

ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

October 28, 2014

12:50 PM – Conference Room, Ag Hall

MEMBERS:

Eric Reed	Brad Ramsdale
Doug Smith	Barb Berg
Paul Clark	Scott Mickelsen
Vicky Luke (recorder)	Kevin Martin
Jo Bek - absent	

The NCTA Academic Council Meeting was called to order at 12:10 P.M. with the above referenced in attendance.

Human Relations Program Outcomes – Eric Reed/Dottie Evans

- Eric discussed separating Learning Communities
- Could be taught by each Divisions with separate sections for each Division
- It would have to follow the Civic Engagement and Information Literacy guidelines but other than that Divisions could require what is best for them and their students.

New Chemistry Course – Eric Reed/Dan Widick

- We currently offer Ag Chemistry and General Chemistry
- Dan is finding that our students are not prepared to take Chemistry and can't be successful in Gen Chemistry, some in Ag Chemistry.
- Ag Chemistry is not a good introduction course as it doesn't prepare them for General Chemistry, we have gap
- Proposing a new course as dual credit, taught distance learning that would be available to our on campus students to also take.
- High School students would take the course yearlong with on campus students only the first semester.
- This is a higher level than Ag Chemistry but an Intro to Gen Chemistry
- 3 credit hour lecture with a 1 credit hour lab
- Could possibly do labs on a couple of Saturdays
- Course prepares students to take our Ag Chemistry or Gen Chemistry and be successful
- Discussion on if we need to continue teaching Ag Chemistry if this class will transfer?
- Doug Smith is meeting with the UNL transfer coordinator next week and will take the syllabus to inquire on transferability
- More discussion

Barb Berg made a motion to approve CHEM 1014, Introduction to Chemistry (4 credit hours). Brad Ramsdale seconded. No further discussion. All in favor; motion carried.

New Gen Ed Curriculum/Program – Eric Reed

- Eric is proposing revisions to the Gen Education program that was discussed at Dean's Council.
- Adding Spanish as an oral communication course
- Adding a new outcome along with civic engagement
- Learning Communities would be taken by all students by department
- Focus on Civic Engagement and Information Literacy
- Creative thinking would no longer be an outcome in the Associate of Science degree
- Brings us down and puts us in line with the federal credit hours in the A.S. degree
- Minimum credit hours would stay the same in the A.A.S. degree
- Personal Finance would be added to Quantitative Literacy.
- Paul stated Personal Finance is not suitable as a math class for the masses...it is class students can take in addition to their math requirements
- Paul stated that employers are valuing critical thinking skills in job interviews
- Each division can require additional requirements
- Scott suggested we create a new personal finance course that meets the requirements
- Discussion

Doug Smith made a motion to approve the new General Education proposal with the new personal finance course and without the current Quantitative Literacy personal finance course. Brad Ramsdale seconded. All in favor except Paul Clark opposed.

Discussion

Doug Smith made to amend the previous motion by inserting Critical Thinking as an outcome to problem solving. Kevin Martin seconded. More discussion. All in favor; motion carried.

Add critical thinking to Problem Solving title, meeting two outcomes as one

The following agenda items will be addressed at the next Academic Council meeting.

Permission for Creation of New On-line Spanish Course – Eric Reed

Basic Reading/Writing Course Name Change – Eric Reed

New VT Course Proposals – Large Animal Clinical Rotation – Barb Berg

New Course Proposals – Crop Practicum I, II, and III – Brad Ramsdale

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 PM

Next meeting November 11th at 12:10 pm