Agenda, April 23, 2004
CCGB Meeting

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Undergraduate Announcements
3. What CCGB Committees Have To Do For ABET

CCGB Minutes, April 9, 2004


Ex-Officio: D. Bell, B. East, M. Hammer, L. Schneider, M. Spencer

Other: C. Pakkala

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of 3/19/04 were approved as written.

Undergraduate Announcements: M. Hammer stated that the course evaluations have been loaded into the system for the courses. He sent a message to the undergraduate coordinators about this. If people have any questions, they should let him know.

M. Spencer mentioned that Cornell Days began yesterday and will last for 10 days. Cornell Days is where admitted students are invited to the campus for an information session, a tour of the College, and lunches with Ambassadors. They can also do a first-year experience tour on North Campus, and various other activities. Cornell Days will extend through April 19th.

D. Gries said that he has received post-course assessments from all but 8 of the fall courses and that each of the committees can have them by next Friday. He still needs post-course assessments from the following courses: ECE230, CEE241, MSE261, ORIE270, ECE250, MSE119, CS172, and BEE151. He needs post-course assessment documentation also and will contact people about this.

J. Bartsch stated that BEE has ENGRD’s and cross-listed courses and wondered how to coordinate the numbering system. He asked if it would be better for fields to submit course numbers and then see how many ENGRDs are incorrectly numbered. D. Bell said that he would work on a strategy for that which would also include ENGRIs, and ENGRGs.

Motion from Math & Science Committee: “The CCGB Upholds BEE’s Policy of Substituting Organic Chemistry 257 Plus One Credit of Introductory Biology For Physics 214.” J. Bartsch said that the rationale behind the motion is that when the motion was originally approved it specified one course in organic chemistry to replace physics 214. The course credit subsequently decreased from 4 credits to 3 credits. They didn’t worry about that in BEE, due to the fact that there are plenty of biology courses required in their curriculum. They always felt that it was acceptable, but it was clear that what was approved and what was happening was different. BEE has graduated a number of students with 3 credits of organic chemistry and a credit of biology, which formed the 4 credits required to substitute for Physics 214. D. Grubb said that he was not even sure that a 4-credit substitution was required for Physics 214. A. Center asked how many credits make up a year. J. Bartsch replied that his impression is that a typical course load is 16 credits per semester, so a year would consist of approximately 32 credits. D. Grubb suggested that the CCGB vote on the motion, but continue to examine the general picture. Motion Vote: 11 in favor, 0 abstentions, 0 against.

Report on Updating the Liberal Studies Courses and Requirement: L. Trotter said that D. Maloney Hahn raised the issue of revising the liberal studies course listing. Unfortunately L. Trotter and K. Pingali were unable to meet last evening to discuss it and thus had no report to give. D. Grubb stated that he sees 3 items to discuss: (1) The list of the non-Arts and Science courses under the liberal electives was revised. They have the new categories now, which we don’t fully understand. (2) Listed were some 600-level courses, which weren’t appropriate for
undergraduates. Only 500 level courses and lower should be on the list. (3) We currently have a statement that someone can have so many credits from one category and so many from another. Some courses should be moved to different categories. M. Louge said that if we want to promote international relations, we would have to revisit the limitations that we currently place on languages. Students will need up to 4 courses of a language if they want to do a program abroad. This might be an impediment, due to the curricular restrictions we have. Students have to choose from 2 or 3 of the liberal studies categories, but they might be hard pressed to take 4 language courses. In order to make the program widely available to students, the students need to be able to take language courses. B. East said that the College of Arts & Sciences will only give students credit for one course for a language taken in high school. They administer the language exams solely for placement in a course. D. Bell said that the Engineering College has been giving up to 6 credits for language placement. M. Louge said that he knows the people well in the French department at Cornell, and they also give students background in culture, which is a requisite for anyone studying abroad. The dean has said that he wants to increase the number of students who go abroad to about 100 students a year. International relations in engineering have become more important, due largely to the outsourcing of jobs. Some components of certain jobs might be done here, but some might be done overseas. Other colleges have international programs, but engineering doesn’t have that type of thing. A. Center asked if students could learn enough of the culture and broaden themselves in a year to make the study in Europe worthwhile. M. Louge replied that a student could do that, and this type of experience would enhance Cornell’s exposure in Europe. We are well known in certain regions of the world but not in Europe. L. Trotter added that many of our engineering students could use this type of background if they become corporate engineers or obtain jobs overseas. D. Gries said that he would talk to IIT about this. K. Pingali knows the head of the engineering part of IIT Kanpur, and we will look at this issue soon. B. East said that the Study Abroad office would help us with the implementation of our international program(s). M. Louge stated that he would bring issues such as the language issue to the CCGB. He has thought about this for years, but engineering has some curricular impediments. We can sometimes get international students free of charge, but they don’t come because the curriculum is so restrictive. Part of the idea is to get exchanges of graduate and undergraduate students and faculty in both directions. Hopefully it will be a win-win situation. D. Grubb said that there is a very specific set of requirements also. A lot of Cornell students go to Australia because their requirements are similar to ours.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 a.m.