CCGB Meeting Agenda, May 6, 2005

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Undergraduate Announcements
3. ROTC Courses as Advisor-Approved Courses (Les Trotter)
4. Fourth Math Course for CS and ORIE Majors
5. Committee Assignments
6. Extra Meeting After Final Exams

CCGB Minutes, April 8, 2005

Ex-Officio: B. East, D. Maloney Hahn, R. Robbins, F. Shumway
Other: S. Coldren, C. Pakkala, N. Peterson

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 18, 2005 CCGB Meeting were approved as written.

Undergraduate Announcements: D. Gries mentioned that Bruce Corson would be visiting Cornell on Monday, 11 April and give a talk at 4:30 p.m. in 155 Olin Hall. He is Dale Corson’s son, and he owns an architecture firm and lectures about design all over the country. He will be available on Tuesday, 12 April for meetings. B. East announced that admissions selection is over, but Cornell Days began yesterday. She requested that everyone be nice to these folks visiting. They will be here about 10-11 days. Hosting will occur next weekend, 16 April – 17 April.

ROTC Courses as Advisor-Approved Courses: R. Robbins said that he obtained feedback from all three branches of the ROTC. They want to work with us to allow their courses to be used as advisor approved electives, and are willing to meet whatever standards we assign. There is a lot of leadership and ethics focus in all of the ROTC courses. They are sequenced and progressive. The Navy is concerned that ROTC students aren’t coming to Cornell because they can’t count the courses or that ROTC students who are here don’t go into Engineering for this reason. B. Kusse asked what other schools do with these types of courses. R. Robbins replied that his son is in ROTC at another institution and gets credit for these types of courses and the courses count toward graduation. B. East suggested that the Advising Office discover what our peer institutions do. D. Gries stated that the College of Arts & Sciences won’t count ROTC courses. R. Robbins said that some of the ROTC students are taking 20+ credit hours per semester and some of these courses are intense. He suggested that we could cap the number of ROTC credits at 3 or 6 but allow the students to use something as advisor-approved electives. L. Trotter asked how much extra effort the students put forth compared to someone who has a work study job. B. East replied that their activities (marching, etc.) are numerous. R. Robbins stated that the ROTC leaders are willing to come in and talk to the CCGB if we want them to do that. D. Maloney Hahn said that the Navy requires 28 credits and the Army has 12. Two Navy courses are cross listed, so these should be allowed as advisor approved electives. The Army, Air Force and Marines students aren’t allowed to take the cross listed courses. D. Grubb suggested that the Committee on Electives take a look at this issue. K. Pingali, L. Trotter, R. Kline and R. Thorp are on the Committee on Electives. D. Gries said that the Engineering rules say that the ROTC courses cannot be used as advisor approved electives unless they are cross listed. There are no other rules regarding these courses. L. Trotter suggested that the committee consider each course in their own right to see if they fall under liberal studies. D. Maloney Hahn said that an option has been to go to departments and ask them to cross-list courses. The instructors for the ROTC courses rotate. It might be difficult to keep the same standards with different instructors. D. Grubb said that in the past there have been history courses in the Ag School for which the History Department did not accept credit. L. Trotter said that there is an issue of equity. He wondered if other students could take the ROTC courses. We would be approving this for the college essentially. B. Kusse said that cross listing would solve that problem. He suggested that someone judge the level of the classes and cross list them. B. Isacks asked if ROTC courses add to the GPA. D. Maloney Hahn replied that if they are listed for a letter grade, they are added to the GPA. R. Robbins said that he contacted all of the ROTC branches for their syllabi, but the
Navy is the main one pushing this. All of the ROTC branches would like to do it. Engineering seems to have a question regarding advisor approved electives and whether these courses could be liberal studies. He agreed to get a list of the Air Force courses and find out whether ROTC courses are available to other students. D. Maloney Hahn stated that this issue was visited about 7 years ago, and someone might want to look at the CCGB minutes from when Ken Hover was Associate Dean.

**Writing Assessment Issue:** F. Shumway stated that the writing assessment is given during orientation and, based on the results, students are put in a writing seminar (IF READY) or in a workshop (if not ready). Ten years ago J. Martin changed the wording in the Assessment invitation from telling students that they were required to take the exam to encouraging them to take the exam, and test taking decreased (from 400 to 240). There is a large international population in engineering and strengths in engineering lie in other areas. She wondered how we can help students take this test. One way might be to send out information in May and emphasize the test during orientation in the freshman briefings. J. Bartsch wondered if this could be handled the way we handle the math testing. He suggested that the FWS be designed for some students who don’t write well. A. Zehnder asked how many students would take a separate class. F. Shumway replied that if the students didn’t do well on the assessment, they would take the writing workshop first. A. Zehnder asked how many of the 240 students who take the assessment test then take the workshop. F. Shumway replied that she does not know how many pass the assessment. D. Maloney Hahn said the advantage of writing workshops is that the students are not being graded against other students with better skills, and they take the course for S/U. He suggested that the students are told that they could take the workshop to improve their writing skills, but that they need to take the assessment first. A. Zehnder said that the FWS vary tremendously in work and quality, so this might be a good option. B. East wondered why students wouldn’t take the workshop if they know the importance of it. Fran said that the workshop offers students more support for many students for which English isn’t their primary language. D. Grubb stated that it doesn’t matter if the assessment is required or if students have some type of incentive to take it. He suggested that the issue be resolved creatively. B. Kusse said that it sounds like we need to enforce that students are required to take the workshop. A. Zehnder stated that freshmen advisors should be made more aware of this. F. Shumway agreed to contact J. Martin with the suggestions.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.