

Minutes of Academic Staff Meeting October 30, 2009

PRESENT: D. Anderson, B. Austin, B. Bonner, R. Cismaru, J. Foley, R. Giberson, J. Gustafson, D. Heinrichs, H. Horan, E. Johnson, S. Khan, A. Lavack (Chair), T. Levit, W. Lockhart, G. Peng, A. Pitariu, M. Rennie, A. Rubalcava, D. Schoenhofen, B. Schumacher, D. Senkow, B. Shupe, S. Steen, C. Street, G. Sylvestre, W. Tebb, S. Tucker, Z. Zhang

REGRETS: M. Costiuk, S. Lukasewich, A. Meis Mason

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion regarding a proposed Business Minor:

Faculty members discussed the proposed Business minor. Among the key discussion points were the following:

- The Business minor is intended for students outside of the business faculty (e.g., Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, etc.).
- Senior Administration at the University of Regina has expressed a desire for more cooperation and collaboration between faculties; offering a Business minor would represent a strong form of cooperation.
- Since many students from other faculties ultimately end up working in business, offering a Business minor would provide a significant service by giving them tools for working in a business environment (i.e., currently many students from other faculties eventually go into business or management roles with no preparation or knowledge in this area).
- We are committed to offering a minimum of one additional section in four key 200-level courses (i.e., a total of 4 additional sections), in order to ensure that there are sufficient classroom seats available for students interested in pursuing a Business minor.
- If demand is much higher than expected, we will seek additional resources from the VP (Academic) in order to meet the demand.
- Concern was expressed about competition for spaces in BUS classes between our own Business Administration degree students and new Business minor students. We are committed to finding a way to manage course demand so that our BBA students will not be disadvantaged.
- The proposed configuration of 6 courses represents what we will be proposing that other faculties adopt as a Business minor. Most degree programs at the University of Regina have at least 18 credit hours of open electives, which students could fill with a Business minor.

- The proposed configuration of 6 courses was discussed at length in the Undergraduate Program Committee, and represents their best recommendation for providing students with an academically coherent program that ensures flexibility.

Since time available did not permit discussion of the MBA International program, another Academic Staff Meeting has been scheduled for Friday, November 5 from 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon.

Faculty members are encouraged to review the proposal and bring any concerns to James Gustafson prior to the November 5 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.