motioned to adopt the policy, as amended, and to distribute it electronically first to faculty and then to MBA students. The committee passed the motion.
- IV. Curriculum Items
 - a. GEB 6930 – MBA Global Studies Program: Sevilla provided the committee with an update of the MBA Global Studies Program. The MBA chairperson approved the one-week trip for 2007 only. Roy Crum will be taking 10 MBA students to Budapest, Hungary, along with the MAIB program study tour. Crum will meet with students twice before the trip and twice after the trip. Two of the site visits will be MBA-specific. Crum volunteered to discuss course's curriculum and outcomes after the trip so that the committee can evaluate the feasibility of future trips. Maurer would like to see trips similar to the EMBA trips, not just tag-along trips.

- b. New teambuilding session: Sevilla informed the committee that a new teambuilding session was added to orientation for all MBA cohorts (full-time and professional). The sessions were conducted by Jeff LePine. Based LePine's recommendations, the MBA program removed the (1) credit MAN 5265 from the I1MBA and I2MBA curriculum (due to content overlap). MAN 5265 will be replaced with REE 6930 (Intro to Real Estate), starting in 2008. The REE 6930 course will be formally reviewed at next MBA committee meeting.

V. Program Issues

- a. Career fairs and teaching conflicts: Sevilla explained that students are pulled in different directions when it comes to classes and career-related activities. The MBA program encourages students to attend career fairs. Most events are held on Fridays, but students may need to depart on Thursday and miss classes on those days. Maurer suggested that if faculty members decide to schedule make-up classes, that they should be rescheduled on Thursdays or Fridays. Sevilla said that the MBA program will gather information about career-related events and will distribute it to the faculty in advance, so that they are aware potential class conflicts. The MBA program will provide support to faculty members who would like to reschedule their classes.
- b. Recording MBA Classes: Sevilla explained that an MBA student requested permission to record MBA classes in order to review the material later. Sevilla stated that some faculty members prefer not to record their lectures. Sevilla expressed concerns that if the courses were recorded, that students would be more likely to skip class. Maurer motioned to deny the request to record classes.

VI. MBA Program Updates

- a. Sevilla highlighted the fall 2007 admissions for the traditional and working professional MBA programs. Since Spring 2003, WPMBA tuition increased close to 50%, WPMBA enrollment went up 78%, and WPMBA revenue went up 140%. The WPMBA added a new professional one-year cohort offered in Spring 2009 to meet demand.
- b. The EDGE Program first-year launch was successful. Eighty six out of 135 students signed up voluntarily. They are considering creating a 2 credit course. The EDGE Fund, which comes from the scholarship pool, is up and running. All students would get limited funds to travel to conferences, interviews, etc. As far as Sevilla knows, the EDGE Fund is the only program of its kind. The program is in contact with John Hamilton to develop a pilot program in January 2008 for a UF MBA Case Competition to prepare students to compete nationally. The EDGE program is trying to create a culture shift from a sense of entitlement toward accountability.
- c. The EMBA International Trip to Brussels and Paris in May 2007 was successful. For future trips, they would like to change the syllabus to make the expectations clear.
- d. WPMBA launched Career Beam for all working professional MBA students and also negotiated free access for UF MBA alumni.

VII. Next meeting

- a. Date and time to be determined. Proposed dates:
 - Tuesday, November 20 in the afternoon
 - Wednesday, November 28th in the morning
 - Thursday, December 6th anytime

Respectfully Submitted,

Ana Portocarrero