

Undergraduate Faculty Advisory Committee (UFAC)

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Present: Gedas Adomavicius, Sid Benraouane, Jane Ebert, KC Huchendorf, Steve Huchendorf, Mary Maus Kosir, Jan O'Brien, Robert Ruckert (Chair), Raj Singh, Paul Weiser, Mary Zellmer-Bruhn, Ivy Zhang (for Pervin Shroff)

Welcome and General Updates

Bob Ruckert welcomed everyone to the meeting provided the following updates:

2008 Freshmen Application Cycle

- Applications are up 12% as compared to this point last year.
- The pool is stable, meaning the applications are strong and competitive.
- The number of students graduating from high school is peaking now and will decrease in the coming years.
- The number of students of color is growing as compared to whites so the Program is moving towards attracting these students.
- Recruitment efforts include the Leadership access Partnership (LAP) Program, the first annual parent dinner, sending the BSBWeekly to parents and create other ways for parents to interact with each other.

Core Council

- The Core Council consists of the course coordinators.
- The group is up and running and more details are to come.

Course Guide Updates

- Each department should update the course guide on OneStop.
- Students use this information as they register for courses.
- Section information can be different or same, depending upon the instructor.

Major and Minor Review Discussion

The committee held a discussion on the major and minor recertification process:

- The group agreed to change the due date for proposed changes from January 10 to February 1.
- The next meeting will be devoted to each department representative giving an update on the changes that are being considered.
- The non-profit major will need to be tweaked, but it does not need to be presented for formal review since it was just approved as a major and should meet the new standards. At this point student input has not been taken into consideration for changes to the majors, but departments may do so if they wish.
- In order for Actuarial Science to remain a major a department must take ownership of it. If there is no interest maybe it should move to CLA or IT.
- There is interest in keeping Risk Management as a major or a minor.

- Clarification is needed as to whether or not there can just be a minor if there is no major.
- Michael Houston will work on the recertification process for the International Business major.
- Business Board will be very interested in these changes and they should be communicated to that group.

Learning Goals Discussion

The committee discussed the Learning Goals initiative:

- All of the department chairs have agreed to move forward with this initiative.
- Paul Weiser outlined the next step in the process which includes mapping all courses to the learning goals through a web site (www.apps.csom.umn.edu/ole/uggoals) that will collect data and put it into a database.
- The web site will lay out the seven goals and provide examples of a mapped course from each department for people to look at while they are mapping their courses.
- The goals should be mapped for each course, not for each section of a course.
- There should be a link to a page that describes each rating number so it is clear how to rate each learning goal for a course.
- The group agreed that there should only be three rating numbers versus four so the new system will be: 1=not mentioned, small part of class 2=some part of class 3= major part of class.
- Collecting this data will force departments to review and improve courses because it should show what is currently be missed in courses and raise awareness with students as to what they should be learning in these courses.
- There should be a message from the UFAC to all faculty describing why this process is being done and to make themselves available as the first point of contact if any issues arise.
- Along with the message the handouts presented at the last meeting should also be provided to each department.
- The deadline for all courses to be mapped has been set for February 1.
- Paul Weiser will provide regular updates to each department as to which courses have been mapped and which courses have not.

Adjournment

- The next meeting will be held on December 6 and include a hard hat tour of Hanson Hall.