Minutes of the CSBS Senate Meeting on 2/7/11

Present: Tim Strauss (Chair, Geography), Carol Weisenberger (History), Taifa Yu (Political Science), Cyndi Dunn (SAC), Gowri Betrabet-Gulwadi (SAHS), Jim McCullagh (Social Work), Philip Mauceri (Dean)

I. Approval of the minutes from 1/24/11

The minutes from 1/24/11 were approved with no changes.

II. Curriculum Review: Psychology

Psychology was represented by Carolyn Hildebrandt. Their undergraduate curriculum changes included changes to several course titles and descriptions as well as the introduction of a new, one-hour course Careers in Psychology. This will be a required course for the major. There was some discussion of the need for the course. It is felt that students’ needs for guidance about career planning, course selection, graduate school applications and so forth are not adequately met by the current system of advising and career services. Similar types of professional development courses are being offered in psychology departments at other universities and here at UNI in the College of Business Administration.

Psychology is also proposing several changes to the M.A. in Psychology Clinical Science Emphasis. Two one-hour courses on ethical issues are being combined into one new, three-hour course that will provide better coverage of this material. They are also adding a new graduate-level (6000-level) course on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology and Evidence-Based Treatment. The existing 100-g level course on Child and Adolescent Psychopathology is not sufficiently advanced to meet the needs of graduate students who are being trained for clinical practice. The 100-g level course is designed for undergraduates as well as graduate students in other fields or concentrations who may not have the preparation for the more rigorous 6000-level course.

The final change to the M.A. program is the proposal to increase the Clinical Practicum course from two credits to three credits. Senator McCullagh asked what is the ratio of service hours to credit hours. The Psychology representatives did not have that information with them. It was not clear whether the change from two to three credits represents a 50% increase in the service hours expected of the student or whether it is the ratio of service hours to credit hours that is being adjusted. Some departments list the ratio of service hours to credit hours in the catalog. Psychology may wish to consider adding this information to the course description. If they choose not to list this information in the catalog, the Senate strongly recommends that they create a written policy on the ratio of service hours to credit hours to insure consistency.

It was also noted that the two new graduate courses (PSYCH 6409 and PSYCH 6410) were not marked on Form D Section 3.c as having been approved by the graduate faculty. They have in fact received such approval, and the forms will be amended to note this.

The proposed changes to the Psychology curriculum were approved unanimously.
III. Comments from Dean Mauceri

Dean Mauceri announced that he has been recruiting members for the new external Advisory Board for the college. They plan to have their first meeting during Alumni Days which are scheduled for April 21-22.

The Masters in Public Policy program is currently undergoing its seven-year Academic Program Review.

Due to recent increases in tuition, the university will be making new money available to our college for Multicultural Scholarships aimed at minority recruitment. We hope to receive two such scholarships per year, in addition to the regular CSBS Scholarships.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cyndi Dunn