



UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (UEC) MEETING

August 30, 2013
10:00 am – A225
Abbotsford Campus

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: D. Alary, M. Bos-Chan, S. Brigden, R. Colwell, H. Compeau, J. English, S. Fisher, D. Francis, N. Goad, J. Larsen, D. McGuire, R. McLeod, S. Pattridge, E. Spalding, J. White, A. Wiseman
ABSENT: S. Bains, W. Burton, V. Dvoracek, S. Hardman, S. Manu, S. Marsh, L. Stagg, S. Xi
GUESTS: J. Carroll, P. Geller, C. Loten, S. Piper, J. Pitcher, B. Salingre,
RECORDER: A. Hoogendoorn

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION:

To approve the agenda as presented.

E. Spalding/ R. Colwell

2. APPROVAL OF UEC MINUTES

2.1. UEC draft minutes: June 21, 2013

MOTION:

To approve the draft minutes as amended.

E. Spalding/ H. Compeau

3. COURSE OUTLINES

The following courses are ready for publication following UEC approval.

3.1. Social, Cultural, and Media Studies

Changes including prerequisites: SOC 201

MOTION:

To approve the SOC 201 course outline as presented.

E. Spalding/ R. Colwell

3.2. Education

Changes including prerequisites and calendar description: EDUC 442, 490

Changes including calendar description: EDUC 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 492

Changes including calendar description and total hours: EDUC 495

MOTION:

To approve the Education course outlines as amended:

- EDUC 495: Change the total hours from 7.5 to 30.

H. Compeau/ R. Colwell

As EDUC 495 is offered in four parts (EDUC 495A, B, C, and D), the Education department thought that the total hours per term had to be split up as well. The course outline will be corrected to accurately show that the number of total hours per term is 30.

It was noted that the EDUC 490 course outline says that the number of field experience hours is 90. This reflects the minimum number of field experience hours, as it typically is more.

4. PROGRAMS

4.1. Arts

Change to program: Bachelor of Arts (writing requirement)

MOTION:

To approve the changes to the Bachelor of Arts writing requirement as amended, effective September 2013:

- Note: ~~In assessing high school grades, UFV uses whichever is higher, the school grade or the blended final grade.~~ In assessing a high school grade, the BA program uses the blended final grade. English 12 equivalent courses include English Literature 12, English 12 First Peoples, International Baccalaureate English A (standard level or higher level), Advanced Placement English.

CARRIED

In favour: 5

Opposed: 4

Abstentions: 2

E. Spalding/ S. Fisher

The proposed change to the Bachelor of Arts writing requirement would mean that students who receive an A in their English 12 high school class would not be required to take ENGL 105. This motion was originally presented at the June 21, 2013 UEC meeting, but was tabled, with a request for more research.

Concerns were pointed out that ENGL 105 cannot be replaced by another course. With its small class size, students learn about the writing process, the theory of writing, and how to adapt to different writing situations. Additionally, students are taught how to use library resources.

It was noted that this program change may create a false perception that ENGL 105 and English 12 are equivalent courses. ENGL 105 focuses on critical writing, reading, and thinking, whereas English 12 is a literature-oriented course.

To address concerns, S. Fisher explained that students learn how to write in their

other courses. A competent writer can develop in the same way as students that take ENGL 105. Research shows that students with an A in English 12 do well in their other university courses. It was noted that students still have the option to take ENGL 105 and there are seven other areas at the university that can help students with their writing skills.

S. Fisher pointed out that this is a hard choice the College of Arts has made in a time of financial cut backs.

There was concern that A's in English 12 course work could be inflated in some cases. To address this, the motion was amended to use the final blended grade to assess the high school grade.

5. OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1. Columbia Bible College Transfer Agreement

MOTION:

To recommend to the UEC Transfer Credit Subcommittee to research the outcomes of the Columbia Bible College transfer agreement and report back to the Undergraduate Education Committee.

S. Fisher/ S. Brigden

At the April 15, 2011 Academic Standards Committee (ASC) meeting, a transfer agreement with Columbia Bible College (CBC) was approved, which was effective until April 2013. This was controversial at the time as an unrecognized local private institution was given recognition. Typically, private institutions do not have the same regulatory systems in place as recognized institutions.

A. Wiseman explained that although CBC is an unrecognized institution, it is a member of an accreditation body, called the Associate for Biblical Higher Learning, which has a rigorous accreditation process.

With no research presented to show if the CBC students admitted to UFV under the temporary transfer agreement were successful, UEC was not ready to make a decision on renewing the transfer agreement. UEC recommends that the UEC Transfer Credit Subcommittee conducts research on this matter and presents it to UEC.

5.2. Transfer Credit Subcommittee report

5.3. Policy Subcommittee report

Call for new chair of UEC Policy Subcommittee to replace S. Pattridge as chair.

R. McLeod will replace S. Pattridge as chair of the UEC policy subcommittee.

The committee has decided on a path for moving forward with the Assignment of Course Credit policy (105), and has scheduled a working session.

SGC sent guidelines back to UEC outlining the next steps to be taken in the revision of the wording to the grading interpretation of the Grading System policy (101). SGC also recommended that UEC start a full policy review within the year.

S. Bridgen, V. Dvoracek, and S. Manu will continue as the group that will go forward with the revisions to the grading interpretation.

5.4. Course Outline Subcommittee

More feedback on the revised course outline has been received from the Records and Graduation Officers. A meeting will be held to discuss this feedback before the revised course outline is brought back to UEC.

5.5. Admissions Subcommittee report

5.6. Membership of UEC Subcommittees

Membership of UEC subcommittees was confirmed.

5.7. Renewal of UEC Membership in 2014

As many terms for UEC membership end in 2014, members were asked by email if they intended to continue with UEC for another two year term, or extend their term by one year. The responses indicate that many members are interested in continuing with UEC for another two year term.

5.8. Interdisciplinary Program Curriculum Committee

Currently, there are departments and programs that report to more than one faculty. For example, the Geography department submits information to both the Faculty of Science and the College of Arts when making course and program changes. This can result in different changes from each faculty, which creates difficulty for course and program changes to move coherently through the process in a time sensitive way. The consensus of UEC is that the creation of an interdisciplinary program curriculum committee would address this university-wide concern.

It was pointed out that UEC does not have authority to change the terms of reference of faculty councils, so it would make sense for Senate to discuss this.

UEC will send a memo to Senate, requesting that Senate discuss this issue and provide further direction on the steps that should be taken to develop a collaborative solution.

The memo was sent to APPC for further discussion before it is sent to Senate.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1. Academic Calendar deadlines

6.2. Minor course changes (outlines will be available at www.ufv.ca/calendar/courseoutlines)

EDUC 410 and 445

6.3. Geography

Change to program requirement: The removal of GEOG 354 and the addition of one course in physical geography (GEOG 302, 304, 307, 308, 317, 402, 410, 417, 419, or 453) in the Physical Geography major.

6.4. Procedures for Membership on Standing Committees of Senate (revised copy)

6.5. Rules for the Conduct of Business

Addition of rule 1.6

6.6. 2013/14 UEC meeting schedule

7. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 11:42am.