

CALS Academic Affairs Committee
Minutes for November 8, 2010 meeting

Present: Carroll (chair), Hoffman, Osborn, Rudolphi, Boury, Miller, Retallick, Burnett.
From CALS Student Services: Polito, Deaton, Ross.

Chair called the meeting to order 9:05 am.

Minutes for the October 12th meeting were approved as submitted.

Polito discussed the yellow-colored, degree audits currently used for prospective transfer students. He stated that sometimes the Transit system underestimates the number of usable transfer credits and would like each department to recommit to reviewing these audits in a timely manner and manually moving appropriate substitutions for the students. This should result in a higher percentage of transfer credits being accepted and utilized in a prospective student's degree program. This should help recruitment efforts at the college level.

Discussion ensued regarding devising a more streamlined system whereby the changes made by advisors on these audits would become permanent in the student's records. Some committee members complained about having to make changes on the yellow degree audits and then having to redo all of those changes after the student enrolls. Other questions were brought up concerning the number of transfer credit evaluations that may be coming in the future, etc. Further discussion of the matter was tabled at this time. CALS Student Services will send a copy of the letter they currently send to prospective transfer students to all committee members. *Note: the letter has been sent.*

Carroll brought up a concern with 1 and 2 credit courses that partially meet the CALS Life Science certification. She mentioned An S 114 as an example. She would like to see these courses removed from the list to avoid confusion on the student's part. It was agreed that Dave would change the wording to better reflect the courses that are not three credits.

Deaton mentioned that invitations to the CALS Fall Convocation have been sent to graduating seniors.

MAP Works – Polito mentioned that he and two other individuals (C. Youngs and J. Holtz) represent CALS on the MAP Works committee at the university level. He requested that we actively gather feedback regarding our use of the system in anticipation of future evaluations of the program. Department of Residence is currently funding this program. He expects that there will be requests for colleges or other entities to share funding of it in the future.

Some informal feedback was provided by committee members including: adding transfer students to the system and devising a means of gathering additional inputs from the students. Currently, their input is limited to the initial survey.

Retallick brought up a point that in his department (AGEDS) they have some issues with the Life Sciences certification on degree audits in their curriculum. He asked whether others were having problems with this section of the degree audits. It sounded as though this might be unique to AGEDS.

Reminder: CALS retreat on Summer Orientation is scheduled for November 18th from noon to 2:00 pm in Industrial Ed II

NACADA Canada – Carroll reminded the committee that the Dean's Office is willing to provide support for someone to attend this event in Winnipeg from May 18 to 20, 2011.

Watch the CALS website for list of contacts and resources to help students. *Note: that site is now available as a link from CALS Student Services webpage.*

Osborn announced that we can call ISU-DPS to do wellness checks on students if we have particular concerns. Dean Acker intends to provide details on contact information.

There was a request for seminars for advisor's professional development.

Meeting adjourned 9:50 am.

Submitted by,

John Burnett