

**MINUTES**  
**March 3, 2008**  
**University College Council**

(Approved)

The University College Council met on Monday, March 3, 2008 in the Strickland Conference Room, I.G. Greer Hall. Members present were: Dave Haney, Tina Hogan, Richard Carp, Edwin Arnold, Cynthia Wood, Patricia Beaver, Lynn Moss-Sanders, Alan Utter, Emory Maiden, Elizabeth Carroll, Mike Mayfield, Maggie McFadden, Martha Stephenson, Carter Hammett-McGarry, Joy Clawson, Shari Galiardi, Susan Morgan, Chuck Smith, Georgia Rhoades and David Huntley. Also present was Todd Mortensen.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Haney announced that the minutes from the February 4, 2008 meeting would be reviewed and voted on at the April meeting.

**II. Announcements and Updates**

**General Education**

Dr. Mayfield updated the Council on the progress of the General Education program. The Faculty Coordination committee has been given assignments on educating faculty on the new program. AP&P has not yet given approval of the program.

The Summer Faculty Grants have been decided and an announcement on the award winners should be coming soon.

Newly devised "Prospective Theme Workshops" have been scheduled. The workshops are to help facilitate interdisciplinary discussions among faculty.

Several key administrators and Gen Ed staff will be meeting with department chairs soon to answer questions and address concerns about the new General Education program.

**Student Programs**

Ms. Galiardi reported on her recent trip to India. While there, four of the five colleges visited, signed a memorandum of understanding with Appalachian. They also visited eleven non-governmental organizations to talk about service learning and community based research, in hopes of giving opportunities to students and faculty visiting those

organizations. Mr. Mortensen updated the Council on Randy Stoecker's visit to Appalachian Dr. spoke to faculty about Community Based Research. Mr. Mortensen added that he was pleased with the turnout for Dr. Stoecker's talk.

### **Writing Across the Curriculum**

Dr. Rhoades announced that a luncheon and introduction for the new Writing Across the Curriculum program had been scheduled for April 4, 2008. A new writing class has been proposed for sophomores. The WAC program will be sending a letter to departments inquiring about current course offering that could work as the new required third-year writing course.

### **Update on Faculty Candidates**

Dr. Haney updated the Council on recent faculty searches. A recommendation has been made for the Honors Program Director and an offer will be made soon to that candidate. The Interdisciplinary Director Search Committee will be meeting soon to make a final recommendation.

### **Summer Reading**

Dr. Maiden reported the Summer Reading Committee had received over 40 summer reading books from the faculty. The 2008 Summer Reading book is *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls.

### **Advising and Orientation**

Ms. Clawson stated that the University Advisory Council had met and voted to allow transfer students to be processed through Orientation and University College and not directly from their department.

The Council requested the development of a Transfer Articulation Office to be housed in University College. This would improve the quality of communication throughout University College on the student's credits and classes. This would also better the communication between the different departments and the students, if it were all handled in one office.

Ms. Stephenson reported that the Orientation Planning Council will be making a recommendation by the end of the semester, which may involve consolidating Phase 1, Phase 2 and parent orientation. They will also be recommending extending orientation events to pick up some of the events that have happened during freshman seminar in the past.

The Council discussed the retention of transfer students. Ms. Stephenson stated all the statistics show transfer students are doing well in their classes. She reported that Appalachian receives 750-800 new transfers each fall and around 150 in the summer. The focus for transfer students needs to be on what is offered to them outside of their first visit, such as clubs, activities, etc.

### **Other Announcements and Updates**

Dr. Mayfield announced that a recommendation for the Environmental Science position would be announced soon.

Dr. Huntley reported on the Watauga College Task Force. They have been looking at Watauga College from a much broader view and are coming up with ways to enhance the college. Dr. Huntley stated some suggestions have been a slight name change, a more global view, and ties into UNC Tomorrow.

Ms. Hammett-McGarry stated she would be representing University College and the General Education Program at the Association for Deans and Directors meeting later in the month. She has been asked to be a part of a plenary discussion panel this year. A full report would be given at the Council's next meeting.

Dr. Utter asked the Council to remind their students of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Student Research and Creative Endeavors. March 20<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for participation. The celebration showcases and encourages research in all disciplines.

### **III. Mission Statement**

Dr. Haney reviewed the draft mission statement with the Council. Dr. Carp recommended adding "opportunities" after "and personal" in the first paragraph, second sentence.

After some discussion and review, the Council recommended the Mission Statement read as follows:

**University College supports Appalachian's goal of providing students with a rigorous liberal education that prepares them for the social, economic, and personal opportunities and challenges of the twenty-first century. Linking curricular and co-curricular programs, University College engages students, staff, and faculty in (1) active, collaborative teaching, learning, and scholarship, including the investigation of major questions across departmental, divisional, and disciplinary boundaries through**

interdisciplinary degree programs and general education; and (2) campus, local and global communities through service, research, leadership development and other forms of learning. University College provides a broad range of academic services to help students achieve the essential learning outcomes of a liberal education and assists new students in their transition to the Appalachian community. University College also provides an environment in which students, faculty, and staff can develop experience and disseminate practices of engaged and successful learning.

*Dr. Carp made a motion to approve as read, seconded by Dr. Utter. All were in favor of the motion.*

#### **IV. Faculty Representation Issues**

Dr. Haney referred to the "Discussion of UC Faculty" handout. He explained representation on committees, elections, in groups, and outside of the University, from a University College Council member was important but "UC Faculty" should be defined.

Dr. McFadden asked how someone would be defined if they were assigned two fall classes and none in the spring. *Dr. Carp suggested since their seemed to be a lot of questions and concerns regarding this issue, the Council table this item until further review and research could be done. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.*

#### **V. Communicating with the Campus**

Dr. Haney reported that he would soon be starting a blog on the University College website. This would encourage discussions campus wide about issues and items within University College. The Council would also start seeing press releases, brochures, and other materials, on University College.

#### **Adjourn**

*With no further business, Dr. Arnold made a motion to adjourn at 10:30 a.m., seconded by Dr. Carp. All were in favor of the motion.*