# DEDMAN COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL Minutes from September 21, 2000

The Undergraduate Council met on Thursday, September 21, 2000, at 2:00 p.m. in 121 Dallas Hall. Present: Dean Kathy Hayes, and Dean O.T. Hargrave (*ex officio*), and Professors Melissa Dowling, Raj Deb, Fred Olness, Christine Buchanan and Thomas Arp and student representatives, Read Pierce and Steven Urban. Professors Olga Colbert, Eric Kartchner, Gordon Birrell, and Michael Lusztig were guests.

The meeting was brought to order by Kathy Hayes, Chair of the Undergraduate Council. She welcomed new members, Fred Olness, who is taking the place of Professor Goodson while he is on leave, and the student representatives, Read Pierce and Steven Urban. She also appointed Tom Arp as secretary conditional upon his agreement.

## **Resubmitted Course Proposals:**

The Council reconsidered **Sociology 3305**, *Race and Ethnicity in US*. It had been tabled previously because the Council thought that the instructor should be from the Sociology department. The department changed the instructor listed on the course proposal to show only the name of the Sociology professor. The Council voted to **approve** the course.

The Council reconsidered **English 3335**, *Workers*, *Citizens*, *Men in America*. When it had been submitted earlier as *Workers*, *Citizens*, *Men*, the Council was concerned that it was too similar to another course, ENGL 3359, *Masculinities: Images and Perspectives*. With the title change and a written statement by Professor Travis, clarifying the difference between the content of this course and ENGL 3359, the Council **approved** the course subject to a reduction to 30 words or fewer in the course description.

### **New Course Proposals:**

Professor Colbert attended the meeting with Professor Birrell, to answer questions regarding her course, **SPAN 5365**, **Contemporary Spanish Women Writers**. The Council voted to **approve** the proposal subject to correction of a typographical error in the Field Experience section and a reduction of the number of words in the course description.

Professor Eric Kartchner attended the meeting with Professor Birrell to reply to questions regarding his course proposal, **SPAN 5360**, **The Concept of Honor in Spanish Literature**. This course uses the WebCT as part of the teaching techniques. The course was **approved**.

Professor Michael Lusztig attended the meeting regarding the course, **PLSC 3390**, *Negotiating International Trade*. This course was to replace PLSC 4391, *NAFTA and Trade Policy in the Americas*. The Council had many questions about the simulated exercises in which students would participate. It was expressed that there are no prerequisites for this course and that there should be more emphasis on intellectual content. There also was concern that the 3000 level assigned to this course is too high since students will learn basics. It was explained that there are no prerequisites in Political Science for 3000 level courses; they are all considered basic courses. The Council also suggested that there be more detail in describing methods of evaluation. Though there was interest in the course from many Council members and an opinion that the course is especially valuable to Public Policy majors, the Council decided to **table** the course until the concerns can be addressed.

## **Change of Course Number**

English proposed changing ENGL 5376, *The History of the English Language*, to ENGL 3376. It did not fit in the English program at the 5000 level and the department thought it should be taught to a wider audience. The Council **approved** the course number change.

#### **Change of Title**

The Foreign Language and Literatures department requested a title change for Shuqin Cui's course, **FL 3312**, *Women, Writing, and Identity in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Chinese Literature* to the new title, *Women in Modern China*. They hope to attract more students to the course by changing to a shorter title. The title change was **approved**.

# **Individualized Liberal Arts Degree Plan**

The Council was asked to consider the Individualized Liberal Arts Degree plan of Heather Harper. Her committee includes, Chair, Professor Dennis Foster (English), Professor Michael Lusztig (Political Science), and Professor Leslie Richardson (Lecturer of poetry in English). Her plan, a creative writing major, was **approved.** 

### Announcements

Chemistry 5110 was added after being erroneously deleted from the system.

Approval of Japanese courses to be SMU equivalents to KGU courses taken by SMU students in Japanese countries: JAPN 1501, 3501, 4501, 6501.

The Council approved by email vote in May Julie Wood's Individualized Studies Program

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,