

**COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**200 Bricker Hall**

**May 20, 2009**

**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Faculty:**

- |   |  |
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| ✓ Dr. Lawrence A. Baum (Political Science)                  | Dr. Marcia E. Farr (Teaching and Learning)                 |
| Dr. Neelima M. Bendapudi (Marketing and Logistics)          | ✓ Dr. Jay S. Hobgood (Geography)                           |
| ✓ Dr. James W. Cogdell (Mathematics)                        | Dr. Michael Ibba (Microbiology)                            |
| ✓ Dr. Kathryn A. Corl, (Germanic Languages and Literatures) | ✓ Dr. Daniel A. Mendelsohn (Mechanical Engineering), Chair |
|   | ✓ Dr. Robert J. Ward (Music)                               |

**Students:**

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| ✓ Mr. Robert D. Calhoun (CGS, History of Art) | ✓ Ms. Sarah K. Douglas (CGS, History)  |
|   | ✓ Mr. Benjamin T. Reinke (USG, Physcs) |

**Administrators:**

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith, (Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

**Guests:**

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| Dr. Alexis C. Collier (Associate Provost)                  | Dr. Elliot E. Slotnick (Associate Dean, Graduate School)          |
| Mr. John E. Dickhaut (Office of the University Registrar)  | Dr. John Wanzer (Enrollment Services and Undergraduate Education) |
| Dr. Terry L. Gustafson (Associate Dean, Arts and Sciences) | Dr. Charles Wise, (Director, John Glenn School of Public Affairs) |
| Ms. Melinda Wright (Arts and Sciences)                     |   |
| Mr. David E. Roy (Director, Enrollment Services)           |   |

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The Council came to order at 3:05 PM.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF MAY 6, 2009**

The Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2009 were approved, as revised, by voice vote. One person abstained.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR DANIEL A. MENDELSON**

Mendelsohn informed Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) members that the Council on Enrollment and Student Progress (CESP) had created a revised calendar for the conversion to semesters based on feedback from three forums. The revised calendar would be presented to Faculty Council on May 21, 2009 and if endorsed, would be presented to the University Senate for vote on May 28, 2009. The proposed calendar would have two 70-instructional day semesters, a 19-day mini-semester in May, and a 35-instructional day summer semester. The length of a class period is left open and will be discussed by CAA following approval by the Senate.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR — PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH**

Smith informed Council members that the proposal for a Ph.D. program in Translational Plant Sciences will go to the Board of Trustees for formal vote on June 5, 2009, and the Masters in Latin American Studies degree program proposal will go to the University Senate for action on May 28, 2009. Smith indicated there is a proposal for a new University Center in RNA Biology which is the first to come forward using the new guidelines. The proposal has been read and endorsed by the Chair and Vice-Chair of Council and a review committee with members of the University research Committee is being established. Smith announced that Melissa Soave has been hired in the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA) to assist him beginning June 1, 2009. She will assume the duties for Council recently done by Briggs Cormier.

### **REPORT ON DUAL-ENROLLMENT – MELINDA WRIGHT, COLLEGES OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Melinda Wright provided Council with an overview of accelerated learning and dual enrollment options ongoing at The Ohio State University. The University has participated in several options to increase college access and success including advanced placement, examination credit, and articulation agreements, along with dual enrollment options such as the Ohio State Academy.

More recently there has been increased interest in dual enrollment. The institution has responded to dual enrollment requests on an ad hoc basis. Examples include a dual enrollment pilot in mathematics and psychology at the Lima campus, a partnership with a Hilliard high school to offer German for college credit, and other projects with the Metro School. However, there have been few institutional guidelines for the kinds of courses that would be most appropriate for dual enrollment and little systematic oversight. An ad hoc committee representing interested Ohio State stakeholders was convened by the Office of the Executive Dean in the Colleges of Arts and Sciences (ASC) and proposes that a subcommittee of CAA be established to scan demand for projects periodically, organize and facilitate a process for these kinds of opportunities, review and monitor approved projects, and report annually to CAA on the volume and quality of them.

In the ensuing discussion, Council members asked how credit is assigned for dual enrollment. It is given as college credit. A question was raised about expansion if increased numbers of high

school teachers want to teach courses for college credit. Wright responded that the subcommittee would work with departments which offered the courses to ensure their concurrence. Dual-enrollment projects are more likely to be specific niche projects with small enrollments. Overall Council was supportive and voted unanimously to endorse the proposal.

### **REPORT ON THE JOHN GLENN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS – PROFESSOR CHARLES R. WISE, DIRECTOR**

Wise provided an annual update on the John Glenn School of Public Affairs that was established in 2006 through a merger of the School of Public Policy and Management and the John Glenn Institute. Wise presented an overview of the School's Strategic Plan, noted its recently improved ranking of 36<sup>th</sup> in *US News and World Report* which places it in the 13<sup>th</sup> percentile of the almost 300 schools ranked nationally, and highlighted long term strategies and tactics for improving to a 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> place ranking by 2011. The School is positioning itself to respond to the increased demand for graduates and leadership in public policy due to expected large numbers of retirements in federal, state, and local government, and to the need for adaptive responses in research and practice due to the challenges government is facing on a variety of fronts (e.g., economic, health care, and climate concerns). Based on a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis, the School plans to increase its faculty, grow enrollment in its educational programs, and continue to seek funding from enrollment, the state, grants, and development sources. A particularly pressing need is for graduate student funding. The School recently made three quality faculty hires and intends to hire four additional faculty over the next three years. The School exceeded its targets for enrollment growth in its Master's and dual degree programs and plans to continue to grow these programs to accommodate approximately 200 students. The School intends to maintain enrollment of about 20 Ph.D. students and eventually would like to offer an undergraduate major.

Council members asked about student success. While it is still too early to determine placements of graduates over the past year, Wise pointed out that students were successfully competing for prestigious national fellowship programs typically filled by students from the top ten nationally ranked programs.

### **PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D—PROFESSORS DANIEL A. MENDELSON AND W. RANDY SMITH**

- **Graduate interdisciplinary specialization, College of Pharmacy**

Mendelson brought forth the proposal from the College of Pharmacy to offer graduate interdisciplinary specializations in the following: Health-System Pharmacy Administration, Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, Pharmaceutics, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutical Administration, and Translational Science. The proposal formalizes already ongoing clusters of course work that students take in widely recognized divisions in Pharmacy. Douglas seconded the motion.

Hobgood raised the question of using the term ‘Translational Science’ given a proposal was recently passed for a new Ph.D. degree in ‘Translational Plant Science.’ Council members noted that the previous name was for a new degree while the current name is a specialization within the Pharmacy program for a different degree. Nonetheless, the use of ‘translational’ in degree names may need to be monitored as it is being used increasingly often in programs that have an applied focus. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **DISCUSSION ON THE DEFINITION OF A CREDIT HOUR**

Mendelsohn initiated discussion on the credit hour rule. He suggested that the current rule continue to be used in the semester calendar conversion although there will not be an exact conversion if the same 48-minute in-class time for a credit hour is maintained. This is because there are approximately 147 instructional days under the current three quarter calendar but only 140 instructional days for the proposed two-semester calendar. There may also need to be a revised definition for distance learning courses.

Council members discussed work load in three- vs. five-hour quarter courses now offered. Based on the current credit-hour rule, work load may exceed what is expected for some courses, most likely in three-credit hour courses, but could be less than expected for some five-credit hour courses. The latter shift may have emerged when many courses were reconfigured for the new General Education Curriculum (GEC) in the late 1980s. The student work load issue will likely need to be resolved at the local level along with faculty work load. Douglas pointed out that Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) work load will need to be taken into account in the conversion as it could impact graduate student time to degree.

Council members raised the question about a new course numbering system as part of the conversion. Smith suggested that the Registrar be invited to discuss both the numbering system, and how in-class time might be accomplished. Smith suggested the Chair of CESP also be invited.

## **ELECTION OF CHAIR, 2009-2010**

Mendelsohn and Smith noted that traditionally faculty members about to begin their third year as Council members are approached about their willingness to serve as Chair. This year members of that group indicated an inability to assume this leadership role.

Mendelsohn described Hobgood’s curricular experiences from service on both the ASC Committee on Curriculum and Instruction and CAA, and nominated him to serve as CAA Chair for the 2009-2010 academic year. Corl seconded the motion which carried unanimously by voice vote.

Smith noted that five faculty Council members will need to be replaced next year, three through by Senate appointments, and two Presidential appointments. A student from the Inter-Professional Council and an additional student from Undergraduate Student Government are also needed.

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Smith announced that Professor Joseph E. Steinmetz, Interim Provost, University of Kansas, has been appointed as the Executive Dean, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences and Vice Provost, and will begin July 1, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith  
Alexis C. Collier