

**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee**  
**Wednesday, October 20, 2010**  
**University Center, Room 213**  
**Zoe Locklear, Secretary in Rotation**

**Members present:** Altman, Ashraf, Brown, Curtis, D'Arruda, Hansen, Locklear, Parnell, Robinson, Sellers, Smith

**Members absent:** Flowers (illness), Gash (meeting/conference schedule conflict)

**I. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Acting Chair Holden Hansen.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of the 15 September 2010 Meeting** - The minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously as presented with the notation that Committee Member D'Arruda's absence was approved by Chair Flowers.

**III. Approval of the Agenda** – The agenda was adopted unanimously with the addition of Committee Member Curtis' recommendation to add “discussion of content of recent speeches by Chancellor Carter regarding budgetary matters particularly as they relate to decisions which may affect Academic Affairs” to Item VII – New Business.

**IV. Report from the Chair** – No report.

**V. Reports from Subcommittees**

**A. Curriculum – Holden Hansen, Chair**

From the Minutes of the October 7, 2010 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Curriculum: Item 4.1 – Proposal from the Department of Health, PE, and Recreation; Items 5.1-2 - Proposals from the Department of Economics, Finance, and Decision Sciences; Items 6.1-2 – Proposals from the Department of History; and Item 7.1 – Proposal from the Department of English and Theatre were all approved as minor changes.

The Subcommittee on Curriculum adopted the instructions for completion of the new curriculum forms and this information is now posted.

**B. General Education – Jeremy Sellers, Chair**

From the Minutes of the September 23, 2010 Meeting of the General Education Subcommittee: VI. New Business: a. Proposal from the Biology Department to revise existing course ENV 2100, Environmental Science, to become ENV 1100. Proposal was approved 5-0-0. The proposal was approved unanimously by the

Academic Affairs Committee, without discussion. b. Proposal from the English Department to delete existing course, ENG 2040, Mythology of All Peoples. Proposal was approved 5-0-0. The proposal was approved unanimously by the Academic Affairs Committee, without discussion. Additional information was provided by Chair Sellers regarding forthcoming recommendations on Student Success Initiatives, the *UNC Tomorrow Report*, General Education revisions for the Faculty Handbook.

**C. Enrollment Management, James Robinson, Chair**

From the Agenda of the October 13, 2010 Enrollment Management Subcommittee Meeting: Chair Robinson made a general report including information that this subcommittee is studying a requirement for a second semester Freshmen Seminar course for students experiencing academic deficiencies (see information located on the Teaching and Learning Center Webpage – Faculty Orientation Day information.) Some discussion followed regarding potential negative or punitive impact on some students by such action. Discussion also occurred regarding the negative impact the current practice of dropping students from Blackboard courses for reasons such as nonpayment and noncompliance with immunization requirements. This practice is very disruptive for the students and the faculty members teaching the online courses. The question was raised as to whether such students could remain enrolled in Blackboard until their noncompliance status is resolved.

**D. Academic Support Services – Rachel Smith, Chair**

From the Minutes of the October 12, 2010 Meeting of the Academic Support Services Subcommittee: Chair Smith reported there were no action items. The discussion from the September meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee was continued by members of the Academic Affairs Committee regarding the hiring of additional full-time professional staff in the Writing Center. Current practice and future plans appear to continue to hire graduate students as service providers in this Center. Following discussion, a motion was made by Committee Member Robinson to request the chair of the Academic Support Services Subcommittee to ascertain from the current Director of the Writing Center the disposition on hiring additional professional staff for the Center. The motion was seconded by Committee Member D'Arruda. Committee Member Robinson then amended his motion to change the wording of the motion to state “ask the Director of the Writing Center what would it take in terms of resources to expand the professional staff of the Writing Center to carry out its functions and report such to the Academic Affairs Committee in November 2010.” Amendment seconded by Committee Member D'Arruda. The motion, as amended, was approved unanimously.

## **VI. Old Business – Discussion of the Diversity Graduation Requirement**

The members of the Academic Affairs Committee discussed some of the actions and timeline which occurred in reference to this item during the spring, 2010 semester. Apparently, quite a bit of confusion remains on this item with Senate members and other pertinent committees particularly as it relates to the processing of the 6-hour “diversity requirement.” It was noted that the minutes of the February 4, 2010 Senate Meeting minutes state that “the proposal passed with the stipulation that it goes to Academic Affairs for further study and editing (13-6-2) (see page 2 of Attachment 6). A motion was made and seconded that this item be sent to the Enrollment Management Subcommittee for additional study. Specifically, the Enrollment Management Subcommittee should do what the Senate tasked the Academic Affairs Committee to do at its May meeting of directing additional study to this matter, including the actual need for a new diversity course requirement. Following additional discussion, the motion was approved with 2 “no” votes.

## **VII. New Business**

Committee Member Curtis led some discussion regarding recent statements made by Chancellor Carter regarding anticipated or proposed budgetary actions and/or reductions that would directly and negatively impact Academic Affairs. These statements are of concern to Dr. Curtis and others not only in terms of fiscal impact, but in terms of “shared governance” in the historical UNCP decision-making processes. Committee Member Curtis made a motion to ask the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee to ask the members of the Executive Committee to activate the Senate-related Budget Committee (which was previously active and continues to exist) and charge this Budget Committee with taking an active role in budgetary affairs of the University. The motion was seconded by Committee Member D’Arruda. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. Announcements - none**

**IX. Adjournment** – Committee Member Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m. which passed unanimously.

Zoe W. Locklear,  
Secretary-in-Rotation