

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES**

**April 9, 1999**

Academic Council met on Friday, April 9, 1999 at 2:00 p.m. in 212 Thurmond. Ms. Karen Jones, Dr. Melford Wilson, Dr. Tom Moore, Dr. Houston Craighead, Dr. Kathy Lyon, and Ms. Gale Teaster attended as a visitors.

**Members:**

Marsha Bollinger,Chair	<i>Geology</i>	William Naufftus	<i>English</i>	Jonatha Vare	<i>Education</i>
Gary Alderman*	<i>Arts &amp; Sci.</i>	Thomas Polaski	<i>Mathematics</i>	Michael Williams	<i>Visual &amp; F</i>
Janice Chism	<i>Biology</i>	Marilyn Sarow	<i>Mass Comm.</i>	Trevor Beauford	<i>Student</i>
Ray Dockery	<i>Education</i>	Jean Silagyi-Rebovich	<i>Human Nutr.</i>	Margaret Williamson	<i>Secretary</i>
Kent Foster	<i>CSCI &amp; QM</i>	Susan Silverman*	<i>Library</i>	Joanne Lunt	<i>Thtr. &amp; Dar</i>
Angela Letourneau*	<i>Business</i>	Seymour Simmons	<i>Art &amp; Design</i>		
David Letourneau*	<i>Finance</i>	William Thacker	<i>CSCI</i>		

**\*Absent**

I. Minutes of the March 5, 1999 meeting were approved.

II. Committee Reports

Committee on Undergraduate Instruction

Dr. Tom Polaski reported that CUI had taken the following curricular actions. No action was needed from Academic Council.

**Items approved by CUI - no Academic Council action needed.**

Supporting documentation on these curricular changes is available from the members of CUI. If any member of the Council wishes to discuss any of the items on this list, please let the Chair or Secretary of CUI know as soon as possible so that copies of the appropriate documentation may be made.

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### Dept of Human Nutrition

Modify curriculum for major in Human Nutrition by dropping CHEM 310 (3) and CHEM 311 (1) from the curriculum and add CHEM 301 (3) and CHEM 303 (1).

### Dept of Sociology

Modify major in Sociology with Concentration in Criminology from "Required program SOCL101, 227, 316, 325, 335, 337, 498, 502, 516" to read "Required program SOCL 101, or 201; SOCL 227, 316, 325, 335, 337, 498, 502, 516".

Modify BA in Sociology from "Required program SOCL 201, 301, 316, 498, 502, 516" to read "Required program SOCL 101, or 201; SOCL 301, 316, 498, 502 and 516".

### Financial Exigency

Dr. Ray Dockery reported that this committee met on April 2. Vice President for Finance, J.P. McKee, reported that the institution is in good fiscal condition.

### General Education Committee

Dr. Marilyn Sarow provided the Council with five models for revising Winthrop's general education requirements. The Council discussed each model and gave the committee comments and suggestions. These models will be distributed next to the GRADES group and to the entire faculty for comments. People may e-mail their suggestions/concerns to: [gened@winthrop.edu](mailto:gened@winthrop.edu)

The Council passed a motion to commend the general education committee for their hard work and diligence.

### Ad Hoc Committee

Dr. Foster reviewed the three motions that the committee forwarded to the Council regarding changing the number of hours required for each classification, the minimum gpa requirements necessary per hours earned,

and the appointment of a committee to discuss intervention strategies for students placed on academic probation. A motion to table the suggestions until the first meeting of Academic Council in the fall was passed. This will allow time for intervention strategies to be discussed during the summer months with more details provided at the first Council meeting.

## II. A. Honors Proposal for an International Collegiate Baccalaureate Honors Degree

Dr. Kathy Lyon presented a proposal for Winthrop to implement an International Baccalaureate Honors Program. After discussion and questions, the following motion was passed: Academic Council supports in concept the development of this program, recognizing that particulars need to be worked out, i.e. comparing the high school and proposed collegiate curricula, how Honors 250 and 350 would mesh with professional development programs, and if the term IB is copyrighted.

### MLK Day Options

Academic Council endorsed Option 1 for rescheduling classes in order to celebrate Martin Luther King Day. This option states that classes for spring semester will begin on Tuesday instead of Wednesday. This first week the Tuesday class would actually be the following Monday MLK Day's classes schedule. If the state Legislature makes MLK Day a state holiday, then this option will be moot.

### Honors Recognition for Transfer/Readmitted Students

Ms. Karen Jones presented a proposal for transfer/readmitted students to be able to receive Honors Recognition upon graduation. The following motion was approved by Academic Council:

Honors Recognition: any undergraduate student who completes degree requirements with a final grade-point average of 3.75 and earned a minimum of 48 quality hours (earned hours on a regular letter grade basis) at Winthrop.

This recommendation will be presented at the next Faculty Conference for approval.

## **Old Business**

Report from GRADES Group

Ms. Margaret Williamson presented the GRADES group's wording for an intervention policy for students placed on probation. The Council passed a motion to approve the wording as follows:

The Registrar will notify advisors/student services offices of the names and social security numbers of undergraduate students placed on academic probation.

The student will be notified of his/her probationary status at the end of each term through the grade notification process and through a letter from the individual colleges. The student will be instructed in the letter to consult with his/her advisor or student services office by the fee payment deadline for the next semester to see if any changes should be made to the student's schedule. A student who plans to take summer school classes should see her/his advisor or student services officer immediately upon learning of her/his probationary status.

The advisor and/or student services official will notify the registrar whether or not any changes should be made to the student's schedule. For tracking purposes, the registration office must be notified if the advisor or student services office has contact with a student on probation after probation notices are sent.

## **New Business**

### **SGA Proposal for "Plus" Grades**

Mr. Trevor Beauford presented a proposal from the Student Government Association to "restructure and update the current grading policy to the plus only system. There was discussion regarding not having minus grades and why the faculty would not be in favor of plus grades only. Trevor will give the Council's comments to the next SGA president.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.