COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 BRICKER HALL

June 4, 2008

3:00-5:00PM

Present:

Professors: Sheryl Barringer, Larry Baum, E. Kay Halasek (Chair), Daniel A. Mendelsohn, John M. Robinson, W. Randy Smith (Vice Chair).

Student Members: Sean McKinniss (Council of Graduate Students)

Guests: Jed Dickhaut, Associate Registrar, Office of the University Registrar; David Roy, Senior Assistant Director, Enrollment Services; Dr. John Wanzer, Assistant Provost Dr. Briggs Cormier, and Professor Alexis Collier, Associate Provost, Office of Academic Affairs; Professor Charles Wise, Director, John Glenn School of Public Affairs, Dr. Kate Hallihan, Director, Curriculum and Assessment Office, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences; Professor Elliot Slotnick, Graduate School.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 21, 2008

Due to lack of quorum, the Minutes for the meeting of May 21, 2008 will need to be approved through an e-mail vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR E. KAY HALASEK

- The University Senate, at its meeting on May 29, 2008, approved proposals for the Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning, the Masters of Business Operational Excellence, and Regular Clinical Track Faculty for the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

- Executive Vice President and Provost Alutto has announced that Smith will serve as Interim Executive Dean and Vice Provost for the Arts and Sciences from July 1-31, 2008, until Interim Executive Dean and Vice Provost Joan Leitzel arrives to assume the position.

- Again today, there is no quorum to permit voting on proposals. All Council members will be asked to vote by e-mail on these proposals by June 6, 2008.

- Summer 2008 Council meeting dates have not yet to be scheduled.
COMMENTS FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

- The Board of Trustees will meet June 5, 2006 and the revised Centers Rule is on the agenda. Smith noted that the College of Engineering had just met with him about aligning its centers/institutes with the new establishment/review procedures.

- Smith informed the Council that Lakshmi Dutta will move to the College of Dentistry for a senior advising position. Smith expressed his thanks to her for her outstanding work in the Office of Academic Affairs over the past two years. Council members expressed their appreciation.

- Briggs Cormier was introduced. He is currently working with Vice Provost Carole Anderson but will also work with Smith. He will be working on calendar, submission of courses, and Council proposal processing. Smith indicated that Alexis Collier, Associate Provost will begin working more closely with him and Cormier on Council proposals, and she will be attending all Council meetings.

UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE JOHN GLENN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS - PROFESSOR CHARLES WISE, DIRECTOR, JOHN GLENN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Wise gave an update on the merger of John Glenn Institute and the School of Public Policy and Management that created the new John Glenn School of Public Affairs.

Several important steps in School implementation have occurred. He was appointed full-time director and a Board of Advisors, chaired by Senator John Glenn, was appointed. The plan to hire a visiting professor was modified to hire a distinguished visiting “practitioner”. That individual has now taught a budget class at the School. With regard to School promotion, the website has been totally revamped, and new brochures were created to publicize the School. There will be three faculty hires, with only one being a replacement.

In terms of Master’s enrollment, admissions were 74% higher than the previous year. They are tracking data on dual degree programs. Applications are up from 2007 to 2008.

They have reorganized the staff to address critical needs for recruitment and placement. The Director of Recruitment directly reports to Dr. Wise and an office of student affairs with support staff has been established. This has made a significant difference.

They are celebrating 35 years of the School of Public Policy with presentations from prominent public service individuals, in the State House atrium.

On planning the directions for the School, they began by focusing on various stakeholders the School serves and with whom it interacts. Wise appointed a coordinating
committee that formed 14 task forces. Next year the program will be going through re-accreditation and a group is charged with producing a self-study report.

In Ohio and nationwide there is an aging work force in the public sector. About 75% in supervisory roles are eligible to retire in the next few years, so the public sector will be devoid of people in leadership roles. Indeed, the states with oldest work forces are Ohio and Rhode Island.

There is an opportunity to increase enrollment at the master’s level to help with this situation. The School is focused on broadening the applicant pool regionally and nationally, will add courses in the policy specialty, and increase attention to geographical placement. There is plan to raise funds to support graduate students.

The “citizen” task force found that the School is offering an extensive array of citizen activities. The primary audience in these activities is in the Columbus area. The School has short term training for state government employees. In the MA program, the enrollees come from state government. A Council member asked how large enrollment growth would be. They project that there will be 145 students in five years, but they are running ahead of that projection. The job opportunities are very good in this field. They hope to expand the dual degree programs for students in other colleges within the University. Findings show that satisfaction with dual degrees is very high. The “communication” task force identified a number of target audiences that the School needs address. Currently they rely on the web and alumni magazine to communicate.

A Council member asked about the undergraduate program in Washington DC. Is it in transition? Yes: the previous director left and they are in the process of filling the position. The previous director resigned in Autumn 2007, so the program was suspended for Winter 2008. They have changed the student living quarters and the office of director, and classroom facilities have been upgraded.

Does the majority of the students go into public service? Many students either go into public service, or work for consulting firms or public relations companies.

The University recently has taken a strong stand on international activity. Do you see the School aligning with such activity? Yes. Wise said that his own background is in international work. He is very interested in developing international programs. The University has the capability for broad contribution and would like to see lot of interdisciplinary activity in those areas.

Smith added that the Council is supposed to review the new school within the next 3 years.

PROFESSORS E. KAY HALASEK AND W. RANDY SMITH – SUBCOMMITTEE D
Proposal to Revise the Undergraduate Major Program – Department of Political Science

Professor William Liddle gave an overview of the proposal. The key is to strengthen the breadth and depth of the program. The revision includes adding a required pre-major course. Prior to declaring a major in Political Science, a student must complete at least one course from Political Science 100, 101, 145, 165, 201, 210, 211, or 245. The addition serves two purposes. First, it brings the major into compliance with the Ohio Board of Regents’ “Transfer Assurance Guide,” which is defined by statute. This conformity permits assigning transfer credit more accurately and appropriately, without disadvantaging current Ohio State students in favor of transfer students. Second, this addition allows instructors to expect students in advanced Political Science courses to have at least some foundational knowledge.

The major has been conventionally divided into four fields: American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Theory. At the introductory or pre-major level, PS 100 is an introductory course to Comparative Politics; PS 101 and 201 to American Politics; PS 145 and 245 to International Relations; and PS 165, 210, and 211 to Political Theory.

It is also proposed to increase total credit hours in the major by five hours from 45 to 50. The additional course will be an advanced undergraduate course in Political Science. This change is due to the requirement to take at least one course in each of four fields (breadth component) instead of the current one course in each of three fields.

Requiring a slightly greater level of breadth in the major will ensure that students do not graduate unaware of as much as 25% of the discipline. The change also reflects the increased prominence of Political Theory in the department.

Students are also required to complete a focus of four courses in a single field. Alumni surveys show that this is the greatest need perceived by students. Adding required depth while ensuring at least minimal breath provides students with a more structured and rigorous academic experience.

It is also proposed to limit all credits from internship experiences, regardless of course number, to ten credit hours. Currently as many as 20 credit hours of internships can be used for the undergraduate major. These changes will also require changes to their undergraduate Honors major to conform to the new requirements.

This proposal underwent rigorous review by the Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction. Smith noted that when a programmatic proposal
includes course forms, the course forms are not approved until the proposal is approved.

Halasek added that the peer institution chart has converted credit hours from semester hours to quarter hours. The addition of pre-major courses will enable transfer students to get equivalent course transfer. Currently, a student who takes PS 100-level courses at other Ohio public institutions would earn advanced credit for introductory course upon transferring to Ohio State as a Political Science major. Students with credit for PS 300 received credit for PS 500 at Ohio State because Political Science did not offer an introductory level state and local government course, so no equivalent was possible. The creation of a pre-major in Political Science at Ohio State resolves these anomalies.

Halasek asked if all the pre-major courses are general education curriculum (GEC) courses. All pre-major courses except PS 211 are GEC courses. PS 211 is the new prerequisite to political theory track. This new course has been submitted for review as a GEC course.

Liddle added that the Glenn School Washington internship is a strong recruitment tool for the Department. He added that there should be a better way of interacting with the Glenn School.

Why is there an increase of 5 hours in the major? In order to have a rigorous focus area, a prerequisite has been added to each one. Moreover, students are required to take one course in each focus area and the Political Theory focus area was added for breadth area.

Halasek indicated that item 6 of Appendix 1 and Appendix 3 are not consistent. It was pointed out that the Appendix 3 is the proposed revision.

The proposal will be voted upon later via e-mail.

- **Proposal to Develop a Graduate Research Specialization in Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy – School of Allied Medical Professions**

Halasek informed the Council that the e-mail message from Professor Jane Case-Smith clarified that OT 751 and 789 or PT 785.01 are not additional hours. She also clarified the number of hours associated with courses OT 751, 789, PT 785.01, 785.02, 785.03, and 785.05.

Case-Smith also confirmed that students must take at least 5 additional hours over at least 3 quarters to earn the specialization. However, they may take more than 3 quarters and more than 5 hours. The most that a MOT student would take is 3 quarters, because they graduate in 7 quarters and would not be eligible until their fourth quarter. The DPT students may take more than 3 quarters of
AM 885.01 because their program extends over 3 years. So, although only 5 hours/3quarters are required, more hours/quarters can be taken. An agreement on number of hours would be made at the outset of the program in a contract between the advisor and the student.

Slotnick added that the Curriculum Review Committee of the Graduate School held its initial discussion of the proposal to establish a new Graduate Specialization (Research Specialization) in Occupational and Physical Therapy graduate program. The Committee found the goal of establishing such a specialization was within the scope of that curriculum option’s reach. However, the Committee raised several concerns about the proposed specialization in its present form. The proposal seemed to be analogous to an “Honors” program within the graduate curriculum, but lacking the appropriate structures and standards associated with a graduate specialization. There were four recommendations to revise the proposal. The revised proposal was reviewed and approved by the Curriculum Review Committee.

Smith asked if there are other proposals coming forward from the Graduate School. Slotnick noted that proposed changes to the Graduate School committee structure have been approved by the University Senate. A new body will replace the former Research and Graduate Council, and there will be a curricular component to it.

The proposal will be voted upon later via e-mail.

- **Revision to the Sociology and Criminology Majors – Department of Sociology**

Halasek reminded the Council that at the last meeting it approved the revision to the Sociology major but tabled the Criminology proposal, requiring a corrected major course list.

The criminology major revisions were made as suggested. There were no issues with this proposal.

The revision to Criminology proposal will be voted upon later via e-mail.

- **Revisions to the Undergraduate Major Programs (Landscape Horticulture, Crop Science, and Turf Grass Science)– Department of Horticulture and Crop Science**

Jill Pfister, Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, gave an overview of a proposal for changes to bring consistency to the three majors - offering a broad foundation in Soil Science, Plant Pathology, and Entomology. Landscape Horticulture has 65 hours in the major, while Crop
Science and Turfgrass Science have 55 hours. The proposal is mostly repackaging courses that already exist and moving them from the elective group to the required group, or repackaging them so that students can understand why they are taking these courses. A student is required to take a course plant pathology, soil science, and entomology.

Does repackaging mean that there is a potential additional 10 hours for Crop Science and Turfgrass Science? Yes.

The proposal will be voted upon later via e-mail.

Halasek and Smith said that the Minutes and all substantive proposals discussed at this meeting will be sent to all Council members via e-mail for action no later than June 6, 2008.

- Center Policies and Procedures

There were no comments on the proposed Center Guidelines and Procedures. The University Research Committee is currently reviewing them. Smith added that this Summer the Office of Academic Affairs will send them to all established centers/institutes and the colleges to which they report. The college document must align with the university guidelines, and should be embedded in the college Pattern of Administration (POA). The Provost will discuss this with Deans at a forthcoming Council of Deans’ meeting.

Smith informed the Council that during the Summer he and Vice Provost Martha Garland will be convening representatives from all colleges and academic support areas to discuss ongoing and planned “leadership” initiatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Lakshmi Dutta