

Undergraduate Curriculum Work Team
Minutes from the Meeting of Wednesday, April 17, 1996

ATTENDING: D. Bensinger, G. Claypool, M. Collins, L. Sellaro, S. Stephan,
B. Vendemia, R. Volpe, H. Warren

Dr. Sandra Stephan, Chair of the English Department attended the meeting as the first non-WCBA department representative. She spoke about her concerns regarding the humanities requirement on the business curriculum. Dr. Stephan felt that the business students would be "short changed" if the curriculum specified Philosophy 625 Introduction to Professional Ethics and deleted literature as a required humanities course. Literature and humanities cover culture, critical thinking and writing which are beneficial to all students. There are ten 600 level literature courses offered with a large portion of the students being from the College of Business. Most business majors are enrolling in English 665 Introduction to Film Study and English 609 Introduction to Literature. The 600 level literature courses require a great deal of writing and group work on a project that is presented during the quarter. English Literature exposes students to critical analysis, organization, interaction and communication skills. All literature courses are taught by full-service faculty.

A comment was made that business majors are required to take a number of non-business electives and that possibly they would select an additional humanities course to fulfill one of these requirements. Marge Collins stated that usually students select Economics and Computer Science or Computer Information System courses for non-business electives. It was then suggested that possibly four hours could be deducted from the non-business and assigned as a four-hour humanities elective.

Greg Claypool stated that the process of updating the curriculum is an ongoing process. He mentioned that Dr. Tod Porter from the Economics Department will speak to the members at the next meeting.

The assessment instrument was reviewed by the members. Greg Claypool and Louise Sellaro will prepare a cover letter and supply copies to each member. Team members will be responsible for interviewing the instructors who are teaching the Tool and Core courses and then provide a consensus. The same team member will interview all professors teaching a specific course. Professors will be asked if they incorporate heavy or light coverage of the competencies in the course. Department Chairs will be interviewed to obtain the department expectation of a course. Departments outside the CBA (Math, Economics, Business Information Systems) which have courses will be contacted to attend a meeting to gather information of how they cover the competencies in their courses. Data gathered must be back by Tuesday, April 30.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 24 in the Dean's Conference Room.