***SUNY Oswego – Academic Policies Council Minutes, February 27, 2015***

***\* \* D R A F T \* \****

**Members in attendance**: S. Fettes, M. Mohammadi, J. Nichols, P. Tomascak, K. White, J. Zenor

**Guest: Y. Petrella**

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 p.m.

1. The verbal **agenda** was revised. The revised language in the academic probation policy was added. P. Tomascak moved to approve and the unseconded motion passed *nem con*.
2. The **minutes of the 2/6/15 meeting** were examined. K. White moved to approve, seconded by S. Fettes. The motion passed *nem con*.
3. S. Fettes made her **Chair’s report**. S. Fettes communicated with J. MacDonald concerning the questions the Council had with the Minor in Accounting, however no revised proposal has been returned.
4. The **request to institute policies regarding hybrid courses** was considered, with helpful overview and response to questions from Y. Petrella. We must be clear on responsibilities for both students and faculty with these kinds of courses, yet there is no policy to provide guidance at present. From the student side to know what the difference is relative to fully in-class and fully online courses, and for instructors and Chairs to know that academic rigor will be maintained. It is viewed as critical that instructional designers are closely involved in the process of constructing and implementing hybrid courses. It was pointed out that it is unwise to dictate the specifics of how individual hybrid courses are implemented *a priori*; such decisions are discipline-specific. The Council felt that two forms rather than the one currently drawn up, are needed: one as a record of the establishment of such a course (to reside in Dean’s office), and a second to be used each semester that instruction of a hybrid course is requested (acting, in effect, as a contract between department Chair and instructor). The current form contains a line with, “On-campus hours for instructor…” which needs to be changed for clarity and to be in the “contract” form. It was further noted that all that is being done does little to inform the student. To this end, the Council requests that the section notes in myoswego carry summary information about the hybrid section of the course. The Council looks forward to reading the revised version of this material.
5. The **proposal to create a Minor in Nutrition** was examined. There was some concern over the inclusion of a graduate course (HSC 512) in the Minor electives, but M. Mohammadi indicated that the prerequisite of graduate standing is waived in appropriate cases. It was noted that attempting to access the Graduate Catalog online is not straightforward (e.g., navigating through faculty/staff popular links brings you to the Undergraduate Catalog instead). Nonetheless, P. Tomascak moved to approve the proposal, seconded by J. Nichols. The motion passed *nem con*.
6. The slightly modified language for the **policies regarding Academic Standing** (the probation policy) was discussed. The wording in the proposal that was passed out at Faculty Assembly was slightly different from that approved by Council on 2/6/15, owing to the need to clarify financial aid details for students. Following a motion from K. White (seconded by J. Zenor), the language was approved *nem con*. This will be read out and there will be no need to extend the time before FA can vote on the proposed policy.
7. The **request** (if you want to call it that) **to change the entrance requirement in Initial Teacher Preparation programs** (Childhood, Adolescence, and TESOL)wasdiscoursed. The request (to change the current 2.5 GPA to 3.0) stems from a directive from the SUNY Chancellor dated September 2013, strangely. If the Council was to not approve this, it seems unlikely to have any effect, as the School of Education is mandated to make this change. However, the Council was perturbed with the State’s heavy-handed approach in the matter and views as unlikely the potential of this having a substantive positive effect on teacher preparation at Oswego. In this spirit, there was no motion to approve the request. The Reporter will simply state: *the Council declined to vote on the directive based on the SUNY Educator Preparation Program policies. The following change to the Catalog is required: on pages 73, 75, and 78 of the current undergraduate catalog the*

*“… Oswego GPA of 2.5 …” is to be changed to*

*“… Oswego GPA of 3.0 … .”*

Following a motion from S. Fettes, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. Due to the cancellation of the previous meeting date, the next meeting is scheduled for Friday 3/6 at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by P. Tomascak, 3/5/15.