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January 24, 2014 - ALEC Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes

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ALEC Undergraduate Curriculum
Minutes
January 24, 2014

Present: Mark Balschweid, Lloyd Bell, Karen Cannon, Lindsay Hastings, Myunghwa Kang, L.J. McElravy, Gina Matkin, Laura Snell, Annie Specht, and Roger Terry, Chair.

Minutes
Motion: Matkin moved to approve the December 13 minutes. Hastings second. Approved.

Unfinished/ongoing Business

Review bulletin and curricular actions for ALEC 134, 136, 480, 495B – Cannon presented the proposed changes to the bulletin and curricular actions for ALEC 134, 136, 480 and 495 in the Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Communication program.
134 - Eliminate the word journalism and the editorial emphasis which no longer exists in this program;
136 - Remove natural resources and add environmental sciences education
480 - More than a name change, changing focus on the Strategic Discussions for Nebraska publication which will make it more consistent as a capstone experience.
495B – Change in name and removing emphasis on advertising, broadcasting, and new editorial.

Bell mentioned that ALEC 480 will be somewhat more involved because of the ACE 10 requirements. He suggested Brooke Glenn, Undergraduate Education Programs, be contacted because the ACE 10 courses are going to be reviewed for recertification in 2015. The ACE 10 would need to stay in place until the revised ALEC 480 course has been approved. Cannon will contact Brooke Glenn.

Motion - Cannon moved to proceed forward with the curriculum approval for ALEC 134, 136, 495B and 480 (after contacting Brooke Glenn). Second by Matkin. Approved.

Four year plans completed? – Matkin reported that the leadership 4 year plan was approved by email vote. The email was approved 5-0. Cannon presented the Agricultural Environmental Sciences Communication (AESC) 4 year plan. Cannon had worked with Karen Jackson to make sure it matched the bulletin.

Motion – Cannon moved to approve the Agricultural Environmental Sciences Communication (AESC) 4 year plan. Second by Matkin. Approved.

Bell indicated Dr. Husmann supervised the development of the Agricultural Education 4 year plan. 
Motion - Bell moved to approve the Agricultural Education 4 year plan. Seconded by Cannon. Approved.

ALEC Instructional Improvement Plan – Balschweid mentioned that every department has an instructional improvement plan (IIP). The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee oversees the ALEC IIP plan since this committee deals with the curriculum. Cannon, Terry and Balschweid serve on a sub-committee for teaching evaluation for graduate students, adjunct, and new faculty. ALEC department needs to evaluate teaching effectiveness. Balschweid will submit our IIP plan and a proposal will be presented for review at the faculty meeting in March.
Announcements/Updates

Recruitment Update – Snell reported we have 60 students who have applied to our department. Thirty nine accepted and 16 paid housing deposits. Snell met with the College of Education and Human Sciences (CEHS) recruiting staff and that was a great way to learn about professional advising. Some recruiting concerns between CEHS and CASNR exist and ALEC developed our own HRTM advising checklist to be given to potential CASNR students. A congratulatory letter is being sent out to those accepted into our program. The World Food Prize will get more students to campus. Snell reported that a student in the ALEC program choose ALEC because of the World Food Prize. New inserts need to be created for our newly named Agricultural Environmental Sciences Communication program.

Advisory Council meeting date is April 2 and CED is during the same week. Program faculty now have the opportunity to invite people to serve on the Advisory Council and no longer need approval. There is no change in the term limit, which is three years. Once selected by the program faculty, inform Dr. Balschweid so he can send a formal welcome, stating their parameters.

Discussion continued about rescheduling our next UCC meeting date which is presently scheduled on April 11 to April 4.

Youth Civic Leadership Position – Balschweid announced L.J. McElravy has accepted the position of Assistant Professor, Youth Civic Leadership. This position starts August 1, 2014.


New Study Aboard – Balschweid shared that for several years at Purdue, he led a study abroad to Jamaica for Ag Education. Jamaica has a very similar program for teacher preparation as ALEC. John Kerrigan, is the CASNR and CEHS study abroad coordinator, and will promote and increase the number of study abroad programs for students. Currently, the cost is quite high and the Dean’s Council wants to find less expensive study abroad programs in the northern hemisphere. Balschweid approached several of the ALEC faculty about leading a study abroad. Kang and Balschweid visited with John Kerrigan, about an ecotourism experience in Jamaica and a discussed what program students could bring back to Nebraska in an entrepreneurship model. Kang and Balschweid will travel to Jamaica over spring break to look at our different options and start planning a trip for the Spring of 2015. Balschweid has agreed to co-lead this with the promise of Kang and someone else assisting. Kang mentioned Jamaica has been very successful with tourism. Many countries have been interested in visiting Jamaica, hoping to learn from their experiences. This is a great resource for students. This program could then be offered to all CASNR students, rather than only HRTM students.

Moved to adjourn. Approved.