

FINAL Academic Council Meeting Minutes

DATE: April 17, 2006
TIME: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
PLACE: Room N-5

AGENDA

- 1) Review and Adoption of April 10, 2006 Meeting Minutes
- 2) Review and Adoption of April 17, 2006 Agenda
- 3) Old Business
 - a) WASC related issues
 - b) Course Guide N:Drive and web templates
 - c) Credits for experiential learning
 - d) Course guide reviews:
 - i) RH 101
 - ii) DT 100
 - iii) CT 110
 - iv) CT 112
 - v) CT 120
 - vi) Languages & Humanities cancellations
 - e) Public Administration degree
 - f) Faculty Observation form
 - g) Definition of non-resident students
- 4) New Business
 - a) Course guide reviews
 - i) PE 128
 - ii) PE 142
 - iii) PE 203
 - iv) MA 141
 - v) CA 101
 - vi) CO 210
 - vii) EN 093
 - b) Reading levels for NDU math
 - c) Double majors
 - d) Catalog inclusion of SLO's
- 5) Other Issues
- 6) Schedule of next meeting

Members present: Glenn Keaton – AC Chairperson, Sciences, Math & Technology; Jeanette Villagomez – ALO; Larry Lee – Business; Lisa Lunde – Human Performance & Athletics; Lynne Curtis – Nursing; Michael Nurmi – Languages & Humanities; Michael Reber – School of Education; Sam McPhetres – Social Sciences & Fine Arts

Member absent: Doris Aldan-Atalig – Office of Admissions & Records; Kathy Pohl – Counseling Programs & Services; Roxanna Arriola – ASNMC

Others present: Danny Wyatt; Joyce Taro; Donna Leong-Aguon – Recorder

The Academic Council Chair Glenn Keaton called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.

- 1) Review and Adoption of April 10, 2006 Meeting Minutes
The AC **moved, seconded and unanimously adopted the April 10, 2006 Meeting Minutes as is.**

- 2) Review and Adoption of April 17, 2006 Agenda
The AC **moved, seconded and unanimously adopted the April 17, 2006 Agenda as is.**
- 3) Old Business
- a) WASC related issues
Dean Jeanette reported that several departments had not submitted their part of the Self-Study that is due to WASC today.
 - b) Course Guide N:Drive and web templates – nothing new to report
 - c) Credits for experiential learning
Dean Danny informed the AC members of a training program / one-day workshop that NMC would need to send one employee to train on converting work experience to actual college credits. This training would be quite expensive. No one in the Pacific had done it yet. He said he will provide more information next week.
 - d) Course guide reviews:
 - i) RH 101
 - ii) DT 100
 - iii) CT 110
 - iv) CT 112
 - v) CT 120

These five course guides were **tabled.**
 - vi) Languages & Humanities cancellations
Glenn showed his list of courses under his department, and said many of them were old, and because of NMC's reorganization, he would soon lose some of those courses to another department, such as the audio video and automobile courses. The dilemma: what to do with inactive courses, aside from canceling them. A long and productive discussion ensued. In the end, it was decided to add two more Type of Action choices on the Curriculum Action Request form, aka, cover sheet. These choices, to be inserted between Modification and Cancellation, are:
 ___ Move to Inactive, date _____
 ___ Reactivated, date _____
 This new form, cover sheet, is effective today. All course guides need to use this new form as they come up for future AC action. The AC then **moved, seconded and unanimously approved the new Curriculum Action Request form.**
 - e) Public Administration degree – **tabled**
 - f) Faculty Observation form
SoE and Math, Sciences & Tech departments e-mailed their forms to Donna. SSFA, L&H, and Business will e-mail their forms soon. This item is **tabled.**
 - g) Definition of non-resident students
A long discussion began. Michael Nurmi stated that out of courtesy, this draft definition should be shared with the Tuition and Fees Committee. However, it was learned that that committee is Ad Hoc only, and thus, does not exist anymore. Dean Danny said this draft should be presented to the College Council. The Council is scheduled to meet tomorrow at 2:00pm in Room N-5.

Michael Reber and Sam reported that they wanted to consider those individuals who have been on island for a long time, such as those who entered the school system since their elementary days. Their families contributed to the community. Their families have businesses here in the CNMI, and pay taxes, they are not here for a free ride. They are making an honest commitment to the CNMI. Dean Danny agreed, as others did, that those individuals showed an investment of their time. Michael Reber further stated that an individual who pays taxes has equal rights access to public goods. NMC is a public institution.

One of the definitions of a resident student required a non-U.S. citizen to live in the CNMI for five consecutive years prior to applying at NMC. Larry, and others, preferred a three-year period of time. NMC is a two-year community college, and there is a past policy that states a 3-year period.

“A nonresident student who continuously maintains full-time status at NMC for one academic year will be able to avail the residency tuition rate for the following and ongoing years.” Instead of one academic year, Lynne recommended two academic years. Someone referred to best practices, and following the ways of many colleges. Lynne also added that many of her Nursing students complete their degree in three years, or more, depending on their prep courses.

There being no further discussion, the AC then **moved, seconded and unanimously adopted the Student Development: Residency Classification Policy No:8001.1 with changes, specifically, living for three consecutive years prior to application, and continuously maintaining full-time status at NMC for two academic years to avail of the residence tuition rate.**

4) New Business

a) Course guide reviews

i) PE 128

The AC **moved, seconded and unanimously approved the modification of PE 128 as is.**

ii) PE 142

The AC **moved, seconded and unanimously approved the modification of PE 142 as is.**

iii) PE 203

The AC **moved, seconded and unanimously approved the modification of PE 203 as is.**

iv) MA 141

Glenn explained his attempt to create this class to cater to Sallie Sablan’s request for a separate math course for SoE’s students. Michael Reber further explained the standards language that SoE’s students needed in their math course. Regretfully, Glenn was not able to fit MA 141 to SoE’s needs. Instead, this course is transferable, and not as difficult as MA 161. MA 141 is also known as the Liberal Arts Math, and for the “not mathematically inclined” students. The AC then **moved, seconded and unanimously approved this new MA 141 course as is.**

- v) CA 101 Glenn asked Michael Nurmi to resubmit these
- vi) CO 210 three course guides on the proper template
- vii) EN 093 for next week.

b) Reading levels for NDU math

Glenn explained this issue was first raised by Howard Cole of Tinian, and then Frank Sobolewski of Rota. Howard and Frank requested the reading levels for NDU math courses be higher than the current EN083. Glenn stated he has had a number of students, two in particular that he can immediately recall, in his NDU math classes who were foreign students with weak English, yet did better than most – and could do the word problems. Dean Danny asked if their placement levels affected discussions in class. Glenn replied possibly, but that depends on the type of student - some students with English as their first language are reluctant to participate in in-class discussions. Howard and Frank said word problems were challenging, but Glenn said many students have trouble with word problems, ESL or not. Lynne asked if the English Placement Level should be raised to EN093/094. Glenn replied it would take students longer to sign up for math classes, and a higher English Placement Level could benefit the students. Dean Danny said this could affect local students, also. Glenn asked the AC members to think about this issue this week, and bring to discussion next week.

c) Double majors

Glenn described a student who will graduate with a BS in Education, and an AA in Liberal Arts. Apparently, she took (or will take) a science course that was specific in her BS IDP which also fulfilled her science elective in her AA IDP. Because the student met the requirements for her BS, and met the requirements for her AA, and because of the lack of a policy on double majors, Dean Danny reported he had, days ago, approved this student to receive two degrees.

d) Catalog inclusion of SLO's

Glenn explained that Robert Churney provided copies of other college's SLO submissions in their respective catalogs.

6) Schedule of next meeting

Next Monday, April 24th, 11:00 am in Room N-5.

The Academic Council Chairperson Glenn Keaton adjourned the meeting at 12:34pm.

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