COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND ADVISING
Minutes of the Meeting for September 10, 2013

The committee met on Tuesday, September 10, 2013, at 11:15 a.m. in Room 210 Strong Hall. The following were present: Antonik, Baskett, Bayer, Bradley, Brumfield, Childers, Conrad, Fillian, Garibotto, Gegenheimer, Goldstein, Hamilton, Hilding, Kelly, Ledom, Neidert, Persley, Rockey, Stock, Timm, Zogry

Welcome: Professor Neidert called the meeting to order.

Approval of CUSA Minutes: A motion was made to approve the August 27, 2013 meeting minutes of the Committee on Undergraduate Studies & Advising. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Dean’s Office Update: CLAS Strategic Plan Feedback
Dean Goldstein presented the College of Liberal Arts and Science: Strategic Plan for 2014-2019 (see attachment a). He asked that CUSA members e-mail Larry Fillian with their individual feedback specifically pertaining to #1 and #3 (Transforming Undergraduate Education and Moving Into New Academic Spaces.) Once that information has been compiled a final draft will be sent to CUSA for their review and sent on to be incorporated into the strategic plan for the College.

Dean Goldstein related that the Teaching Post Doc Program is meeting expectations. One of the ideas behind this program is to have more engaged learning in the very large lecture classes. Better organization of classrooms is needed to facilitate more interaction time between student and faculty members. Geography, geology and biological sciences; are all undergoing major course re-design initiatives. A call for proposals will go out in the next few months for other departments. In the future, we are hoping to include the humanities, contingent on funding.

SAS Office Update: 
No updates on Student Academic Services at this time.

Mr. Fillian discussed the current KU Core course proposal approval process. Last year proposals were simultaneously submitted to CUSA and the UCCC. Going forward, KU Core nomination proposals will first be vetted by CUSA, once the courses that have been approved by CUSA they will be forwarded to UCCC. A clear reporting process between CUSA and the UCCC is needed to better facilitate communication between both committees. Dean Goldstein recommended that a joint meeting be called with members of CUSA subcommittee and UCCC to review each core goal and any outstanding issues.

Subcommittee Assignments:

A. Advising & Awards – BGS
Professor Childers reported that the Advising & Awards Subcommittee met and identified data needed to assess the BGS with major and they are in the process of gathering that information to move forward.

B. Curricular Changes/Degree Requirements KU Core Proposals (attachment b)
Professor Conrad presented the KU Core course nominations. A motion was made to approve the KU Core Proposals. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

ANTH 301 was provisionally approved for Goal 4.2 in the KU Core, but CUSA questioned the two nomination form responses that indicated not all sections of the course would teach to ensure learning outcomes or assess learning outcomes for the class. The department has been contacted and is considering whether to change the course structure in order to move the nomination forward.

CLSX 374 was approved for Goal 4.2 and HIST 352 was approved for Goal 5.1. After the meeting it was discovered that the courses are cross-listed with courses in other departments. CUSA will require that all affected departments (not just the one proposing their section of the course) confirm they are aware of the expectations associated with approved courses for the KU Core and are willing to participate before cross-listed course nominations can move forward. All affected departments have been notified.

C. Academic Standards Report – Undergraduate Certificates
Professor Antonik reported that the Academic Standards Subcommittee met. They discussed the certificates and are determining what purpose the certificates should serve to the students and the university. The subcommittee is currently reviewing information from peer institutions to determine what kind of certificates are currently available, and how they are used as job tools for the students.

Adjournment 11:45 a.m.