

**DEDMAN COLLEGE
UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Minutes from October 15, 2007**

The Undergraduate Council met Monday, October 15, 2007, at 1 p.m. in 121 Dallas Hall. Present: Deans Cal Jillson, Robb Pocklington; Professors Eric Barnes, Victoria Lockwood, John Maguire, John Mears, Thomas Osang, and Roberto Vega; Katie Taylor of Dedman Records; and student members, Rob Hayden, and Charles Slick.

The meeting was brought to order by Dean Cal Jillson.
Minutes from the September 17, 2007 meeting were approved as written.

Thomas Coan, Professor of Physics joined the meeting to answer questions about the PHYS 3340 course proposal. The following was discussed in regard to the new course:

- This course is a standard offering nationally.
- It covers material that is typically covered in other physics courses. However, it will be beneficial to provide an in-depth study of these skills in order to enhance the student's skills for continued studies.
- Fortran C and Java programming languages will be used, however, no programming language is required as pre-requisite. Professor Coan explained that both "canned" software and learned technical aspects on existing code will be used.
- The course has no pre-requisites and is offered at 3000 level so that students can take it early and use the acquired skills in their higher level physics courses.

New Course Proposal: PHYS 3340: *Computational Physics*
The Council voted to **approve** the proposal.

Van Kemper, Chair of the Department of Anthropology, and Professor Torrey Rick joined the meeting to answer questions about the ANTH 3385 course proposal. The following was discussed in regard to the new course:

- This is an Honors course created for a small class (10-15 students). It is recommended by the Council to add an "H" to the number (i.e. ANTH 3385H).
- In answer to the Council's question on what the Anthropology connection is with this course, Professor Rick explained that environmental problems are global problems dealing with modern culture. Anthropology deals with cross cultural issues as an interdisciplinary offering and environmental issues are included in this.
- Sustainability is an emerging theme within anthropology.
- This course will be included in the new Environment Studies major.
- Professor Rick plans to cover useable technical information to be used on an individual basis (i.e. organic, green, etc.).

The council would like to see more "anthropology" included in the required reading and materials used for this course. It is also being offered as a CF course; however, the basis should be within the discipline of anthropology. It is with this suggestion that the Council voted to approve the course.

New Course Proposal: ANTH 3385H: *Sustainable Living*
The Council voted to **approve** the proposal. (1-abstention)

Professors Bonnie Jacobs and Torrey Rick joined the meeting to discuss the proposal for the Environmental Studies Major. The new major will be housed in the Geology Department and Professor Jacobs will be the advisor. In answer to the Council's concerns regarding the high number of pre-reqs, and the number of hours required to accomplish a double major for other disciplines outside of science area, Professor Jacobs explained that it would require careful advising in the beginning to ensure the student is pursuing the most advantageous course of study to reach their goal. Most students will be double majors and should meet the pre-reqs for the upper level courses through those discipline areas. Additionally, students can meet a number of the pre-reqs while completing their General Education requirements.

It is suggested that Professor Jacobs be invited back next year to give an update on how the progress is going.

New Major Proposal: Environmental Studies
The Council voted to **approve** the proposal. (1-abstention)

Marie Luise Gaettens, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, and Professor Olga Colbert joined the meeting to answer questions about the SPAN 2302 proposal. The following was discussed in regard to the new course:

- This course is a 3 hour offering with no lab component. Along with the 3 days of class instruction, the students will have work to complete outside of the classroom. Professor Colbert explained that this should be sufficient to have the students where they need to be by the end of their second year.
- This course is being offered as a way to expand the second year curriculum in order to better prepare students for third year Spanish courses.
- The course will focus on enhancing student's communicative ability.
- As with all Spanish courses, there is a high demand for this class and there will be no problem filling this class at each offering.

The council felt that the title of *Intermediate Spanish – Second Semester* should be changed to *Intermediate Spanish II*. It is with this change that the Council voted to approve the course.

New Course Proposal: SPAN 2302: *Intermediate Spanish II*
The Council voted to **approve** the proposal.

Meeting was dismissed.

Announcements:

The following course modifications, inactivations, and reactivations were approved by Dean Jillson:

The following Economics course was approved March 2007; the update form is being submitted in order that Access matches the catalog.

New Course Proposal: ECO 5390: *Mathematical Finance: Theory and Applications*

These courses were modified in order that Access matches the catalog.

PHYS 3350

PSYC 3382

WELL 2115

WELL 2122

WELL 2135

WELL 3341

REACTIVATED COURSES:

PSYC 5387

The next meeting of the Undergraduate Council will be Monday, November 12, 1 p.m.,
in 121 Dallas Hall

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Osang