Minutes: December 10, 2007, 10:15 am, Dean’s Conference Room

Members: James Beatty, David Ely, Mehdi Salehizadeh, Don Sciglimpaglia, Chamu Sundaramurthy, Gene Whittenburg

New MBA: Waiving the Core, Advising, Other Issues
In a carry-over from prior meetings, the committee continued its deliberations and discussions regarding the rules and procedures for waiving the core courses as well as other issues related to the New (48 units) MBA.

In the current MBA program, the 19-unit core cannot be waived. David presented to GC a summary sheet containing the waiver policies for those schools in the Business Week’s Top 30 Part Time Programs which have such policies. Also, David shared with the committee a summary profile, showing the “length of time since core equivalent” was taken by the newly admitted MSBA students and the “years since the undergraduate degree” has been completed for all graduate business applicants admitted to the CBA for Fall 2007 and Spring 2008. Following a lengthy discussion, the committee reached a consensus on, and voted unanimously for, the following policy regarding the 18 units of the (21-unit) core which may be waived:

The Graduate Business Programs Office (GBPO) will take responsibility in evaluating students’ requests to waive core classes. Students with undergraduate business degrees from AACSB-accredited schools in the U.S., having completed the upper-division equivalent of each core course within the previous five years with a grade of B (3.0) or better may have the core course waived. Students with degrees from other colleges/universities, including foreign applicants, will be reviewed by the GBPO on an individual case basis. Those students with “out-of-date” equivalent courses or who received less than a grade of B may request to take a “challenge exam” for each course. The challenge exam will be the equivalent a comprehensive final examination given in the target core course. While instructors of core courses will be asked to create these exams, we envision them to consist of objective questions such that they can be administered by the GBPO in the week prior to the start of the semester.

David presented an up-dated MBA advising sheet that reflected suggestions made by several reviewers. This will be shared next with department chairs.

Don suggested that a “day time” BA 795 (the culminating experience) should be offered to accommodate full-time students. The GC will consider this issue during its Spring meetings.

Adjournment: 11:50 am; Next meeting: Regular meetings will resume next semester.

Mehdi Salehizadeh
For the College Graduate Committee