MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
Board of Undergraduate Studies
Approved Minutes of the Meeting of October 5, 2011

Members Present: Noel Adams, Sandra Cleveland; Joyce Wolburg; Kathleen Ford (student representative); M. Behnam Ghasemzadeh; Matthew Hurley (student representative); Gary Meyer; Debra Oswald; Stephanie Quade; James Richie; Christine Shaw (Chair); Peter Toumanoff; Chae Yi; Joan Whipp.

Guests: Michael Monahan, Sharron Ronco, Kerry Kosmoski Goepfert.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Christine Shaw. Stephanie Quade provided a reflection.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the September 7, 2011 meeting were approved as circulated. Joyce Wolburg made the motion to approve, and James Richie seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Announcements/Reports:
A. Gary Meyer provided the committee with a program approval grid that outlines the timing and sequencing of the program approval process and the role of the UBUS in the process. He called for a special session of the UBUS on November 30 for the purpose of approving program changes in time for the 2012 Bulletin.

B. Michael Monahan reported on the challenges of assessing the University Core of Common Studies. The challenges have many sources, including the number of courses in the Core, the timing of students’ enrollment in the Core courses, and the nature of the learning outcomes that require assessment. Joyce Wolburg noted that the learning outcomes for the individual areas overlap outcomes for the Core as a whole but are often more concrete and assessable. Joan Whipp suggested that Core learning outcomes might be assessed effectively through the individual area assessment process. Jim Richie shared the College of Engineering’s practices, which include alumni surveys 2-5 years after graduation.

C. Kerry Kosmoski Goepfert reported on a proposed revision of the Nursing curriculum. The revisions were motivated by a perceived need to improve the clinical skills of graduates as well as changes in the accrediting body’s criteria. The discussion revealed that the revisions were consistent with accreditation requirements, and that the distinctive skill that Marquette nursing graduates should have is a higher level of clinical reasoning. A discussion followed regarding the differences between the graduates of the Nursing program and Physician Assistants. The consensus of the committee was that the curriculum change seems well-conceived.

Old Business:
The committee began its discussion of the recommendations of the Academic Integrity subcommittee. A focus of the conversation was the relationship between academic and personal integrity and how each was addressed in the recommendations. The existing
University policy was recognized as being process-oriented and lacking a proactive approach to creating a culture that values academic integrity. The committee discussed the role that a central institutional structure and a student code of conduct might have in creating a culture of academic integrity. It became clear that more time would be needed to act on the recommendations, so the discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Toumanoff