

## Undergraduate Committee Meeting: 10/10/2008

Attending: Craig Tapley; Dominique Desantiago; Doug Waldo; Brian Ray; John D. Kammeyer-Mueller; Richard Lutz, Wendy Thornton; Rachel E. Kane

The minutes from the September meeting were approved.

### **GEB 4941 Internship or Study Abroad option**

Brian gave a brief overview of the proposal to require GEB 4941 1-credit Business Internship beginning with the 2990=2010 catalog year. Students would be able to do a study abroad experience of at least six weeks in lieu of the internship.

Dr. Tapley asked that the internship requirement be petitionable so students who don't need an internship or study abroad semester would have some method of opting out. Dr. Lutz also asked that students be given an opportunity to participate in discussion boards.

A motion was made to enter the requirement into the 2009-2010 catalog. The motion passed unanimously. The proposal will be presented at the December faculty meeting.

### **Student Delegations and Competitions**

Dr. Ray presented a list of student delegations and competitions. These programs are part of the Professional Development Programs.

### **Summary of ETS Major Field Test in Business**

The initial sample sizes for the ETS Major Field Test in Business were 30 seniors (summer '08) and 36 freshmen (fall '08). 196 graduating seniors will take the ETS exam in November.

### **New grading scale goes into Effect Summer 2008**

A discussion ensued about the new grading scale that goes into effect summer '08. Faculty can choose their grading scale but should be aware of the implications of minus grades, which will likely lower average GPAs. The committee agreed that the central administration needs to better inform the university community of the effects of C- grades.

**The Undergraduate Curriculum Task Force** convened for the first time last week. The hope is that this Task Force will lead to a university-wide effort to enhance the undergraduate experience, particularly during the lower-division experience.

### **Discussion on Changes to the Finance Major –**

The discussion centered on a proposal by Dr. Tapley that was developed with the FIRE department. Student representative Rachel Kane felt that both options presented by Dr. Tapley would be more value-added than the current program. The module system has great potential. It would probably be easier to find faculty to teach a 2-credit modules. Dr. Tapley added that the faculty was adamant about FIN 4414 remaining the capstone course.

The proposal for a Capital Markets course would not only free up faculty from the debt and equity courses currently offered, it would also enable the college to offer access to additional finance content to more non majors. This course would also give students the opportunity to have more finance training prior to summer internships.

Dr. Waldo expressed concern on behalf of his faculty about the idea of adding another EP course. In the past, we have not received enough credit for the EP courses offered in the major. This could be a “slippery slope,” i.e., once we adjust to not having enough faculty, the administration will continue to underfund the programs.

With regard to adding STA 2023 as a prerequisite for FIN 3403, Brian pointed out that would for all intents and purposes add require stats as a part of the business minor. That course would then be required for over 500 students currently taking a minor. Dr. Tapley said that some students currently come into his class with no stats background. A suggestion was made to use a Web CT tutorial to get the perhaps 10% of the students who need assistance with stats up to speed.

Dr. Waldo wondered whether the Capital Markets course would remain the same if a new budgeting model was approved. Dr. Tapley answered that the module approach would still allow the Finance Department to offer more options.

Dr. Tapley and Dr. Ray agreed to meet to discuss the details of the proposed major changes prior to the November meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 14, 2008 in 224A Matherly, at 9:30 a.m.