

Abilene Undergraduate Academic Council
January 17, 2024
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Adams Center Classroom

Present: K. Witemeyer, T. Baggs, T. Sensing, J.D. Wallace, J. Drachenberg, D. Mayhall, R. Slaymaker, R. Jessup, T. Womble, R. Brown

Absent: None

Ex-officios: E. Gumm, C. Riley, B. Reeves (J. Smith and J. Wiser were absent)

Guests: J. Huddleston, C. Miertschin, C. Barbarick, D. Hendricks, A. Sutherlin, S. Jones

The meeting began at 3:34 p.m.

1. Call to order by T. Baggs.
2. Prayer by B. Reeves.
3. Approval of the minutes from 11.15.23

With no corrections mentioned, minutes are considered approved.

Information Items

4. IPE 301 – Revise Prerequisites
5. IPE 302 – Revise Prerequisites
6. JMC 233 – Revise Prerequisites
7. CHEM 333 – Revise Content & Description
8. CHEM 334 – Revise Content & Description
9. ENGR 220 – Revise Prerequisites
10. ENGR 222 – Revise Prerequisites
11. ENGR 281 – Revise Prerequisites
12. ENGR 320 – Revise Prerequisites
13. ENGR 334 – Revise Prerequisites
14. ENGR 378 – Revise Course Terms & Prerequisites

15. ENGR 435 – Revise Prerequisites
16. ENGR 436 – Revise Prerequisites
17. ANSC 392 – Add ANSC 111 Prerequisite
18. ANSC 497 – Add ANSC 111 Prerequisite
19. MATH 381 – Remove Prerequisite

Action Items

20. BIOL-BIOW – Revise Course Selections in Degree Plan

J. Huddleston - This track is built around requirements for a Wildlife Society certification. We are making some changes to allow more flexibility for students. We hope to make it more flexible while still making them eligible for the certificate. Josh Brokaw manages these pieces. R. Jessup - Is the environmental course a good substitute for the previous stats course? C. Miertschin - According to the catalog, it is very heavy on stats with an agricultural emphasis.

Motion to approve by J. Wallace; seconded by R. Jessup; all in favor; motion passes.

21. BIBM 201 – New Course – Ministry Workshop

C. Barbarick - This came out of our desire to add more experiential learning courses to our programs. J. Wallace - Will the faculty or student determine the topics? C. Barbarick - The faculty. We plan to have some that will be available every year, like a church lab. Teaching them how to do a church plant. Others will fit the interests of our faculty. We have one planned that will expose students to a synagogue experience, for example. R. Slaymaker - So students can retake the course? How do they make sure students are not retaking the same topic? C. Barbarick - The advisors would need to help monitor that to make sure that students do not retake the same topic. T. Womble - It looks like all that is required is attendance and a reflection. It sounds more like a colloquium. Would three of these equal a true three hours of academic rigor? C. Barbarick - I think that is a fair question. Some of these courses will require different amounts of rigor. Different amounts of assignments as determined by the faculty. It is similar to a colloquia-type of experience. R. Slaymaker - The reflection fulfills the need for assessment of the experience. J. Wallace - So how are grades determined? C. Barbarick - That is up to the individual faculty member.

22. BBMN & BMV (all tracks) – Add BIBM 201

C. Barbarick - We are asking students to complete 3 of these 1 credit workshops for each of our majors. We are decreasing the elective hours by 3 hours.

Motion to approve items 21-22 by R. Slaymaker; seconded by D. Mayhall; 6 in favor; 1 abstention; motion passes.

23. CHEM 430 – New Course – Medicinal Chemistry

A Sutherlin - Last year we taught an advanced organic chemistry course. The part of that class that students really enjoyed was the medicinal part. Medicinal is focused on how drugs are designed and how they work. Many of our students are interested in the medical field. We are in the process of developing a medicinal chemistry track. We have a number of students each year who go to med school. Medicinal Chemistry is less scary than Advanced Organic and should attract more students.

24. BCH-BCBS – Add CHEM 430 to Biomedical Science Track Menu

A Sutherlin - We would like to add the new course to our Biomedical Science track in the Biochemistry major. It's a good fit.

Motion to approve items 23-24 by T. Womble; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

25. MATH 499 – New Course – Mathematics Internship

R. Slaymaker - I didn't see a minimum number of internship hours. How do we make sure there is a minimum expectation? R. Brown - In college council, John said it was up to the instructor and that it is worked out between the professor and the site. D. Hendricks - I believe the department chair gives final approval. The chair will ensure it meets a minimum requirement. We don't want this to be a joke class. It needs a strong academic component. That's why the chair has final approval. R. Slaymaker - I know this isn't a clinical internship, but on the clinical side, we look at hours a lot. Our students understand that there is a time requirement. Are there other internship courses that don't have minimum hour requirements in other colleges? E. Gumm - The typical requirements are informed more by the field. I think Bible might be an example of one that is more open-ended. R. Slaymaker - Do students know what they are signing up for? J. Wallace - We don't have a minimum stated number of hours in our programs, but it is kind of understood that it's about 45 hours. Ours go through chair approval as well. R. Slaymaker - Others are variable credit. So maybe it's the 3 hours that I'm getting hung up on. D. Hendricks - We are focusing on the actuarial science track with this internship. Right now, our students have to do their internship through COBA. This course would allow our students to do it within our department. We envision this as a summer internship where they work with an actuarial company. E. Gumm - JMC and Kinesiology are the only departments that spell out hours in the course description. T. Braggs - In CSD it is not spelled out either, but expectations are communicated to students.

Motion to approve by R. Brown; seconded by J. Drachenberg; all in favor; motion passes.

Meeting ended at 4:03 p.m.