

Northern Marianas College
ACADEMIC COUNCIL
Minutes of August 6, 2009

DATE: August 6, 2009

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: BOR Conference Room

Voting Members Present:

Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero, Dean of Academic Programs & Services, AC Chair

Mark Haag, Chair, L & H Dept., AC Vice Chair

Pasquana Calvo, Acting Chair, Nursing Dept.

Frank Sobolewski, Chair, SSFA Dept.

Pam Buckingham, Acting Director, SOE

Larry Lee, Acting Chair, Business

Leo Pangelinan, Director, CPS

Non-Voting Members:

Others Present:

Joyce Taro, Recorder

Barbara Merfalen, Faculty, SOE

9:30 a.m. AC meeting reconvened from Aug. 4 meeting to approve course guides for courses being offered in the Fall 2009 semester.

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m.

HI 121 Course Guide: Modification

The concern was that raising the English Placement Level will prevent students from taking the course. Frank did another readability test using more paragraphs. HI101 and HI102 placed at EN 093/094, and HI 121 and HI 122 placed at EN 101. This is one way of differentiating the two.

What was the success rate in HI 121 of students who placed at EN 093/094? Frank looked at the grades of students in HI 121 in Fall 2007 and Fall 2008 and the grades of students in HI 122 in Spring 2007, Spring 2008, and Spring 2009. He provided handouts to members to report the results. He provided copies of the HI 121 and HI 122 final grade rosters were provided to the AC Chair and the Vice Chair. Two students at the EN 093 level got a C. In Fall 2008 one student at the EN 093 level failed. All of the other students in HI 121 and HI 122 in these semesters were at the EN 101 level or higher. Based on the evidence, Frank stated that the English Placement Level for HI 101 and HI 102 should be EN 101, and the English Placement Level for HI 121 and HI 122 should be EN 202. However, Frank is requesting that HI 121 and HI 122 be at EN 101 level. Pam stated that we just need to remember that readability is not the only criteria that determines student success in a course.

The Chair stated that this is compelling data but we must also consider other means of how a course is taught, which is something we will need to consider later on. Articulation of liberal arts courses and the order in which students take liberal arts courses were researched by Lisa and shared by Frank. Course progression and completion rate data was published and disseminated by Lisa. It was evident that the English Placement data ties in with student performance.

Academic advising issues may be a factor here as well and not a program issue. Consistency is also an issue. Larry is in support of ensuring the transferability of the history courses. If we have the English level higher, this makes it easier for other institutions to accept our credits.

Motion to approve the HI 121 Course Guide as presented today without any changes, and with the English Placement Level at EN 101: M/S Mark/Larry: Motion carried.

HI 101 CG: Modification

Frank thanked Glenn for aligning the course outline, instructional goals, and Student Learning Outcomes.

Motion to adopt the HI 101 Course Guide as presented without changes: M/S Mark/Larry: Motion carried.

A motion was made to review the Nursing Course Guides after they were tabled. Motion carried by majority vote.

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NU 107 Course Guide: Modification

Choose another word and not performance. It was suggested to replace the word or re-word the assessment. Suggestions were made by Pam, Barbara, and Cynthia in terms of how the students can do what is expected of them.

Motion to adopt the Course Guide with changes: M/S Mark/Frank: Motion carried.

NU 207 Course Guide: Modification

Page 7. Student Learning Outcome 2.0: Use "provide" and not "apply". Student Learning Outcome 4.0: Use "provide" and not "perform". Frank will provide corrections with editing to Pas.

Progression in the Nursing Program is not like in the School of Education. The Nursing courses are locked in for each semester, and students will have to follow this schedule accordingly.

Motion to adopt the Course Guide with changes: M/S Frank/Mark: Motion carried.

Announcements:

Professional Development Days (PDD)

- 1) The approved schedule and agenda for PDD will be emailed to all by the Dean of Academic Programs and Services.
- 2) Monday, August 10: Academic Programs Faculty will be in Room D-1, and Administrative Units will be in their offices.
- 3) Tuesday, August 11: Administrative Units will be in Room D-1, and Academic departments will be meeting in their offices.
- 4) Wednesday, August 12: Training with Dr. Mary Allen and Dr. Fred Trapp.
- 5) Thursday, August 13: The morning training in Room D-1 will be for the Division of Academic Programs and Services, and the afternoon training in Room D-1 will be for administration and staff.
- 6) Friday: Early Registration

With no further discussion on any items, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40a.m. The next meeting is to be announced.