UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL ACTION MINUTES
November 30, 2012
1:30 – 2:48 pm PAC 3 I

Called by: Harshavardhan Bapat, Chair.
Attending: B. Kahn, W. Kline, B. Moore (staff to council), K. Moranski (ex-officio), J. Villegas, M. Cavanagh, E. Putnam, A. Mulvey, S. Sagmoen (ex-officio).
Guests: Brian Clevenger, Karen Kirkendall.
Absent: None

AGENDA

- Chair welcomed Karen Kirkendall, Director of the Honors Program. Kirkendall gave an overview of the Honors Program’s response to the Schuman report. There was discussion on recruitment of Faculty to teach in the Honors Program, as well as incentives for individuals and departments to provide instruction for Honors classes. There are some misconceptions about what teaching in Capitol Honors entails, and some clear delineation of duties would be useful. Kirkendall also addressed the administrative location of the program, and said the move out of CLAS was designed to aid in recruitment of Faculty and emphasize that the program is a University wide endeavor. The Director agreed with the Schuman report suggestion that the program be smaller. Schuman said an honors program should encompass 10 or 20% of the student body, while UIS is currently at 35%. Moranski explained how the high number of honors students works in our favor with the US News & World Report rankings. In response to the suggestion of a 3 year term for a Director of the program, Kirkendall said considering the multi-faceted aspect of the position, 3 years is not enough time to have an impact.

- Chair announced that Bill Kline is leaving Undergraduate Council to accept the position of Interim Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning and EXS-L. Kline said the decision was not made lightly and he will miss working with members of UGC.

- History Honors course of study – UGC has been asked to endorse a proposal for an Honors Program in the History department. There is a plan in place and a new HIS 402 course. UGC discussed and approved the proposal. This item does not have to go to Senate. The Chair will write a brief memo of support.

- Legal Studies Program Review – UGC will need a member to take the lead on this review. This will be the lone agenda item for our last meeting of the semester December 14.

- Motion to adjourn by Cavanagh; second by Putnam; meeting adjourned 2:48.