

**MINUTES OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
FACULTY MEETING (v.2)
Thursday, 6 December 2012, 3:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union**

Item 1. Approval of Minutes of the Spring Faculty Meeting on April 26, 2012.

Deborah Minter (*English, Associate Dean for Academic Programs*) moved to approve the minutes. **John Osterman** (*Biological Sciences*) seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Item II. Opening Comments and Administrative Matters

Dean Manderscheid thanked everyone for coming. He then announced the continued appointment of **Lloyd Ambrosius** (*History*) as Parliamentarian.

Item III. College Curriculum Updates.

Deborah Minter (*English, Associate Dean for Academic Programs*) explained that some curricular changes were still in process, but that she wished to inform interested parties where things stand: (a) Regarding the proposed *new major in Religious Studies*, **Stephen Burnett** (*Chair, Classics and Religious Studies*) said that the Department had become uncertain whether or not the new major would have a sufficient number of majors and was studying the matter further. (b) The proposed *new major in Geosciences* in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences has been approved; however, some necessary additional paperwork from the Department is necessary before the new major can be implemented. (c) Owing to changes in various major programs made to ensure that College students can graduate with the reduced total number of 120 credit hours, *changes in various 100-level courses in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Life Sciences, and Mathematics* are being made.

Items IV-X. College Curriculum and Advising Committee Recommendations.

These were presented by the Chair of the Committee, **Diana Pilson** (*Biological Sciences*). Full details of each proposal are given in the Agenda for the Faculty Meeting. All passed without very much discussion. In brief,

- *Item IV* called for *approving changes to the College Distribution Requirements*, namely, eliminating Biblical Hebrew as an approved foreign language. The Department of Classics and Religious Studies has reduced the credit hours for Hebrew 101/102 to 3 credits from 5 credits so that this language is no longer consistent with the credit hours for other beginning foreign language courses in the College.
- *Item V* concerned various *changes to the major in Biochemistry*, including requiring Chemistry 221 instead of Chemistry 116.
- *Item VI* concerned various *changes to the major in Chemistry*, including requiring Chemistry 221 instead of Chemistry 116.
- *Item VII* concerned the *proposal to eliminate the European Studies Program* owing to very low numbers of majors (specifically, four majors in the past five years in the BA

program and none in the BS program). It was noted that students can instead enroll in the newly revised Global Studies Major with a Regional Specialization (Europe).

- *Item VIII* concerned **proposed changes to the major in Global Studies**, namely the addition of a 1 credit hour course, GLST 201: Contemporary Issues in Global Studies, designed to introduce students to the interdisciplinary nature of global studies and to assist them in completing their major on time. **Sunil Narunamali** (*Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs*) noted that this new course will ensure that students interact with speakers who come to UNL. **Deborah Minter** (*English, Associate Dean for Academic Programs*) mentioned also that certain French courses (FREN 321/322) would be moved to the *Europe Focus* set of courses from the *Culture and Society* set of courses, although this was not in the present set of proposed changes.
- *Item IX* concerned **changes to the major in Microbiology** made necessary by changes to courses in Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Life Sciences, and Mathematics.
- *Item X* concerned the **elimination of the University Studies Program**. It was noted that that program has not graduated any students in the past five years. Now that the College has created an “Individualized Program of Studies” major, students who wish a tailor-made program can achieve that. Hence there is no longer any need for the University Studies Program.

Item XI. Opportunity to Ask Questions of the Dean

Judy Walker (*Chair, Mathematics*) asked if there was any movement to revise the UNL Youth Activities Policy. **Evelyn Jacobson** (*Chair, Modern Languages and Literatures*) seconded that question. Walker said that if Mathematics does not follow that policy, then she was told that the department “is on its own” should anything happen to a youth participant in some department program. **Glenn Ledder** (*Mathematics*) noted that even undergraduate math students who simply manage stop watches during Math Day events are required to undergo the training required by UNL for all personnel involved with youth events taking place at UNL. **Judy Walker** said she hopes Dean Manderscheid will “push back” on UNL’s policy, which is not deemed to be well-written. It was agreed that UNL needs a policy, but that the present one was not good. **Dean Manderscheid** replied that the policy started as a policy for Youth Camps in response to the Penn State events and interested parties had a chance to review and comment on that policy. But then the policy was broadened significantly without much opportunity for comment. Walker noted that it was expanded on 12 September 2012 with effect from 1 September 2012.

Following this discussion, the faculty meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony F. Starace (*Physics and Astronomy*)
Faculty Secretary

11 March 2013