Committee Name: University Committee on Undergraduate Education

Committee Chairperson: Cynthia Crump Taggart

Summary of Committee Activities and Actions for Fall Semester 2014:

Curricular actions:

1. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request to lift the moratorium on admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. (9/4)

2. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for an extension on the moratorium on admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Diagnostic Molecular Science. (9/4)

3. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and approved the addition to the list of courses considered for admission and requiring a minimum gpa of 2.5, and the addition of KIN 228 to the list of requirements for the BS degree requiring a minimum gpa of 2.0. (9/4)

4. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education, following receipt of clarifying information from the department of Kinesiology, duly considered and endorsed the curricular changes as outlined in the response from the Athletic Training program. (9/18)

5. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the Request for a New Agricultural Technology Certificate in Applied Horse Science. (9/18)

6. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the Request for a New Minor In Korean Studies with the following considerations:
   - Adjust course titles that would reflect both the language and cultural components.
   - Indicate how students will become conversant with digital technologies.
   - Consider naming the program “Minor in Korean” rather than “Minor in Korean Studies” for purposes of consistency. (9/18)

7. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and approved the grade requirements and endorsed the Request to Change the Admission as a Junior in Nursing to Admission to the College in the College of Nursing retaining the alternate track statement in the catalogue language and deleting the word “may “in this section to read, “…in the Nursing major leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in the College of Nursing complete and alternative track…” (9/18)
8. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Minor in American Studies. (9/18)

9. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a moratorium on admission to the specialization in Design. (10/2)

10. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Agricultural Technology Certificate in Fruit, Vegetable, and Organic Horticulture Management. (10/2)

11. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request to change requirements to the degree program, and approves the change to the list of courses that currently require a grade of 2.0 in each course for admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Packaging. (10/2)

12. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new minor in Technology Systems Management. (10/2)

13. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new minor in Graphic Design but recommends that the application not be forwarded through faculty governance until it includes an assessment plan. (10/2)

14. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and approved the limited enrollment criteria and endorses the request for a New Bachelor of Arts Degree in Early Care and Education in Collaboration with the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). (10/16)

15. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Agricultural Technology Certificate in Fruit and Vegetable Crop Management. (11/13)

16. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Agricultural Technology Certificate in Agricultural Operations. (11/13)

17. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Agricultural Technology Certificate in Landscape Management. (11/13)

18. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request to phase out and discontinue the undergraduate Specialization in Sustainability. (11/13)

19. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a moratorium on admission to the Specialization in Women, Gender and Social Justice. (11/13)

20. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Minor in Pharmacology and Toxicology with the following recommendations:
   - In the Academic Programs Catalog Text, Item #1, b. 3. consider replacing the words “non-science” with “science in context,” “history, philosophy, and sociology of science,” or something similar.
- Work with other units to create a list that courses advisors could use to suggest as alternatives. (12/4)

21. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a new Agricultural Technology Certificate in Livestock Industries. (12/4)

22. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and approved the request for changes in the linked Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication and Master of Arts Degree in Communication. (12/4)

23. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a moratorium on admission to the Specialization in Postcolonial and Diaspora Literature and Culture. (12/4)

Other actions and activity:
1. The Committee agreed that the secretary for the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education shall attend Committee meetings and prepare minutes for review and approval by committee membership. (9/4)

2. The Committee agreed to allow the chairperson the flexibility to craft final language for motions and documents and to take votes by email on issues already discussed with the provision that, if any one member objects, the issue will return to the agenda at the next meeting. A quorum is required for the vote to be valid. (9/4)

3. The Committee agreed to allow the chairperson the authority and autonomy to call additional meetings. (9/4)

4. The Committee agreed to allow the chairperson to grant and remove voice for visitors to UCUE meetings without a formal committee vote. (9/4)

5. The Committee agreed to continue to use the Procedure Regarding Public Comment, as approved by UCAP on November 19, 2009, to guide public comment in UCUE meetings 2014-15. (9/4)

6. The Committee agreed that member substitutes--i.e., members of faculty or students who are a part of the same constituency as the elected member--shall be allowed the same voting rights as the committee members at that meeting. Constituencies will determine how committee substitutes are chosen. (9/4)

7. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the changes to the University policy on the Integrity of Scholarship and Grades. UCUE recommended that the changes be forwarded to the University Committee on Graduate Studies for consideration and comment. (9/18)

8. There was discussion about the role that UCUE should play relative to the evaluation of assessment plans. Most committee members felt strongly that assessment plans should be part of the package. If they were required but not included, then they would prefer not to review the packet until the information was included. It was also noted that the guidelines for assessment plans should be updated in line with UCLL recommendations. (10/2)
9. The Committee discussed the list of issues generated by the Faculty Senate survey. Members felt that the most important governance issues within their purview should be tackled by choosing three issues that would improve overall support for undergraduate education. These items include:
   - Shift from tenure stream to fixed term faculty;
   - Lack of funding tied to student education or way of connecting tuition dollars with courses taught;
   - Integrating international students and students of diverse backgrounds.

Issues that were important to UCUE but were previously addressed included:
   - MOOCs: UCUE has been re-charged with forming a joint subcommittee with the University Committee on Graduate Education to continue this discussion. Kiki Edozie and Dan Bergan volunteered to continue this work.
   - Plagiarism/honor code: ASMSU is discussing and will bring a proposal back to UCUE.
   - Grade inflation: UCUE discussed grade inflation and if it is a current problem at MSU. UCUE members agreed that attempts to resolve grade inflation may create additional issues. UCUE agreed that they are not pursuing a discussion on grade inflation at this time but is interested in seeing a presentation about STEM research that is being discussed at the CIC.

The Committee formed a subcommittee to address strategies to improve undergraduate education concerns with an emphasis on identifying actionable items that could be pursued from a measurement standpoint or an implementation standpoint. (10/16)

Projected Activities and Items:
1. Consideration of the revision of Integrity of Scholarship and Grades Policy following UGS’s recommendations for the Policy.
2. Concern was expressed that the current enrollment system allows students to enroll in classes with overlapping times. This has created problems for some faculty who have students leaving early or coming late as a result. It was also noted that this can cause problems with the availability of seats for students who must have the course. Associate Provost Estry indicated he would follow up with the Registrar’s office about this and report back to UCUE.
3. The subcommittee formed to address strategies to improve undergraduate education concerns with an emphasis on identifying actionable items that could be pursued from a measurement standpoint or an implementation standpoint will continue its work.
4. Discussion of Midsemester formative feedback for faculty
5. Consideration of request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Media Arts and Technology
6. Consideration of request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Bachelor of Science Degree in Media and Communication Technology