The meeting began at 8:01 a.m.

The Chair welcomed the Committee.

All items on the Consent Agenda were removed for discussion.

Prior to discussion, a request was made to update the “Changing Graduation Requirements in a Major/Minor” form and the “Request to Change the Requirements to a Course” to conform with the agreement the Committee reached at its October 2014 meeting regarding whether changes to a program or course would impact that program’s assessment procedure. The Registrar’s Office indicated that there was a delay, but that the forms have been modified and should be made public very shortly.

Consent Agenda Discussion Items:

The following item was discussed, and approved on a vote of 13-0-1.

1. College of Aeronautics
   a. CGR – B.S. Aeronautical Science

It was asked to what point changes can be made to a program before it becomes a new program. The concern was raised that the program was being modified in a significant way, and that students who received this degree only a few years ago would have a completely different skill set than students who would receive this degree in the future, yet have the same degree. It was felt that the program was being “gutted.” In response, it was explained that the program was being modified to come into line with the B.S. in Aeronautical Science – Flight Option program, which was changed into its current form approximately six years ago. Currently, a number of students come to Florida Tech entering the Flight Option of the program, only to find that it is more expensive than they can afford (for example), and want to switch to the non-flight option. However, in many cases, students are not able to complete the more rigorous math and science requirements in the non-flight option. Very few students have graduated from the non-flight option in recent years. It was also explained that the students do not need the higher-level math (Calculus and above) for the types of careers they are being prepared for.

It was suggested that perhaps the name of the program be changed so as “science” was not implied, but COA was not in favor of this.

It was pointed out that Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, a premier flight school in the nation, also has degrees in Aeronautical Science, and employ even lower-level math and science requirements than the Florida Tech program is requesting.

On a separate note, it was asked if COA could provide a term-by-term listing of courses, to which the response was “yes.” (Note: after the meeting, COA sent the Chair such a listing to be included with the CGR form when it is given to the Registrar’s Office.)
The following item was discussed and unanimously approved, as amended.

College of Engineering
2. Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering
   a. CRC - ECE 2551 - Software/Hardware Design

It was pointed out that ECE 1552 (Computer Design) was already a prerequisite according to the University Catalog. However, it was explained that the ECE Dept. had requested, and the UGCC approved, the removal of ECE 1552 as a prerequisite and the addition of ECE 1551 (Digital Logic) during the April 2014 meeting. This change would not have yet been reflected in the catalog. The ECE Dept. is now undoing that change. It was emphasized, however, that the reversion to ECE 1552 as a prerequisite would not be effective until Fall 2016.

It was also pointed out that ECE 1551 is a prerequisite to ECE 1552, thus having ECE 1551 as a prerequisite on ECE 2551 would be redundant. The CRC form was amended to also remove ECE 1551 as a prerequisite.

The following items were discussed and unanimously approved.

College of Science
3. Dept. of Biological Sciences
   a. ANC - BIO 3201 - Anatomy and Physiology 1
   b. ANC - BIO 3202 - Anatomy and Physiology 2

A question arose as to how only one of the multiple “OR” prerequisites could prepare a student for BIO 3201 when each of those courses has completely different content, and a student could take any one of them. In response, it was explained that it is not the subject matter of BIO 2801 or MTH 2401 or PSY 2512 or PSY 3012 that is needed to prepare the students for BIO 3201, but instead it is the experience of learning experimental analysis with statistics that is required, and each of the “OR” prerequisite courses has this, as do a number of other courses on campus. The Committee agreed this was a valid use of the named prerequisites.

There was no discussion related to BIO 3202. It was removed from the Consent Agenda only because it depended on the approval for BIO 3201.

Discussion Items:

1. Placement scores and higher-level courses satisfying prereqs
   (Dr. Archambault)

A request from the Registrar’s Office was made to consider whether higher-level courses can automatically be considered (and programmed in BANNER) as “OR” prerequisites when a lower-level prerequisite has already been approved for a course. In particular, considering a specific example, some courses require MTH 1701 (College Algebra) as a prerequisite, but a student may have earned credit for (perhaps) MTH 1001 (Calculus 1) which is considered a higher-level course. The question is, if a course lists MTH 1701 as a prerequisite, can that be read (in BANNER) as “MTH 1701 or higher-level math”?

Discussion revolved around how broadly this could be applied. For example, if a course lists PHY 1001 (Physics 1) as a prerequisite, and student has credit for PHY 2002 (Physics 2), would the requested practice apply? In this case, it would not be appropriate. The Registrar’s Office clarified that the request was directed primarily at lower-level, remedial-type prerequisites.
The Committee seemed to understand what the Registrar’s Office was requesting, and agreed in principle to permit the practice, but emphasized that the Registrar’s Office should contact the appropriate academic unit before implementing the practice on any given course to ensure the unit is in agreement and that there is no confusion.

2. Remarks (Ms. Young)
Ms. Young announced that she would be retiring at the end of the academic year, and that this would be the last UGCC meeting she would be able to attend. She noted that Mr. Dave Micus, most recently from Laramie, WY, would be taking over as the University Registrar. According to Ms. Young, Mr. Micus will officially arrive on campus April 6. She thanked the Committee for all of its assistance for her and for the Registrar’s Office over the many years she has served as the University Registrar.

The Committee thanked Ms. Young for all her hard work, advice, and commitment to the University, and wished her well in her retirement.

3. Credit for dual-numbered courses (Dr. Turner) (raised at meeting)
Dr. Turner raised a concern that the University does not have a general policy related to students who complete both the undergraduate and graduate version of a dual-numbered course and what credit is received towards an undergraduate degree. He provided an example of where a student would enroll in a BIO 4XXX field course, then at a later time but while still an undergraduate, enroll in the BIO 5XXX version of the same course (perhaps because they enjoyed the field experience the first time, and wanted to do it again). The concern is that such a student can receive credit twice for the exact same course at the undergraduate level, BANNER does not catch such duplication, and, in his opinion, this should not be permitted. Dr. Turner provided a handout explaining his concern in more detail (posted on the UGCC website).

It was asked if BANNER could be programmed to catch such duplication (such as “NOT” condition in the course restrictions), but the Registrar’s Office did not think that was possible. Short of having an advisor catch such duplication in the student’s transcript, no immediate solution was proposed.

Because of the time, Dr. Turner’s request to prohibit such practice did not receive a full discussion. As such, the matter was tabled for additional discussion at the next meeting.

The Chair noted the date for the next meeting. The next meeting will be the Committee’s final meeting of the academic year.

Our next regular meeting is Fri., Apr. 24 at 8:00 a.m. in the Physical Sciences conference room. Agenda items are due Fri., Apr. 17.

The meeting ended at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Archambault – Chair