

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
April 21, 2006 - Revised

Members

Present: Paul Matney, Bob Austin, Sally Evans, Toni Gordy, David Hernandez, Judy Johnson, Michael Kopenits, Mary Clare Munger, Jim Powell, Rathna Prabakar, Bob Sloger, and Vicky Taylor-Gore

Members

Absent: Mike Bellah, Diane Brice, Lyndi Shadbolt, John Smoot,

FEBRUARY 24, 2006 MINUTES

Hernandez moved, seconded by Powell, to approve the February 24, 2006 minutes as submitted. The motion carried.

Kopenits asked about the withdrawal as noted on the minutes of the Aviation Maintenance requests after they were approved at the last meeting. Matney said that Nolte is talking with the Bell staff to make certain that the proposal is the best way to meet their needs.

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Access Learning Center

Johnson expanded on the rationale of the request to add the following three credit hours courses set up as 2 lec, 2 lab to replace the current two credit hour courses.

BASR 0302
BASM 0302
BASW 0302
BAS 0303

The new courses will more accurately reflect the level of instruction that occurs with the Access Learning Center. The instruction is complemented by computer-aided instruction. The majority of the skill development is delivered by individualized or small group instruction.

Hernandez moved, seconded by Sloger, to approve the request as submitted. The motion carried.

NURSING DIVISION

Associate Degree Nursing

The request was to change:

RNSG 1209 from (2 sem hrs: 2 lec, 1 lab) to (2 sem hrs: 2 lec, 2 lab)

Matney briefed the members on the Department of Labor Community-Based Job Training Grant which the Associate Degree Nursing program has received. The grant includes a student retention component for generic associate degree nursing students with a Nursing Success course as one strategy to decrease

student attrition. The Nursing Success course will include an immersion “boot camp” and multiple interactive student success sessions. The Nursing Success course cannot become a discrete course in the program because accrediting standards prohibit more than 72 semester credit hours in the program and the program does not have any credits they believe they can cut. The one additional lab hour in the Introduction to nursing course will capture the student contact hours for the college which are generated by the Nursing Success boot camp and success sessions.

Powell moved, seconded by Kopenits, to approve the request as submitted. The motion carried.

LANGUAGE, COMMUNICATION AND FINE ARTS DIVISION

American Sign Language/Interpreter AAS program

Matney briefed the members on the background of the request. Dr. Cindy Sturkie, Director - Regional Education Program for the Deaf for AISD, approached him about implementing an American Sign Language/Interpreter AA program.

The request is to add an Associate in Arts in American Sign Language/Interpreter program at Amarillo College and the following major courses:

- SGNL 1301: Beginning American Sign Language I
- SGNL 1302: Beginning American Sign Language II
- SGNL 2301: Intermediate American Sign Language I
- SGNL 2302: Intermediate American Sign Language II
- SLNG 1211: Finger Spelling and Numbers
- SLNG 1317: Introduction to the Deaf Community
- SLNG 1321: Introduction to the Interpreting Profession

Robert Boyd was present to review the request. The motivation of the program is that the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) will begin requiring an associate degree for interpreters by 2012 and a bachelor's degree by 2016. WTAMU offered ASL courses but recently dropped them because they could not secure a qualified instructor. Dr. Sturkie has agreed to teach the courses at Amarillo College and has contact with other potential instructors. Boyd noted that the Coordinating Board approves ASL courses as foreign language courses. Texas Tech currently has six semesters of ASL which counts as a minor in ASL.

Expenses will be minimum – part-time instructor(s) and no new equipment. Boyd noted that the four SGNL courses are transfer “Academic Course Guide Manual” courses. The three SLNG courses are WECM courses and are transferable at the option of the receiving university. The Coordinating Board approves such if they are of college rigor and are taught by a SACS qualified instructor. Boyd has approached WTAMU and Texas Tech about an articulation agreement, but at

this time that is not possible since they do not have programs. Both WTAMU and Texas Tech have agreed to accept the ASL courses as transfer courses. Boyd is researching to find other universities to approach about articulation.

Matney noted that at the LITE luncheon one of the honorees was an Amarillo College student who has been deaf since birth. Mark Sturkie signed for this inspirational, outstanding young lady at the luncheon.

It was noted that an advisory committee has been proposed even though such is not required for a transfer program. Boyd also noted that Amarillo College's community service department offers sign language classes which had 35 students last year and he is meeting with Kim Davis and Linda Reed to brief them about the new academic program.

It was suggested to revise the introductory paragraph to read "students to major in ~~Deaf Education or Deaf Studies~~ **American Sign Language Studies** at a **senior** college or university."

Austin moved, seconded by Munger, to approve the request with the noted changes. The motion carried.

SCIENCES & ENGINEERING DIVISION

Mortuary Science

The request was to change the math requirement from MATH 1333 to MATH 1333 or higher.

Prabhkar moved, seconded by Powell, to approve the request as submitted. The motion carried.

Mortuary Science – 2nd Request

Matney expanded on the rationale. In order to ensure compliance with the American Board of Funeral Service Education (ABFSE), all students must take and pass the National Board Examination prior to graduation. The following request will ensure such:

1. Add a \$300 fee to MRTS 2179 to cover the fee to sit for the required national exam.
2. Revise the introductory paragraph to add, "**As a requirement for graduation, students must successfully pass the National Board Exam.**"
3. Revise the description of MRTS 2179 by adding "Completion of the National Board Examination **with a score of 75 or higher. This score will be the final grade for this course.**"

Kopenits noted that to continue our accreditation, we must have a student pass rate of 75 percent.

Austin moved, seconded by Kopenits, to approve the request as submitted. The motion carried.