Minutes
MBA Committee
Warrington College of Business Administration
Wednesday, 4/5/2010
11:30AM
STZ 200

Members attending: Joel Houston (chair), Robert Thomas, Sandy Berg, Victoria Dickinson, Alan Sawyer, Selcuk Erenguc

Also attending: Tawnya Means, Kara Cupoli & Christine Wilson

EDGE Course

Group agreed that leadership, team dynamics, and group work will comprise revised EDGE course. Final mod will tie together first 3 mods in soft skills. It will be part academic, and will feature guest speakers. Appropriate measurements will be needed for evaluation. Regardless of what method of evaluation is chosen, it will have to tie into AACSB. Faculty will ultimately determine appropriate level of outside work. The goal is to have proposal ready to present to MBA Committee by May.

Sandy asked if the 3.5 GPA rule apply to new EDGE course? Joel explained the 3.5 rule is applied for course courses. Robert wondered if the course be pass/fail? Answer is no. Although, Jeff LePine prefers pass/fail because often it can be difficult to assess teamwork when evaluating students.

Victoria explained there would be a mixed model of grading. Portion of the grade would consider personal presentation skills. Selcuk wondered if the final course grade would represent all 4 mods. Kara explained that yes, it would be an average of the grades. He then suggested LePine ranking the groups; top 30% receive A’s, top 60% receive B’s, etc. Although, this could cause someone to fail who doesn’t necessarily deserve it.

Joel stated that the data shared by Alex regarding the 3.5 GPA adjustment was helpful, and requested to be provided with an update on compliance of the new rule by faculty members. Kara pointed out that it all depends on how faculty members decide to implement new policy. Committee said they would like to see this grade data from Alex on a regular basis. Found the biggest impacts within Professional program; students do not want lots of A’s in their classes, as this ultimately decreases job prospects.

Assurance of Learning

Committee reviewed the assessment matrix presented by Tawnya. A similar course mapping was created by each department. Agreed that the pre-screen would be represented by GMAT score, and there would not be a post-screen (beyond exit interviews). Assessment will not be implemented for core or elective courses, but will rather be completed in the EDGE course and final capstone.

Proposed capstone course was discussed in great detail. Who will teach the capstone is still a concern, but it was pointed out that the benefit of a core teacher is consistency, versus bringing in “guest” lecturers. Tying in past professors at the end would provide benefit. Different departments should have input in course design, as it makes sense to involve those who have a genuine interest. Issues to consider are: who is available to teach, and which departments are able to contribute? Selcuk commented that Linda Clarke may be good for capstone because she introduces game theory and has the ability to tie it into strategic management. A rough course proposal will be completed over the summer, and Selcuk plans to meet with Victoria, Tawnya, Robert, and Linda Clarke to discuss.

Proposed timeline for AOL process was presented by Tawnya, and all agreed it was possible.

Meeting Adjourned (minutes – Christine Wilson)