

Marquette University
Board of Undergraduate Studies
Minutes of the Meeting of November 7, 2007

Present: Margaret Bloom, Brian Brush, Karl Byleen, Elizabeth Driscoll, Kevin Gibson (Chair), Linda Laatsch, Robert Lowe, Mark McCarthy, Kristy Nielson, James Pokrywczynski, James Richie, Brandon Stokes, Sandi Waldschmidt.

Minutes. Chair Kevin Gibson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. The unapproved minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2007 were approved, with the only change being the deletion of the list of excused members, in keeping with the Board's policy of listing only those present.

Information Items. Chair Gibson reported on his presentation of the new major in Corporate Communication and the new minor in Music to the Academic Senate, which approved both programs. This is indicative of the respect the Senate has for the work of the Board.

Program Actions: Majors and Minors. With the advent of the College of Education in the 2008-9 academic year, most of the teaching majors and minors will no longer be needed. All students enrolled in the College of Education will have a first major in either Elementary or Secondary Education, and will be required to complete a second major in a Wisconsin DPI certifiable subject area. The Board considered the following proposals:

- End Major and Minor in Physics Teaching
- End Major and Minor in Teaching Communication Studies
- End Major and Minor in Teaching in Journalism
- End Major and Minor in Teaching in Theatre Arts
- End Minor in Teaching Economics

Brian Brush moved that all of these programs be ended, and Kristy Nielson seconded the motion. Several points were made in the ensuing discussion. This is the first batch of such deletions – more will be considered at a subsequent meeting. Education students, in completing their second majors, will need to take the necessary courses to meet the state certification requirements. Some of the teaching majors/minors will be continued (e.g., the Broad Field Science and the Broad Field Social Science programs), since they are needed for certification in those areas. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously by a vote of 13-0.

Subcommittee Election. The new Subcommittee for Academic Program Review will consist of three members of the Board of Graduate Studies and three members of the Board of Undergraduate Studies. After discussion of the responsibilities of the Subcommittee and eligibility issues, three members were nominated from the Board of Undergraduate Studies:

Linda Laatsch, Christine Shaw and Sandi Waldschmidt. The three nominees were elected unanimously by a vote of 13-0.

Advising Survey. Peggy Bloom presented the key findings from her report on the advising survey administered to Marquette sophomore and junior students in April 2007. (The report had previously been distributed to Board members.) While there were many positive results, one concern was that five career- and future-oriented advising activities were rated by students as above-average in importance but occurred with below-average frequency. A lengthy discussion followed. Among the questions considered were the following: Do the survey results represented an acceptable level of advising for Marquette University? Should we expect the experiences of sophomores and juniors to be different? What activities can reasonably be expected to occur during advising? Are 15 minutes long enough for an advising session? Do we have the right model for advising, or should we have some other model (more group advising, more special advising, etc.)? It was noted by several Board members that advising issues differ across the colleges, so university-wide solutions may not always be appropriate. Board members were asked to write down one or more ways in which advising could be improved at the university level, and one or more ways in which advising could be improved in their own college. Some of these ideas were shared during discussion, and all will be tabulated by Peggy Bloom. Kevin Gibson stated that advising will be on the agenda again for the December meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Brush