

SENATE COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

MINUTES

October 1, 2020 ~ 2:30 pm 4:30 pm
Remote Connection via Zoom/Video Conferencing

Attendees: W. Parkhouse (Chair), E. Elle (Vice Chair), K. Nordgren (secretary), L. Campbell, M. Crouch, D. Hik, P. Kingsbury, G. Liosis, M. MacDonald, K. Masri, N. Modi, E. Park, P. Pasquier, M. PinterCollett, N. van Houten, K. Verkerk, K. Whittle

Guest: Steve Birnie (Associate Registrar, Information, Records & Registration Services, Student Enrollment)

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda was

COURSE CHANGES (SCUS 2067)

The following course changes, effective Summer 2021, were approved by delegated authority.

a. Faculty of Education

- (i) Description change for EDUC 401W

b. Faculty of Science

1. Department of Statistics and Actuarial Sciences

- (i) Deletion of STAT 341

NEW COURSE PROPOSALS

a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 2068)

1. School of Sustainable Energy Engineering

Motion 2

It was moved by E. Park and seconded by K. Masri

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information a New Course Proposal: SEE 488; Directed Studies in Sustainable Energy Engineering effective Summer 2021.”
CARRIED

PROGRAM CHANGES

a. Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 2069)

1. School of Computing Science

Motion 3

It was moved by E. Park and seconded by L. Campbell

“that SCUS approve under delegated authority and send to Senate for information the division requirement changes to the Computing Science and Linguistics Joint Major program effective Summer 2021.”
CARRIED

noted the need for support from the faculties to ensure exam scheduling change requests do not come en masse to the Registrar's office and the need to establish a process for approval from a dean or dean's designate if there is a scheduling change request after publication of the schedule

All agreed that the implementation of exam scheduling in Infosilem was a great success and were excited about the many scheduling issues that were addressed.

b. Academic Probation

The Chair opened this discussion regarding the need to address academic probation ahead into the Fall term, noting that there we will likely see an increase in the number of students on academic probation. He reviewed the previous SCUS discussions raise the number of units completed before students are put on academic probation, the need to provide mandatory advisory, and the limitations of a technical solution to this issue. Discussion ensued.

The members agreed early intervention to support students in academic difficulty is needed, and acknowledged the challenges with staffing capacity to schedule the increased number of advising appointments that would result SCUS will need to investigate the possibility of hiring temporary advising staff for short term assistance

The Chair added that we do need a permanent solution to support success and to keep in mind the many services available, such as the library's Student Learning Commons (SLC)

The Chair asked SCUS members to forward any ideas, thoughts or concerns on this matter.

c. General Education Curriculum Committee (GECCo) – Consultation Plan

E. Elle provided an overview of m Coersta-1 (E)3 (de) (u)6 (l)ca-1 (i)-1 (o)1 (n)2 (C)2 J 0 Tc 0 Tw 12.33 6 T

- Students are excited about face-to-face lab work even if only limited opportunity to hands on lab work; need to balance the stress of being remote with self-assessment and contact tracing; hope to offer a few more face-to-face courses in Spring; students happy to deal with safety measures in order to get into a lab
- More IT support is needed, especially to deal with overseas students who are living under curfew and curfew regimes;