

San Diego Miramar College
Academic Standards Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2010, 12:30 – 1:30
A-201

Present: George Beitey; Reginald Boyd; Lisa Clarke; Bob Fritsch; Jeff Higginbotham;
Thu Nguyen; Duane Short

Guests: M. Kjartanson; student petitioner (petition reference # 209)

1) Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm.

2) Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved with no changes.

3) Adjudication of student petitions

a) Waiver of Health Education requirement (petition reference # 209)

The student petitioner explained his request and briefly described his previous coursework in the health subject area, including his baccalaureate major coursework in the field of Kinesiology and two upper division courses similar to HEAL 101. The committee reviewed the content covered in the Health Education degree requirement (previously provided by K. Petti), the student's petition, and the syllabi from the student's previous coursework in this area.

Approved

b) Approval of Selected Studies degree (petition reference # 603)

The committee reviewed the petition and documentation provided. After discussion, the committee determined that the student's proposed Selected Studies degree in the subject area of medical laboratory technology is a cohesive and rigorous program of study related to a specific goal that is not met by other programs currently approved at Miramar College.

Approved

c) Approval of Selected Studies degree (petition reference # 926)

The committee reviewed the petition and documentation provided. After discussion, the committee determined that the student's proposed Selected Studies degree in the subject area of medical laboratory technology is a cohesive and rigorous program of study related to a specific goal that is not met by other programs currently approved at Miramar College.

Approved

- d) Approval of Selected Studies degree (petition reference # 867)

The committee reviewed the petition and documentation provided. After discussion, the committee determined that the student's proposed Selected Studies degree in the subject area of medical laboratory technology is a cohesive and rigorous program of study related to a specific goal that is not met by other programs currently approved at Miramar College.

Approved

- 4) Old Business – No items

- 5) New Business

- a) Health-related subjects in Paramedic academic courses (M. Kjartanson guest)

D. Short explained that a question had arisen in past meetings about whether the coursework required for a Paramedic degree has the content to fulfill the intent of the district Health Education requirement. M. Kjartanson explained that Paramedic programs cover anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, disease processes, and trauma-related items. These topics are covered primarily from the perspective of the service provider rather than from an internal self-discovery perspective. Paramedic programs also include some topics related to nutrition, lifestyle, and personal health. M. Kjartanson believes that students who complete paramedic programs have a good grasp of health issues and are exposed to a significant amount of health-related content that probably exceeds that covered in HEAL 101; however, the content may not be identical.

L. Clarke pointed out that students who have completed the requirements for a Nursing degree are waived from completing the Health Education requirement and asked if the education was similar for Paramedics. M. Kjartanson stated that Nursing courses include more didactic / lecture courses that would probably cover health issues in more depth.

After further discussion, M. Kjartanson stated that in her professional opinion the courses required in a Paramedic program would substantially cover the content expected in the Health Education requirement and therefore students who are licensed Paramedics or who have completed an approved Paramedic program should be waived from this requirement. This would be true for Paramedic programs in California or in other states.

Following M. Kjartanson's departure, the committee discussed whether a "blanket waiver" should be approved for students who have completed Paramedic training and whether this should be limited to students seeking a degree in Fire Protection Technology or whether it would apply to all students. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded that a "blanket waiver" of the Health Education requirement would be granted for students presenting a Paramedic's license, but that all other petitions to waive or substitute for this requirement would be reviewed individually by the committee.

Motion approved

b) Acceptance of credit from International Baccalaureate (IB) exams

D. Short reported that a proposal on the use of IB exams in SDCCD GE would be presented to the academic senates at each college. The proposal is intended to align the district's use of IB credit toward general education requirements with the UC and CSU systems.

c) SDCCD policy and procedure update

D. Short reported that the district Instructional Services office is coordinating an effort to revise and update the district's curriculum policies and procedures. D. Short is a member of the committee working on this project and would be happy to bring forward suggestions or other input on this topic.

6) Standing Reports

a) Evaluators – No report

b) Articulation Officer – No report

7) Roundtable – No items

8) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.