

**Academic Foundations Committee
Minutes**

March 14, 2006

Present:	Randall Gloege Mark Hardt Bruce Brumley Janii Pedersen (student)	Dan Gretch Connie Landis Lewis Rife (student)
Absent:	Susan Gilbertz – <i>excused</i> Abbas Heiat – <i>excused</i> David Garloff – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> Mary Susan Fishbaugh – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i>	Sandie Rietz – <i>excused</i> Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> Kirk Lacy – <i>ex-officio</i> Mary McNally – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>
Guest:	Dan Gross	
Presiding:	Mark Hardt, Chair	

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. in the Bridger room of the SUB.

The minutes of February 28 were accepted as presented.

I. Second Reading of Submissions from Spring 2006

Item 59.b AF Course: COMT 150 Introduction to Theatre and Performance for Cat. V. Arts and Humanities A. Arts

Item 59.c AF Course: COMT 250 Introduction to Acting for Cat. V. Arts and Humanities A. Arts

- Motion by Bruce Brumley, seconded by Lewis Rife to accept Items 59.b and 59.c on second reading.

It was noted that the course description on the syllabus for these two courses still does not match word-for-word the course descriptions in the catalog. It was cited that both descriptions have the same content, but the syllabus course description is more detailed. Dan Gross noted that the Department of Communication and Theatre has traditionally expanded on the catalog course description in their course syllabi. It was cited that other departments do this as well. Instructors are allowed to amplify the course description according to their expertise. It was stated that the College of Technology has a policy specifically against any elaboration of the course description on the syllabus. It was noted that accreditation agencies may check this sort of thing to see if the course descriptions match.

It was noted that part of our assessment procedure could be the verification that all syllabi have the exact course description included. It was cited that the Academic Senate should establish such a policy.

- Motion carried with one abstention.

Item 47.a REVISED AF Course: FIN 205 Financial Planning for Everyone for Cat. III. Social Sciences

- Motion by Bruce Brumley, seconded by Connie Landis to accept Item 47.a on second reading.

It was noted that this course seems to be much too specific for Academic Foundations. It is not a foundational course. It was cited that the title suggests many different topics, but most of this course is about personal financial management, and very little about society and finances.

- Motion failed with 5 opposed and 1 abstention.

Item 56 Resubmitted AF Course: HON 181 The Ancient and Medieval Worlds for Cat. V. Arts and Humanities A. Arts

- Motion by Randall Gloege, seconded by Bruce Brumley to approve Item 56 on second reading.

It was noted that this course is already in the Humanities category, and that is exactly where it fits. It isn't a fine arts course.

- Motion failed with 5 opposed and 1 abstention.

II. Discussion/Action Items

A. Request from College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Council

It was noted that the CASCC has asked for an update on what we've been doing. It was agreed that the Committee will send the working list of accepted and denied courses to the CASCC.

It was further noted that the CASCC has raised a question about consistency for restricted enrollment courses. It was noted that the AFC accepted one math course that is for elementary education majors, but rejected an art course for the same group.

It was stated that restricted enrollment on a course takes away its foundational nature. It was noted that the main reason there is a restriction for elementary education majors is because of shortages in staffing the required courses. It was noted that technically any student can enter an Honors course if they ask, but does that really hold true, or are those courses restricted as well?

- Motion by Bruce Brumley, seconded by Lewis Rife that the AFC will not allow Academic Foundations courses with restricted enrollments.

It was noted that some courses, such as PSSC 101 and 102 (The Physical World Around Us with Lab), meet all the requirements of Academic Foundations but are specifically designed for elementary education majors.

It was noted that the departments may not have such a problem with open enrollment in all Academic Foundations courses, but the elementary education majors who need courses may have problems. Ultimately, it would be an advising issue—the elementary education majors would have to register as soon as they could.

It was cited that instead of having a restriction included in the course title or description, there could simply be one or two sections reserved solely for elementary education majors. Then a restriction would not be mentioned in the catalog at all.

- Motion by Bruce Brumley, seconded by Lewis Rife to amend the previous motion to: Courses with restricted or preferred enrollments will not be included or accepted into Academic Foundations.

- Motion carried with 4 for, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.