To: Jaqueline Wright,
Secretary for Academic Governance

From: Laura Dillon
Chair, University Committee on Undergraduate Education

Re: UCUE Report for 2012 – 2013

Below, the “Committee” refers to the “University Committee on Undergraduate Education.”

1. The committee agreed to allow the chairperson the authority and autonomy to call additional meetings. (9/6)

2. The Committee agreed to allow the UCUE 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. (9/6)

3. The Committee agreed to allow the chairperson to grant and remove voice for visitors to UCUS meetings without a formal committee vote. (9/6)

4. The Committee in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new minor in Defense Studies and Leadership. (9/6)

5. The Committee heard presentations on Desire2Learn, the learning management system that will replace Angel, and TurnItIn, a teaching tool for helping faculty and students assess student writing. (9/6)

6. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to add a course to a list of required courses that require a minimum grade-point average of 2.00 for the Bachelor of Arts degree in Hospitality Business. (9/20)

7. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new coordinate major Lyman Briggs College - Neuroscience. (9/20)

8. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium on admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Diagnostic Molecular Medicine. (9/20)

9. The Committee heard a presentation on the need for a Grief Absence Policy for students. An ad hoc subcommittee was formed to review the issues. (9/20)

10. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had regrets but no concerns about the request to phase out and discontinue the disciplinary teaching minor in Anthropology. (9/20)

11. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to update the requirements for the Integrative
Studies program by removing the requirement for enrollment in AL 201 writing tutorial by students with a grade of 1.0 or 1.5. Students may repeat the Tier I writing course instead. (10/4)

12. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/18)

13. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to limit students in the major to a maximum of 70 credits in Theatre and Dance courses in the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre. (10/18)

14. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/4)

15. The progress made by the Grief Absence Subcommittee and offered commentary. Key issues addressed included how to communicate the policy to students and faculty; reporting process must be easy, handled with one email or phone call; need to establish timelines for notification and appropriate documentation; need to link grief policy with code of teaching responsibility; reporting should be centralized. (12/13)

16. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/4)

17. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/4)

18. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/4)

19. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new Bachelor of Arts degree in Experience Architecture. (10/4)

20. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to change the admission to the college requirements in the College of Engineering. (1/24) However, after a brief discussion of the request to change the graduation requirements for all majors in the College of Engineering, the Committee decided to table the item for review when college representatives were available to attend the meeting. (1/24)

21. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to change the graduation requirements for all majors in the College of Engineering. (1/24)

22. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium extension on admission to the Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science. (1/10)

23. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium extension on admission to the Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Science. (1/10)

24. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new undergraduate specialization in Beverage Science and Technology. (1/10)

25. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new undergraduate specialization in LGBTQ and Sexuality Studies. (1/10)

26. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to change the graduation requirements for all majors in the College of Engineering. (1/24)

27. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium extension on admission to the undergraduate specialization in Sustainability. (1/24)

28. The Committee endorsed the pilot proposed by Lyman Briggs College and the linkages to the learning outcomes assessment work being conducted in Integrative Studies. The University Committee on Undergraduate Education would like an update on the progress of the pilot in three years. (2/7)
24. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a new minor in Arts and Cultural Management. However, the committee suggests initiation of discussion with other units interested in being on the list of units with acceptable credits, such as the College of Music and the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities. (2/21)

25. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium on admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Computational Chemistry. (2/21)

26. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to change the admission requirement for the specialization in Information Technology. However, the committee questioned whether MTH 124, MTH 132, or some alternate MTH course would best serve as the appropriate foundation for CSE 231. UCUE recommends that, over time, further discussion and study be undertaken in this regard. (3/14)

27. The Committee discussed and commented on a draft policy prepared by the Grief Absence Subcommittee. The Committee’s discussion brought forward issues that require further consideration and comment by the Ad Hoc Subcommittee. (3/14)

28. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request for a moratorium on admission to the Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. (3/28)

29. The Committee heard a presentation about pilots for a new model of integrative studies; the purpose of the pilots is to determine what a more integrated approach to integrative studies might do to impact student learning. In addition to the pilot courses, an assessment initiative had been undertaken. (3/28)

30. The Committee was charged by Associate Provosts Youatt and Curry with administration of the 5-year performance review for the Doug Estry, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

31. The Committee, in its consultative capacity to the Provost, had no concerns about the request to eliminate the award type of ‘Specialization’ at the undergraduate level and convert existent undergraduate specializations to minors or with the request to change the policy definition of a minor. However, the Committee recommends that the UCC clarify the constraints on the relationship between a major and a minor (see page 5 of the proposal, the 4th sentence of Minor definition: “Minors are not open to students who are in majors in the field of study represented by the minor, and minors may be limited to students in particular majors or colleges.”). (4/25)

32. The Committee elected Cynthia Taggart to replace Laura Dillon as UCUE Chairperson; Matt Pontifex to replace Ryan Sweeter as UCUE Vice Chairperson; Abraham Wheeler to continue as UCUE Liaison to UCLL; Ryan Sweeder to replace Fred Fico as UCUE Liaison to MEAC; and Jan Brady to continue as UCUE Liaison to the Athletic Council. (4/25)

Activities Planned for next year:
1. Consideration of a Grief Absence Policy for Students.
2. Administer process of a 5-year review of Associate Provost Estry.