The meeting began at 8:00 a.m.

The Chair welcomed the members of the Committee.

Consent Agenda:

The following items remained on the Consent Agenda and passed unanimously.
1. Department of Humanities and Communications – Changing Restrictions or Credits in a Course – COM 3231 (Writing about Science)
2. College of Business
   a. Adding a New Course to the Curriculum – BUS 3509 (Intro to Sports Mgmt.)

Agenda Discussion Items

The following item was discussed and unanimously tabled.
2. College of Business
   b. Adding a New Major or Minor to the Curriculum – Sport Management

The first question that arose concerned the existence in the program of both BUS 1601 (Computer Applications for Business), a computer-literacy-designated course, and the indications on the proposed program flowchart that a student would take a computer literacy exam. It was explained that this was consistent with other College of Business (COB) courses. Students, particularly transfer students, often come into the program with sufficient mastery of computer literacy, and are allowed to take the computer literacy exam in lieu of taking BUS 1601, in which case credit would be given for BUS 1601.

It was next asked why the proposed program has only a 2-credit-hour free elective. It was thought that every program was required to have a free elective, and the question arose as to whether it was required that the elective be for 3 credit hours considering that most of the courses on campus carry 3 credits. In response, it was said that the proposed program only had a 2-credit-hour elective because it would keep the program consistent with other COB programs which have a total of 120 credit hours, however there was no strong feeling either way (whether it was a 3-credit-hour elective or a 2-credit-hour elective). It was felt most students would probably take a 3-credit-hour course to satisfy the elective, but two 1-credit-hour courses would also be taken, such as Physical Education courses. After additional discussion, it was pointed out that other programs currently in the University Catalog also have 1- or 2-credit-hour free electives, and some courses have none. Thus, it was concluded that what was thought to be a requirement
about having a free elective in every program in fact was only a recommendation passed by the Committee at an earlier date.

Next, it was asked why the title of the program was “Sport Management” instead of “Sports Management.” In response, it was noted that a Google search for similar programs returned the title “Sport Management,” and thus the title was given to remain consistent, but there was no strong feeling for it one way or another, and it would be acceptable if the Committee decided to add the “s” into the title. The Committee agreed that adding the “s” would make the title sound better.

The new program includes PSY 2446 (Sports Psychology) in a fall semester, and it was asked whether passage of the new program would mean this course would have to be taught more often and whether such discussion had been held with the Dean of the College of Business. It was also pointed out that PSY 2446 was currently only taught every other year, and in the spring semester. In response, it was noted that discussions were held with the Dean, but no resource issues were brought up related to this issue. As a result, it was noted that COB will have to coordinate this with the School of Psychology.

The issue was raised that two new required courses for the proposed program (BUS 4xxx Economics and Finance of Sport, and BUS 4xxx Event and Facilities Mgmt.) and one new restricted elective (BUS 4xxx Team Leadership) had not yet been developed or passed by the Committee. It was recognized that COB intended to initially teach these courses through BUS 4504 (Special Topics in Management), but not even preliminary syllabi were being presented before the Committee, and it was felt this went against the custom of the Committee: to not approve new programs when not all required courses had been approved or developed. In response, it was noted that the two required courses are in almost all sport management programs offered at other universities, and there didn’t seem to be any reason the Committee would disapprove these courses in the future. The reason they weren’t yet developed was because COB is anticipating new faculty with specialization in the relevant areas to develop these courses, but those faculty have yet to be hired. Also, it was expected that the courses would be refined while offered under BUS 4504 before being finalized and presented before the Committee for approval. It was then asked whether the Special Topics courses would have appropriate prerequisites, to which the answer was “yes.” The lack of having the new courses yet developed caused concern amongst the Committee members, and a motion was made to table approval of the new program until syllabi could for the new courses could be reviewed. It was asked if passage of the program in January would cause any problems. In response, it was pointed out that delay in passage would cause some problems with marketing the new program next year, that awaiting passage until January would mean missing significant marketing opportunities. It was then suggested that if COB could make syllabi available to the Committee no later than Dec. 10, the Committee could review them and vote on passage by email no later than Dec. 16. The motion to table was seconded and passed unanimously.

Amendment: After the meeting, per the above notes, syllabi were distributed to the Committee on Dec. 10. Committee members voted by email, and on Dec. 17, the Chair
tallied the vote and announced that the Sports Management program had been approved by a vote of 11-1-1.

Discussion Items:
1. Update on University Core Modification (Dr. Rosiene)

Dr. Rosiene noted that the subcommittee on this issue has been trying to meet at least once in between each Committee meeting. He pointed out that the 2012-2013 edition of the University Catalog would be the first edition where changes to the core would appear. He said that Liz Fox (Director of Catalog and Graduate Information) had drafted text that reflects the proposed changes that will be sent to the Provost for approval. In the meantime, the subcommittee is investigating implementing some of the changes before they appear in the print edition of the University Catalog to give flexibility to the students. In particular, transfer students who come to Florida Tech with an Associates degree will be deemed to have met the core requirements, while other students with less than an Associates degree will meet with the Humanities Dept. to help determine appropriate course substitutions, though this is still being considered and a final process has not yet been determined. The Registrar indicated that while it is common practice to make course substitutions at the end of a student’s program, these substitutions can be made at any time, and it will be a big help if they are, in fact, made early in the student’s program. This is in large part because the goal of the University is to move away from the course substitution forms and fully implement CAPP for all of main campus. A discussion ensued on course substitutions, and it was emphasized that the academic departments will still have flexibility to make course substitutions, provided that the substitutions are reasonable (i.e. one should not substitute a math course for a social sciences elective). The Registrar will still disseminate Transfer Credit Evaluations to the departments, from which the departments will be able to appropriately make course substitutions. This may mean that the various departments rather than the Humanities Dept. will address course substitutions for HUM 2052 (Civilization: Renaissance Through Modern). Eventually, this will implemented via CAPP.

Because time remained, and no additional business was before the Committee, another topic was briefly raised. It was asked whether other faculty were contending with students who were “gaming” the Health Center. It was explained that when a student goes to the Health Center, the Health Center will provide the student will a note attesting to the fact that the student was, in fact, at the Center, but that the note should not be construed as a medical reason for missing class. Despite this, it seemed that several (or many) faculty members do accept these notes as a medical excuse to miss class. An example was then given of a student who seemed to get a note from the Health Center almost on a daily basis, and it was asked if others were experiencing similar problems. No one else reported as much.
The Chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas, and noted the date of the next meeting.

Our next meeting is Friday, January 28 at 8:00 a.m. in the Physical Sciences conference room. Agenda items are due Friday, January 21.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Archambault – Chair