

## Report of the Undergraduate Studies Committee 9.30.2016

In the 10.11.2016 UGSC meeting, the following discussions were held; no actions were taken, and are presented here as information regarding work of the UGSC currently in progress:

*P/F Grading Implementation:* (4/12/16 Minutes, item 7) The Registrar's office reported on the spring 2017 implementation of the P/F policy. Students will register for courses and then petition for the P/F option through degree works. If approved, the grade mode will be changed from standard letter to P/F option. The options of S (satisfactory) and E (fail) will be available to instructors. S grades will not be counted towards the GPA, but E grades will. It was noted that the committee had previously agreed that instructors should not know which courses were pass fail, however the registrar is unable to implement P/F without letting instructors know the grading mode at the end of the term. Aubrey Hall will investigate whether midterms can be reported as standard letter grades. Departments were asked to let the registrar know a) which courses they are designating for P/F and b) what the department policy is for majors by October 19th. If departments do not designate courses as P/F, the status quo remains. Concerns about communicating the P/F policy to students were raised, and the committee asked the UGSC chair and the registrar's office to circulate an email with the P/F policy rules.

In the 10.11.2016 UGSC meeting, the following items were presented and are forwarded to the University Faculty Council for consideration as information items:

*Revised BS in Molecular Biochemistry and Biophysics, MBB degree:* Presented by Nick Menhart from Biology; it is available at

<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/MBB%20revision%202016%20v5.1.pdf>

In this revision of the MBB degree, some core courses were removed and added to the electives, and new electives were added. This was brought to the UGSC and is forwarded to UFC as an informational item, because the credit hours remain the same. Biology noted that the revisions are all BIO courses and the prerequisites are covered by the core. Representatives of the Biology, Chemistry and Physics Departments met to discuss this degree revision and the chairs of all three departments have agreed to this.

*Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine / IIT affiliation agreements:* These IIT affiliation agreements give students guaranteed admission to Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine; they must still meet minimum GPA and MCAT score requirements. Transfer and U1 students from any major can take advantage of this if they complete the premed minor. The agreements include back transfer plans approved by the Biology and Chemistry Departments.

<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/IIT->

[LECOM%20Agreement%20Summary%20for%20UGSC.pdf](http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/IIT-LECOM%20Agreement%20Summary%20for%20UGSC.pdf)

<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/IIT-LECOM%20Bio%20Back%20Transfer.pdf>

<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/IITCHEM-LECOM3+4-10032016-ksedits.pdf>

In the 10.25.2016 UGSC meeting, the following discussion was held; no action was taken, and it is presented here as information regarding work of the UGSC currently in progress:

*Possible change to Graduation with Honors Criteria due to P/F Grading*

*Implementation:* Undergraduate Academic Affairs brought to the attention of the committee the fact that current academic policy for receiving Honors designation at graduation states “a student must complete a minimum of 60 graded hours at IIT.” Previous policy when the Pass/Fail option existed stated to be eligible for Honors designation at graduation, a student “has taken 60 of the credit hours required for a particular degree at IIT.”

A proposal was put forward to remove the word “graded” from the current statement. After some discussion, members of the committee expressed a desire to create some possible alternative policies so this discussion will continue in the next meeting with no possible votes to be taken until the meeting following the next one.

In the 10.11.16 UGSC meeting, the following items were presented and in the 10.25.16 UGSC meeting were approved by a unanimous vote. This is forwarded to the University Faculty Council for approval:

*B.S. in Biology and B.S. in Biochemistry Co-Terminal degrees with the M.S. in Biology for the Health Professions:* Presented by Nick Menhart from Biology; it is available at <http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/BS%20MS-HP%20coterminal%20v1.2.pdf>  
<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/Form%20802%20sections%20BSbioMSbiohp.pdf>  
<http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/documents/Form%20802%20sections%20BSbchmMSbiohp.pdf>  
The Biology department proposed new co-terminal degrees for the B.S. in Biology and B.S. in Biochemistry with the M.S. in Biology for the Health Professions.

Minutes of all UGSC meetings are available at <http://www.iit.edu/~ugsc/>