
University Studies
North Carolina A&T State University
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Full Committee Meeting Mar 16, 2005 Minutes

The University Studies (UNST) Committee met on Wednesday Mar 16, 2005 in the Library Classroom at 10:00 AM. The following were present: Robert Davis, Sanjiv Sarin, Scott Simkins, Shirley Bell, Peter Meyers, Rita Lamb, Shea Burns, Tony Graham, Jean Williams, Japhet Nkonge, DeRome Dunn, Trent Larson, Carliss Jacob, Kimberly Manley, Millicent Brown, Donald McDowell.

- I. Sarin summarized input received during the two Town Hall Meetings (Mar 14-15 2005). A list of comments and suggestions made during the Town Hall Meetings was shared with the committee members (attached).
- II. Davis asked the committee to think about three of the suggestions made at the Town Hall Meetings (items 2, 6 and 8).
 - a. Item 2 (Involve students): Need to find a replacement for Dr. Dorothy Harris (Student Affairs) on the UNST Committee. Look for student leaders (SGA, Honor Societies, etc) to serve on the UNST Advisory Board. Involve students in program assessment through focus groups. Nkonge suggested an ongoing student exchange with benchmark institutions followed by focus group sessions. Continue thinking about the University Fair idea and see if Student Affairs can coordinate it.
 - b. Item 6 (Bridge course for transfer students): Find out what other campuses are doing in this regard. Compare what community colleges are doing in their general education programs. Rethink awarding of credit for IB/AP courses (especially the score). Determine course equivalencies from High School with AP credit or from feeder colleges.
 - c. Item 8 (UNST 130): Need to clarify content and learning objectives of UNST 130. Consider equivalency to CHEM 100.
- III. Davis announced that there will be a joint meeting of the UNST Committee and the Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee on Thursday March 24 at 1 PM in Merrick Hall. We will meet outside Merrick 300. The purpose of the meeting is to make sure we are all "on the same page" in regards to the timeline published in the Chancellor's letter to the University faculty.
- IV. Brown emphasized that the Learning Communities committee and the UNST Committee should work closer together. She suggested that the Learning Communities group could augment the work of the UNST committee.
- V. There was some discussion about proposals for new course development. Larson requested volunteers for the Health, Lifestyles and the Human Condition cluster theme. Meyers and Bell indicated that proposals are being prepared and will be submitted by the March 24th deadline. Sarin mentioned that people developing online courses need to work closely with the Distance Learning office.
- VI. The next meeting of the full committee will be held on Mar 30, 2005.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Recorded by:
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Attachment

University Studies

Comments from people attending Town Hall Meetings on March 14-15, 2005

1. Make sure that cluster themes and courses remain for sufficiently long time to allow students to graduate. There should be sufficient notice 3-4 years before a cluster theme is allowed to expire
2. Find ways to involve students in the process.
3. Evaluate quality of faculty teaching UNST courses, perhaps the Faculty Roundtable could assume this responsibility in an advisory capacity to the UNST Dean
4. For courses that need Library support, especially the UNST 100 University Experience course, coordinate and schedule with Library Reference staff
5. Consider a University Studies Fair in Fall to inform students about UNST requirements, their options and to provide training to faculty advisors
6. Develop a bridge course for transfer students
7. Send current course descriptions of Foundation courses to all faculty members on campus
8. Further clarify UNST 130, does it substitute for an introductory science course (like CHEM 100)?
9. Regarding the offering of Foundation courses in Fall 05/Spring 06 as required by the Call for Proposals: Which course number(s) can be used and how will students know?
10. Will faculty members receiving stipends for course development in summer be permitted to teach a summer session course? Will there be any conflict with payroll office?
11. There needs to be a discussion among Deans and Department Chairs on team teaching and joint appointments
12. Why is it necessary for course development proposals to be submitted by multi-disciplinary teams? Will all UNST courses be team-taught? No, but preference will be given to proposals from multidisciplinary teams.