

**Northern Marianas College**  
**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of January 28, 2010**

**DATE:** January 28, 2010

**TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** N-5

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**Voting Members Present:**

Dr. Patrick Moran, Acting Dean of Academic Programs & Services, AC Chair

Dr. Patrick Moran, Acting Chair, SMHA Dept.

Shelly Tudela, Acting Chair, Business Dept.

Pasquana Calvo, Acting Chair, Nursing Dept. (Hervin Jacinto for Pasquana)

James Kline, Chair, L&H Dept.

Frank Sobolewski, Chair, SSFA Dept.

Barbara Merfalen, Acting Director, SOE, AC Vice-Chair by appointment

**Non-Voting Members:**

**Others Present:**

Tee Abraham, Dean of COMPASS

Joyce Taro, Recorder

Meeting called to order at 1:11pm.

**1) Review and Adoption of January 28, 2010 Agenda**

A motion to adopt the agenda without changes was made. M/S: Pasquana/James K. Motion carried.

**2) Review and Adoption of the following Minutes**

Copies of the following minutes have been given to the AC members. The minutes were tabled in the December 17, 2009 AC meeting.

- a) May 29, 2008, June 26, 2008
- b) January 5, 2009
- c) January 16, 2009
- d) March 20, 2009
- e) April 3, 9, 2009
- f) May 8, 2009 (**clarification and approval of item 4f only in the May 8, 2009 minutes**)
- g) June 18, 24, 2009
- h) July 1, 2009
- i) September 11, 2009
- j) October 7, 13, 2009
- k) October 22, 2009
- l) October 29, 2009
- m) November 5, 19, 2009

Move to table all minutes until next meeting.

**3) Announcements**

- a) Bachelor's Degree in Education (Ms. Barbara Merfalen)  
Barbara mentioned that they received official from WASC to proceed with the new degree programs. School of Education is able to offer the additional degree programs without submitting a substantive change report. Galvin received confirmation from the WASC senior commission stating that we can proceed with the new degree programs that SOE would like to offer.
- b) Bookstore Ordering Procedures
  - i) James spoke with the bookstore manager on the procedure for ordering textbooks. This is to address the delay in some of the book orders by the academic departments. AC will ask to review the process as well.
  - ii) James will head the committee to review this and come up with recommendations. James stated that he spoke with the bookstore manager, Alaysha Muna, and she is willing to take suggestions to improve the process. Frank is also willing to assist with the process.

**Approved: 04/10/10**

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**4) Old Business**

a) Election of AC Vice-Chair

Pasquana nominated James Kline. James declined since he is still new to NMC but would be willing to do so later once he is comfortable about it. Jim nominated Frank Sobolewski. Frank did not object to the nomination. Frank was voted as the new Academic Council Vice-Chair. (4 voted yes)

b) Academic Council By-laws (membership)

No issues with this item. Recommend to remove from the agenda at this time.

c) English Language Institute – International Student Needs

i) Proposed course of action (drafted by Leo Pangelinan and Galvin Deleon Guerrero)

The problem may be because immigration is federalized, some students may not be able to go full-time status which may cause problems as well. It was questioned if developmental English courses can count for fulltime status. Lisa may have more information on this. Galvin will try to get more information and share with everyone in AC.

James Kline discussed this with Lisa as well and he would like to participate in the discussion. Galvin also mentioned that this has been brought up to PROAC as well. Another issue too is that now we have to compete with other colleges. English Language Institute may be reason to satisfy the need of immigration status. ABE courses are not college level courses thus they can't apply.

Question was asked if SO297 and HI255 are needed as a general education courses in the SOE IDP. Can SOE make this decision? Frank stated that it is their choice to drop but recommended that it would be better to drop HI 255 History of the NMI.

**5) Department Request to Place Program(s) on *Inactive Status***

**6) Individual Certificate Program (ICP) Revisions**

**7) Individual Degree Program (IDP) Revisions**

**8) Course Guide Review**

a) Cancellations

b) Modifications

c) New

**9) New Business**

**10) Adjournment**

With no further discussion, meeting adjourned at 1:35p.m.

***“In order to foster a better informed and cohesive college community, NMC faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend.”***