

MBA Committee Meeting Minutes
Warrington College of Business Administration
April 18, 2013
12:45 p.m.
Hough Hall 338

Members attending: Gwen Lee (chair), Selcuk Erenguc, Alex Sevilla, Andy Naranjo, Doug Waldo, Alan Cooke, Stephen Asare, Praveen Pathak

Also attending: Kara Cupoli, Kelly Schmidt

Not in Attendance: Jenny Tucker

The purpose of this meeting was for the committee to meet before the faculty meeting where the faculty will vote yes or no on the proposed MBA curriculum changes.

Statistics courses:

- Gwen wonders if the MBA Committee read the syllabi carefully enough, specifically Statistics I and Statistics II. In regards to the Excel class, what does each department expect?
- Andy Naranjo worries that students with Mac computers cannot use the same tools. In order for this to work, IT needs to be included. The ideal situation would be for the students to know the basics coming in.
- Kara thinks that we need to keep Stats I or somehow the tools/Excel element needs to be taken and put into another course but at an accelerated pace.
- Alex said that it is important that we need to find how to utilize the Stats course in a professional sense. Currently, it is being done to fulfill a grade academically versus how to use it in a professional problem-solving way.
- Selcuk looks at these two courses and sees one. What is it that we need to cover for students? Can we take the two Statistics courses and combine them into one four-credit course, one credit of which would be dedicated to Excel?
 - Praveen mentioned that one credit is 3.5 weeks. In 3.5 weeks, this should be possible.
- Andy asked what employers want. This is important, and there is a disconnect between what we are deciding and what is necessary for employment.
 - Praveen said that this was an issue brought up by employers, and the employers are saying that students do not have enough Excel training.
- Gwen has students who tell her that they take Excel classes on their own because they do not have any background with SPSS.

Voting:

- Vote #1: To remove the one-credit Leadership class and add a two-credit leadership class
 - Motion passed
- Vote #2: To remove one-credit Ethical Role of the Manager class and BUL 5811 Business Law and add a two-credit Ethical and Legal Environment of Business course

- Motion passed
- Vote #3: ISOM department will collaborate with academic departments and MBA programs office to redesign existing four credits of statistics course to include current content as well as the incorporation of decision tools skill development.
 - Motion Passed

Gwen likes the way this is going, to take the path of less resistance but leave it as an ongoing process every three to five years rather than every 15.

Andy said that integrating the classes (2trad, A, B) will be important in this transition as the experience of the full time traditional program still pulls a lot of weight.

Kara said that it is important for this committee to go back to their department with this information, especially before the faculty votes on May 3.

Gwen asked the committee to let her know if they sense there is resistance in their department as we want to fix it, especially before the vote.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes by Kelly Schmidt