17 March 2011

Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting
17 March 2011

Chair Stan Howard called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Senators present: Drs. Jason Hower, Marius Ellingsen, Dan Kratzer, John Dreyer, Frank Matejcik, PV Sundareshwar, Larry Stetler, Chuck Kliche, Bill Cross, Travis Kowalski, Thomas Fontaine, Chip Tolle, and Al Boysen, with Michael Foygel missing. Dr. Henry Mott and Dr. Dana Medlin were also in attendance.

The agenda for today’s meeting was approved by general consent without objection. Upon motion by David with second by Larry, the minutes of the 10 February 2011 Faculty Senate were approved.

Report from the Chair
A. President Wharton as requested meeting with the Senate, invited to attend in April.
B. Cabinet Meeting Report – Dr. David Boyles
   All tobacco products banned from use on campus
   Resolution from the Student Senate regarding advising
C. Academic Calendar Working Group
   BOR group to consider changes to state academic calendar practices
   School year start date, number of academic days per semester
   Issues referred to senators via email with discussion in April
D. Faculty Senate approval of Mr. James Green for honorary doctorate at Spring 2011 commencement.
   Results of email vote follows the minutes

Reports of Standing Committees
E. Academic Affairs:

   BME Non-Thesis Option, Dr. Dana Medlin
   Not currently an approved degree for BME program
   Non-Thesis option offered when BME program was going to end
   Currently 4 students without qualified on-campus advisors
   Non-Thesis Option would meet campus non-thesis requirements
   Non-Thesis only approved for 4 students
   Mary Lynn Huber
   Madhu N. Panchakshari
   Christopher Allen Rangel
   Naresh Reddy Vemula

Motion by Bill, seconded by P.V. to approve a non-thesis masters degree for the 4 students in question.

Discussion
   Why was there not a non-thesis option originally? Unknown
   Why is Senate being asked to approve this request? Policy of BME program not Senate
   Dr. Logar requested Senate approval
   Let minutes show we have considered this issue and referred approval to the BME
   Program Director
Let minutes show Senate we have considered the issue and support the student’s situation.

Dr. Boyles called the question and voting on the motion 6 vote in favor with 5 against and 2 abstaining, the motion passes.

**SDSM&T BS Degree Curricular Requirements**

Proposal created at working meeting of 8 faculty members

Motion by David, seconded by Bill to approve the proposed modification to the BS Curricular Requirements on 1st reading. Motion passes with 1 dissenting vote.

**Discussion**

Where did 25% of total credits required come from? 25% is an increase from 32 current to 34 proposed. Does this limit what credits can be deleted if we need to decrease the number of credits.

Change 25% to 32 credit hours

Proposed modification will create a requirement that students must take 3 credits of upper level humanities or social sciences.

Could SDSM&T request 300-level HUM/SS course into the general education requirement (Goal#3 and Goal#4) to offer better balance between course loads, course sizes, and number of courses offered.

Central issue might be 12 or 15 required credit hours of HUM/SS courses

Why reduce HUM/SS content – expansion of discipline specific courses

**Curriculum Requests**

Motion by Bill, seconded by Tom to include the BS EnvE program modification in the approval of March Curriculum committee request approvals. Motion carries.

Motion by Bill, seconded by Jason to approve the March 2011 Curriculum Requests that were approved by the Curriculum committee and the BS EnvE program modification. The motion passes with 2 dissenting votes and 2 abstentions.

F. **Research and Scholarly Affairs:**

   *Ethics and NSF requirement (with Academic Affairs) – report in April*

G. **Finance and Personnel:**

   No Report

H. **Student Affairs:**

   No Report

I. **University Relations:**

   *Weekly Webcast to include other campus programs beyond athletics*

   Contact Dan Kratzer if you are interested.

J. **Senate Bylaws**

   No Report

**Old Business**
1. Campus Committee Restructuring in progress
2. Student Opinion Surveys, Dr. Travis Kowalski
   - Campus response rate has decreased from ~80% to ~60% with online administration
   - Data suggests an increase in bimodal behavior of the responses with the middle voices decreasing in number
   - Senate to discuss the scope and frequency of student opinion surveys at April meeting
Motion by David, seconded by Larry that we recommend to Dr. Hrnčíř that student opinion surveys not be required for every class, every semester. The motion passes
   - Discussion
   - Frequency of survey tied to rank and position in promotion process
   - Custom question responses should be returned

**New Business**

1. None

Upon motion by David, seconded by Chuck, the meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.
Proposed (replaces below statements in the catalog)

Curricular Requirements
Each Bachelor of Science program is required to have a curriculum that satisfies the requirement of the accreditation of the respective degree program. Additionally, the curriculum for each BS degree must satisfy the general education core requirements of the South Dakota Board of Regents. Bachelor of Science degree programs must also satisfy the following requirements:

a. Thirty-two (32) credit hours of the required credits must be a combination of college-level mathematics (College Algebra and above) and natural sciences appropriate to the program. Additionally, each Bachelor of Science graduates is required to complete Calculus I (Math 123).

b. Each Bachelor of Science graduate must complete a minimum of 3 credits of upper division humanities or social sciences coursework.

Each program shall determine the appropriate courses for its curriculum subject to approval through the university curricular review process culminating with approval by the Faculty Senate.

Replaces:

Curricular Requirements
All Bachelor of Science programs require the general education core requirements as described earlier. Other requirements for each degree are determined by the faculty in each program, with approval through the university curriculum approval process. Some of these other program requirements are common to most or all programs offered at School of Mines. These include

A. Mathematical Sciences: all programs, with the exception of interdisciplinary science, geology and mining engineering, require a minimum of 16 credit hours of mathematics at the level of calculus and above.

B. Basic Sciences: minimum of 16 credit hours – CHEM 112, 112L, PHYS 211, and PHYS 213 are required for all engineering curricula.

C. Humanities and social sciences: minimum of 15 or sixteen 16 credit hours - This subject area must include six credits in humanities and 6 credits in social sciences. The number required for each major is listed in the department section of the catalog. Students majoring in engineering must complete at least three of these credits at an advanced level.
28 February 2011
Faculty Senate Email Vote

Under the guidance of Dr. Stan Howard, Faculty Senate Chair, the Senate conducted an email vote to address approval of the Spring 2011 commencement speaker as required before the March BOR meeting.

The motion that Mr. James A. Green to be the SDSM&T spring 2011 commencement speaker and to award him the degree Honorary Doctor of Science at the spring 2011 graduation. Was voted upon by email in a roll-call vote and passed with 14 votes in favor, no votes against, and one voter abstaining.

Dr. David Boyles, Chem  Abstain
Dr. Jason Hower, CBE  Yes
Dr. Thomas Fontaine, CEE  Yes
Dr. Charles Tolle, ECE  Yes
Dr. Larry Stetler, Geo  Yes
Dr. Al Boysen, Hum  Yes
Dr. Frank Matejcik, IEng  Yes
Dr. PV Sundareshwar, IAS  Yes
Dr. Bill Cross, MET  Yes
Dr. Travis Kowalski, MCS  Yes
Dr. Marius Ellingsen, ME  Yes
Dr. Chuck Kliche, MEM  Yes
Dr. John Dryer, SS  Yes
Prof. Dan Kratzer, PE  Yes
Dr. Michael Foygel, Phys  Yes