Committee members in attendance
John Blackwell, CSE
Don Feke (ex officio, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education)
Tim Fogarty (ex officio, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, WSOM)
Peter Lagerlof, CSE
Lynn Lotas, (ex officio, Assoc. Dean for the Undergraduate Program, SON)
Ken Singer, CAS
James Swain, SOM-Nutrition
Patricia Underwood, SON
Jeff Wolcowitz (ex officio, Dean of Undergraduate Studies)

Committee members absent
Russ Borski, CAS
Gary Deimling, CAS
Robert Green (ex officio, Chair, Committee on Undergraduate Programs, CAS)
Vasu Ramanujam (WSOM)

Regular Guests in attendance
Patrick Crago, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, CSE)
Amy Hammett, Registrar
Peter Whiting, Associate Dean, CAS and Director, SAGES

Special Guest
Tom Geaghan, Institutional Research

Call to order
The meeting was called to order by D. Feke at 11:30 am.

Presentation on National Survey on Student Engagement and SAGES
Tom Geaghan provided a review of NSSE survey items, and discussed the impact of participation in
SAGES on undergraduates. Responses to the NSSE were compared across four cohorts of students:
Pre-SAGES, those electing to participate in the pilot program, those electing not to participate in the
pilot program, and those participating when SAGES was fully implemented. For the benchmark scales
of 1. Active & Collaborative Learning, 2. Student-Faculty Interaction, and 3. Supportive Campus
Environment, the pilot group had significantly higher scores. For Academic Culture, there was no
difference among the groups.

Cautions:
• The Pilot group was self-selected
• This is not an evaluation of SAGES, but rather a comparison of different groups on standard
  metrics after one semester of SAGES. There is a need to question whether the size of any
difference is meaningful.

Issues:
• Is SAGES the “best” method to facilitate learning? If so, then all students should participate in
  it. If it is only one of several viable approaches, then perhaps it should be optional.
• How should data be shared? The suggestion was made to post data on the UUF website, along with an explanation of the meaning and highlight as a work in progress.

Election of Committee Chair
Upon motion, duly seconded, Professor John Blackwell was unanimously elected to chair the 2007-08 UUF Curriculum Committee

Administrative support for the UUFCC
Don Feke reported that the administration is discussing support for the UUF’s committees. Members suggested that it was essential to have support to continue the important work of UUFCC.
Patricia Underwood stated that she could not serve as secretary of the UUFCC without actual staff support. Upon motion, duly seconded, it was agreed that Professor Feke would convey to the administration that the functioning of UUFCC requires support comparable to what was provided through the Provost’s Office in the past.

SAGES report
Peter Whiting presented current data on the SAGES program. There are 37 university seminars and 72 first seminars. Based on writing assignments before or during freshman orientation, students identified as having deficient writing skills have been urged to take ENG183. Writing portfolios were reviewed this summer, and 12% were designated as not proficient. This level of proficiency is similar to that reported by other schools using portfolios. The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is convening a committee to study the impact of SAGES on the CAS.

Student Information System and Course Action Forms (CAFs)
Amy Hammett shared the draft CAF with the committee. Originally, the UUFCC Forms Task Force had developed several forms, but is now recommending a single form for efficiency. This was supported by the CAS. The new form is in Adobe pdf format, and can be completed electronically.
New features:
• Course grading system to be specified
• Opportunity to enforce pre-requisites
• Notation of department that owns the base course (owner needs to make sure that 2 sections of a cross listed course are scheduled at the same time)
• Can identify if extended beyond 1 semester
• Specification of fees
• Area to provide information about whether course has lecture/lab/clinical
• When course typically offered - FYI

UUF Curriculum Committee function
There was a brief discussion of ground rules for UUFCC function agreed during 2006-2007. All CAFs are to be sent to UUFCC Chair, who will recommend approval to the committee (via email) those CAFs that in his view impact only one school or college. CAFs impacting more than academic unit will be brought to a committee meeting.

Next meeting
The next committee meeting will be on Thursday, November 1, 2007 from 11:30am -1:00pm

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.