Minutes of the CSBS Senate Meeting on 2/2/09

Present: Cindy Juby (Chair, Social Work), Annette Lynch (DTGFS), Henry Owusu (Geography), Charlotte Wells (History), Taifa Yu (Political Science), Seth Brown (Psychology), Cyndi Dunn (Soc-Anth-Crim), John Johnson (Interim Dean), Brenda Bass (Associate Dean).

I. Approval of the minutes from 1/26/09

Under the last paragraph of the Dean’s remarks, “some adjunct positions” was substituted for “all adjunct positions.”

Senator Yu noted that two people from Psychology had been nominated for the same teaching award and asked whether this was permitted. The College is permitted to nominate up to two individuals for the Class of 1943 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, but there is no indication that there is any restriction requiring them to be from different departments.

The minutes were approved as corrected.

Dean Johnson introduced Associate Dean Brenda Bass who will be attending senate curriculum meetings during the spring semester.

II. Curriculum review: Design, Textiles, Gerontology & Family Services

DTGFS was represented at the meeting by Howard Barnes and Gary Gute. The proposed changes are all relatively minor, involving changes to course titles, descriptions, and prerequisites. Senator Dunn asked about having four prerequisites for 31F:178. Associate Dean Bass noted that this course is normally taken in the spring of the senior year. All of the prerequisites are required courses that the students should already have taken by that point, so it is not as restrictive as it appears. Senator Brown noted that the title change for 31F:150 from “Family Perspectives in Adulthood and Aging” to “Families and Aging” creates an impression of a stronger focus on older families as opposed to families over a broader timeframe. A few minor typos were noted.

The proposed changes to the DTGFS curriculum were approved unanimously, with or without ampersands.

III. McKay Award

The senate went into executive session to advise the dean on nominees for the McKay Award.

IV. Curriculum review: Public Policy

Public Policy was represented by Al Hayes. The proposed changes were initiated at the request of the registrar and are mostly a matter of adding clarifying language to more clearly distinguish the requirements of the accelerated Master’s in Public Policy from those of the regular Master’s
in Public Policy. The proposed changes to the Accelerated Master’s in Public Policy were
approved unanimously.

V. Comments from Interim Dean Johnson

Given current levels of uncertainty, Dean Johnson was not able to provide additional information
about the budget beyond that provided at the senate meeting the previous week. He will provide
a further update at the next senate meeting on February 16.

It does seem likely that the search for a new CSBS dean will be frozen. Interim Dean Johnson
has declined to serve as Interim Dean beyond the end of this fiscal year.

VI. Resolution on consistency in standards across units, departments, and programs

This is a resolution that Senator Wells brought forward from the history department for
consideration and possible approval by the CSBS Senate. The sense of the resolution is that if
academic programs are currently being forced to undergo program assessment, then
administration and other non-academic components of the university should undergo a similar
type of review.

At the time of the meeting, only Chair Juby had received a copy of the resolution which was
passed by the history department on Dec. 17, 2008. The University Faculty Senate was
scheduled to discuss the academic program assessment process and vote on their own resolution
on January 26, and no one present at the college senate knew the outcome of that meeting. It
was determined to table the issue until the next meeting of the college senate.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Dunn