

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**  
**ACADEMIC COUNCIL MINUTES**  
September 5, 2008

Academic Council met on Friday, September 5, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in 308 Tillman Hall.

Members:

Beth Greene		Chasta Parker	Chemistry
Costner	Mathematics	Hemant	Management and
Chad Dresbach	Design	Patwardhan	Marketing
Matthew Fike	English		Management and
	Management and	Marilyn Smith	Marketing
Steve Frankforter	Marketing	Julian Smith	Biology
Susan Green	Center for Pedagogy	Sue Spencer	Center for Pedagogy
Mark Hamilton	Fine Arts	Gale Teaster*	Library
Mel Horton	Health and Physical Ed	Will Thacker	Computer Science
	Sociology and		Council of Student
Kelly James	Anthropology	Tatiana Sosa*	Leaders
Mark Mitchell	Center for Pedagogy	Tim Drueke	Registrar, Secretary
Donna Nelson	Psychology		

\* Absent

Guests present: Cheryl Fortner-Wood, Karen Jones, Tom Moore, Tom Polaski, and Jennie Rakestraw

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chair Costner.

### **I. Minutes**

The minutes of the April 11, 2008 meeting were approved.

### **II. Chair's Remarks**

Chair Costner welcomed everyone to the new year. She expressed her excitement in starting and looks forward to working with everyone.

### **III. Vice President of Academic Affairs' Remarks**

Dr. Moore welcomed everyone to this year's council. He thanked everyone for agreeing to serve this year. He restated his statement at the Academic Leadership Retreat that this year is a year of completions, needs, and musts. This year he wants to look at ways we can align programs to better accommodate double majors, dual degrees and five years to masters programs. Additional discussions with regard to the seamless transfer of credit will be undertaken. In Columbia, degree completion is a big concern; as an institution, we may need to rethink some of the ways we do things. Dr. Moore indicated the council will be

instrumental in this process, and we need to address these issues before outside pressures require us to address them.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

##### ***A. Committee on Undergraduate Instruction***

Chad Dresbach, Chair of the Committee on Undergraduate Instruction, introduced the members of CUI: Mel Horton, from the Richard W. Riley College of Education; Steve Frankforter, from the College of Business; and Chasta Parker, from the College of Arts and Sciences. CUI will have its first meeting of the year on September 16.

##### ***B. General Education***

Donna Webster-Nelson introduced the members of the General Education committee who are also on the Council: Chasta Parker and Chad Dresbach. The General Education Committee will meet on September 11 and October 30.

#### **V. Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **VI. New Business**

##### ***A. Vision of Distinction Items***

Chair Costner noted that in the Academic Life section of this year's Vision of Distinction there is an item calling for the study of joint and double majors. Dr. Costner noted the Academic Council needs to take a leadership role in this conversation as the University-wide group tasked with curricular matters. She then asked for volunteers willing to serve on a subcommittee to examine existing majors and identify those that seem to fit together and the potential issues with such mergers. Kelly James, Mark Hamilton, Hemant Patwardhan, and Sue Spencer volunteered. Chair Costner and Registrar Drueke will be available for consultation.

##### ***B. Faculty Governance Review***

Tom Polaski was in attendance to discuss the faculty governance review report that was distributed in April. The Council spent several minutes discussing the report.

## **VII. Announcements**

Registrar Drueke reminded the Council of upcoming deadlines: September 9, S/U election deadline; September 15, May 2009 Undergraduate Degree application deadline.

Having finished the agenda and seeing no other announcements Chair Costner declared the meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy A. Drueke  
Secretary