

MINUTES

Undergraduate Studies Council

January 16, 2008

11:00am-12:00pm

Parties Present:

BROCK, Dawn

CROFT, Lucy

CRUMP, Laurel

JAFFEE, David

JONES, Marnie

KAPLAN, Leslie

KAYE, Deborah

MURILLO, Michael

PAULSON, Chuck

PERRY, Martina

REEDY, Karen

ROBERTS, Rick

SCHWAM-BAIRD,
Shira

TANNER, Diane

TAYLOR, Melody

TAYLOR, Rudy

WILLIAMS, Sharon

1. Introduction of new Undergraduate Studies Executive Secretary, Melody Taylor.
2. Approval of minutes from 12/12/07.
3. David Jaffee reported that a proposal for an undergraduate coordinator has been sent to Provost Mark Workman. It was reported that the Provost has communicated this initiative to the deans and is working to move the process forward. Workman has also discussed making changes to the structure of academic advising with the deans.
4. UNF Reads Program
 - I. Marnie Jones thanked Council members for their efforts with this project. A handout was distributed detailing recommendations from the UNF Reads Subcommittee.
 - II. The program was discussed:
 - a. What would be the best way to get faculty energized and involved?
 - b. To what extent will the text be used in fall classes? Which classes and how many faculty members will participate?
 - c. Leslie Kaplan reported that the *Freakonomics* text will be incorporated into ENC 1101. It was suggested by other members that it also be incorporated into social science and honors courses.
 - d. It was established that the books will be purchased for the first round of participating freshmen by UNF; the orientation fee will be increased and \$5-10 will be banked each year for

- the purchase of future books. Paperback editions will be available in late February and will be ordered at that time.
- e. There was discussion about using the same text for two years to facilitate conversation between the first and second round of students. It was determined that Marnie Jones would speak with the Gen Ed Council about this proposal.
 - f. There was discussion about the mission of this program and how other schools have implemented a successful freshman reading program. Suggestions were made to create a broad culture on campus centered around the themes of the text, including music, dramas, scholarly lectures, and bringing the author(s) to speak on campus. Lucy Croft and Laurel Crump agreed to look further into the possibility of bringing one or both of the authors to speak.
 - g. Other suggestions were made to encourage student readership and interest in the text:
 - i. Promo info is being prepared to be included in orientation materials.
 - ii. It was suggested that a website be created, possibly with a blog. Dawn Brock agreed to help with this initiative.
 - iii. Leslie Kaplan stated that the text will be incorporated into two FIGs with research projects centered around the text with economics and sociology themes.
 - iv. It was suggested that RAs be encouraged to get involved.
 - v. Chuck Paulson suggested that a panel of local influential guests be formed to engage in student discussion surrounding the themes of the text (ex., Delaney, Glover, Corrigan).
 - vi. There was discussion about incorporating the text into fall convocation, orientation, WOW.
 - h. Laurel Crump recommended that the program be implemented for a minimum of five years before gauging its success, as there are numerous variables in assessing the program in its implementation stage.

5. Academic Roadmaps Program

- I. David Jaffee addressed the group and distributed a handout including an example of an academic roadmap and a sheet stating the purpose and goals of the project. Each college on campus has been asked to prepare sample roadmaps for two of their programs, all using the same format.

- II. The program was discussed:
 1. Purposes
 - a. It would give a clear outline for undergraduate students of how to proceed through their program of study, which would:
 - i. be useful in choosing a major for an undecided student;
 - ii. provide guidance in addition to academic advising for a student whose major has been chosen.
 - b. The program would give faculty an idea of how students should be progressing, which would:
 - i. provide feedback on how to strengthen academic programs;
 - ii. force thought about scheduling of courses and how this can be improved.
 2. The program was further discussed:
 - a. How would this affect part-time students and non-traditional students?
 - b. Would there be a penalty for students who do not comply with guidelines?
 - c. Would there be a universal policy for implementing roadmaps? One member suggested that there be flexibility to allow for differences in programs and colleges, where some are more rigid in nature and others can be more flexible.
 - d. It was suggested that the academic roadmaps eventually be placed in the course catalog and made widely available in advising offices and online. It was also suggested that the roadmaps be made interactive with the registration process.
 - e. It was stated that the goal is to have all Academic Roadmaps completed by the end of the academic year and implemented by Fall, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.