UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA **ACADEMIC SENATE • Merced Division**

Undergraduate Council (UGC)
Minutes of Meeting
March 10, 2010

I. Meeting
Pursuant to call, the Undergraduate Council met at 10:00 am on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, in Room 232 of the Kolligian Library, Chair Susan Amussen presiding.

II. Chair's Report – Susan Amussen
The Applied Mathematics Program Review is scheduled for April, 2010.

III. Consent Calendar
Agenda approved as presented.

IV. Report from the March 5 BOARS Meeting – Chair Amussen

- California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott has signed an MOU with Kaplan University. Under this agreement, students would be eligible for transfer UC credit. This could become problematic as there is no mechanism that would allow UC to be aware of those courses' content and quality. The Senate is asked to retroactively support this MOU for which it was not consulted during its development. The BOARS Articulation and Evaluation subcommittee is currently discussing this matter and is considering the implementation of some criteria for those courses.
- BOARS is considering publicizing the new criteria for admissions and outreach, disseminating information to counselors and principals about the requirements for UC admission and how they are changing.
- UCPB Position Paper on Differential Fees and NRT - BOARS is strongly opposed to the implementation of differential fees by campus.
- Comprehensive Review and how it is implemented across the system. A report will be shared with campuses upon completion. BOARS will be making recommendations on best practices.

V. Program Review – Applied Mathematics
Surveys will be distributed to UGC for review and approval before being sent to faculty and students.

VI. Report from the CRF Subcommittee
(A list of approved courses is available on crops, in the March 10 meeting folder)
The Subcommittee reviewed 15 SSHA courses, 6 ENG courses and 3 NS courses.
There was some discussion about ENVE 164: it is listed as a four unit course with three contact hours. Most science and engineering courses expect their students to get four contact hours for four units courses.
Given that ENVE 164 is a revised CRF, members agreed to approve it with the recommendation that the ENG curriculum committee revisit the contact hours/number of units issue.

The remaining courses were approved as presented.

VII. Schools Catalog Changes

A. Proposed School of Natural Sciences Limit Early Policy - *Dean Pallavicini*

Proposed Policy:

Majors in the School of Natural Sciences are competitive and space is limited. Students must make appropriate degree progress to remain in any Natural Sciences major.

Students in the Natural Sciences must meet the following requirements to continue in the School:

All students must pass the following courses with a C- or better prior to the start of the third regular (fall/spring) semester. If they fail to do this, they are ineligible for continued enrollment in a Natural Sciences major and are removed to undeclared status.

- **Either Math 5 or Math 11 or Math 21**
- **Either Chem 1 or Chem 2**

Students may repeat a course only one time (for a total of two attempts to earn a C- or better).

If students do not complete these requirements, they may take these courses at another institution and petition to be readmitted to the School of Natural Sciences.

Students who have been removed from the major for academic reasons must meet the following requirements in order to petition to be re-admitted to the School of Natural Sciences:

- **Cumulative University of California grade point average of at least 2.0**
- **Current semester grade point average of at least 2.0**
- **Major grade point average of 2.5**
- **Completion of all lower division courses with grades of C- or higher.**

Under the proposed policy, majors in SNS need to complete their ramp-up chemistry or ramp-up math or calculus prior to the beginning of their third semester at UCM and may repeat a course only one time. This policy is proposed to help students identify early the likelihood of their success at UCM. If students do not complete these requirements, they are encouraged to take those courses in summer sessions or at a Community College and petition to be readmitted to the School of Natural Sciences.

Mid-semester grades will be used to monitor students who are not making progress. The NS faculty has already met with the Registrar and talked about generating an end of term report for those particular courses. The Sciences advising staff will send out regular reminders of the policy to all the sciences students.

Based on analyses done by the School of Natural Sciences, students who are not making progress will be able to be identified early and will be redirected to other majors if needed.

Students who are undeclared or enrolled in another major would have to have those requirements covered before enrolling in any major in the SNS. The School encourages students who are removed from the NS major to be moved to undeclared status and receive guidance from the SALC.

The mathematics faculty is talking about creating a different kind of quantitative course that would be suitable for SSHA and non-science majors.

UGC members discussed the pros and cons of the proposed limit early policy. It was noted that C- is considered as a passing grade at UCM; however it is not considered passing for professional schools. This may put UCM's students at a disadvantage. UGC may consider revamping the current language of the Repeat policy to emphasize the number of times a course can be repeated. Revisions would also include some language about the appropriate Dean who will be making the exception.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the proposed NS Limit Early policy.

Action: UGC Chair will ask the policy subcommittee to draft a policy on C as a passing grade for inclusion in next year's Catalog.

B. School of Natural Sciences 2.0 GPA Minimum Requirement Policy – Dean Pallavicini
Proposed policy:
All courses required for completion of a major in Natural Sciences must be passed with a grade of C- or better, not to include general education courses taken outside of Natural Sciences and Engineering. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 2.0 GPA in all major coursework.

In her March 8 memo to UGC (please refer to the memo on crops), Dean Pallavicini addressed some concerns previously raised by committee members: 1) potential conflicts of C- and 2.0 GPA minimum; 2) clarification of courses covered by the 2.0 cumulative GPA policy; 3) process for students not meeting the minimum cumulative GPA requirement and 4) process for monitoring the policy.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the School of Natural Sciences 2.0 GPA Minimum Requirement Policy.

C. Environmental Science and Sustainability revised minor
The revised proposal addresses UGC's concerns about the program learning outcomes.
Action: UGC recommends approval of the proposed minor in Environmental Science and Sustainability.

D. SSHA Catalog changes
- Revised History major: proposed revisions include a History capstone and the History Honors program.

- Revised Arts minor: removal of ARTS 007 and inclusion of "any GASP course".
- Anthropology major: deletion of the following language "pending the approval of our accreditation agency, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges", since the anthropology major is officially approved by WASC.
- Sociology major: removal of the following language "pending the approval of our accreditation agency, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges", since the sociology major is officially approved by WASC.
- Revised Psychology major program learning outcomes.
- Revised scores for the Foreign Language Program (changed from 4 to 5).

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the above noted changes to the SSHA Catalog.

D. Applied Mathematics (AMS)

Applied Mathematics updated their revisions according to the UGC March 3 recommendations.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the AMS Catalog changes.

E. Physics Catalog Changes

UGC recommended the addition of BIO 101 and 161.

F. NSED Catalog Changes

A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the NSED Catalog changes.

VIII. Proposed SSHA Minor in Interdisciplinary Public Health

Action: UGC recommends approval of the Interdisciplinary Public Health minor with an effective date of spring 2010.

IX. UGC Memos

A. Final Exams memo to Schools Curriculum Committees
B. Tutoring memo to SALC

Both memos have been circulated within the committee for input and will be distributed on March 4.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Attest:

Susan Amussen, Chair

Minutes prepared by:
Fatima Paul.