

Academic Assembly
October 1, 2012
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Present: Dave Arnesen, Brenda Broussard, Mason Bryan, Carol Wolfe Clay, Karen Cowgill, Isiaah Crawford, Tito Cruz, Lynn Deeken, Terry Foster, Sonora Jha, William Kangas, Charles Lawrence, Kristi Lee, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Erik Olsen, Roshanak Roshandel, Chris Stipe, Jeremy Stringer.

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of 6-4-12 minutes
 - A. Approved with one abstention
- III. URTC Subcommittee Membership
 - A. Appointment of Jodi O'Brien, Arts & Sciences
 - B. Approved with one abstention
- IV. Fall 2012 Preliminary Enrollment (*Marilyn Crone*)
 - A. Numbers for undergraduate and graduate enrollment are a few days short of final fall census.
 - B. Freshman
 - 1.Planned for 925, actual is 918-919
 - 2.Academic profile improved over a year ago by .01 (3.57 to 3.58)
 - 3.Average SAT: 1755 this year, 1737 last year
 - 4.Average ACT: 26 this year and last year
 - 5.Out of state 58%
 - 6.Underrepresented minorities 19%
 - 7.Male 39%
 - C. Transfer/Post-Baccalaureate Undergraduates
 - 1.Goal was 460, however needed to adjust down because of Nursing over-enrollment
 - a. New goal 430, with the 30 less for Nursing
 - b. Actual 430-440
 - 2.Academic profile: 3.35 average college GPA, last year 3.43
 - 3.More competition for transfer students
 - 4.Out of state 21%, last year 17%
 - 5.Non-resident 29%, last year 26%
 - 6.Underrepresented minorities 13%, last year 15%
 - 7.Male 46%, last year 47%
 - D. Graduate
 - 1.Nationally a concern
 - 2.Decline in business and education graduate students
 - 3.13,607 currently enrolled graduate credit hours (15,156 last year, 10% behind)
 - 4.Have a Graduate Strategic Enrollment Plan process currently in process
 - a. Goal to increase flexibility and convenience, including online
 - b. Opportunities in marketing, online, graduate financial aid
 - c. Karen Cowgill is the GSEP representative if anyone has feedback for her to pass along
- V. Proposed New Commencement Participation Requirements
 - A. Already vetted by Council of Associate Deans and Deans' Council

- B. Current Policy
 1. Undergraduate can walk with 18 or fewer credit deficiencies
 2. Graduate can walk with 6 or fewer credit deficiencies
 3. Schools/colleges grant exceptions
- C. Policy Changes
 1. Suggesting reduction of undergraduate to 10 credit deficiencies
 2. Graduate stays the same at 6 credit deficiencies
 3. Registrar will review all cases with more than 10/6, with exceptions only made in extremely dire circumstances
 4. Attempt to make Commencement process more meaningful and fair across the university
 5. New policy will begin on July 1, 2013, which will affect the June 2014 Commencement
- D. Will have a "Winter Celebration" for students in December (technically end of fall quarter)
 1. Not a Commencement ceremony with individual handshakes; instead a symbolic ceremony to recognize completion of program
 2. Students could also choose to wait until the following spring
- E. AcA Discussion
 1. 10 credits is a compromise since it is less than a quarter's worth of work
 2. Important that all advisors understand
 3. Roughly 150 undergraduate and 100 graduate that were walking that will no longer be walking under new policy
 4. Current policy addresses graduating with Honors, and new policy does not address it because it is not within the purview of this policy
 5. Nursing, Diagnostic Ultrasound, and some graduate programs have degree sequences that finish at the end of the summer and these students are still eligible to walk in spring (they are completing on time)
- F. Vote on Policy Amendments
 1. Approved with no abstentions
- VI.** Update on NWCCU Accreditation (*Carol Wolfe Clay and Bob Dullea*)
 - A. Faculty Representation
 1. Carol Wolfe Clay is the current Academic Assembly (and only faculty) representative on the committee, but committee is open to more faculty representation
 2. Areas from across the university have contributed to many different areas of the Year Three report
 3. All faculty will be able to vet the draft, once it is complete
 4. Timeline: reviewed this quarter, finalized by January
 5. Terry Foster will lend another faculty perspective from AcA.
 - B. NWCCU Accreditation Process
 1. Required reports in years one, three, five, and seven
 2. Required visits in years three and seven
 3. This year (three), the report and visit are focused on infrastructure in terms of resources and capacity
 4. Broad benefits of accreditation for reputation and eligibility for financial aid
 - C. Areas of Focus for Year Three
 1. In year one, the visiting accreditation team acknowledged good assessment work at the university, but noted that it wasn't as well coordinated or integrated as they

hoped. This year, we are answering the standards very literally and focusing on consistent assessment work.

2. Other areas of focus are integrate planning structure, develop in house capacity to manage information technology (new CIO office), involve all stakeholders, articulate goals for the levels of tenure and TT faculty, and enhance support for work of faculty as scholars and educators.

VII. Upcoming Strategic Planning Process (*Jackie Helfgott and Bob Dullea*)

A. Strategic Planning Council

1. Meeting every Friday through the end of November
2. Goal to develop a strategic plan that combines all of the plans across the university
3. About 30 representatives across SU, including many faculty from all schools/colleges, two deans, John Strait, and administrators and staff
4. Asking for 1-2 additional members from AcA, especially from Arts and Sciences.
5. John Strait will follow up at upcoming meeting

B. SPC Process

1. Develop 5-10 initiatives linked with the 5 strategic priorities of the university
2. Determine how to value and assess all the previous planning
 - a. Last planning was done in 2000, with progress reports in 2003 and 2005
 - b. In 2007, SU identified 5 strategic priorities that we now have
 - c. Major priority is the Academic Strategic Action Plan (ASAP)
3. Respond to increasing sense that times are changing in substantive ways and we have to set ourselves up for how to respond to a challenging environment: demographics, economic realities, online education as a competitor
4. Goal to have work done by February, in order to inform a new capital campaign in the spring

VIII. University Core Updates (*Jeff Philpott*)

A. University Core has a new website focused on the new Core

B. Working on infrastructure to help students register for the new Core

C. UCIC is working on parameters of senior synthesis (capstone course)

1. Lives in the major, final reflective assignment graded within the department course
2. Senior synthesis courses will not have the UCOR course code
3. Departments that already have those courses can still use them
4. Departments that don't can create a new course
5. Interdisciplinary departments can identify a course within a major that best suits their program

D. 12 Different Core Tracks

1. Students only take two of the three global challenge courses (those two farthest outside their major)
2. These versions are being programmed into Datatel so that students can see how switching would affect their progression

E. Core Courses

1. 300 Core course proposals were submitted
2. 200 have been approved, 100 have been sent back for revision/clarification
 - a. Curriculum committee will review those
 - b. Done by the end of this month
3. Call for additional course proposals for new faculty and faculty who had an idea over the summer
4. Courses for 2014-15 are due Spring 2013

5.Sorting out where sections will be taught, which needs to be resolved before departments and schools/colleges submit their budgets in late fall

F. Core Governance

- 1.Goal to ensure clear, representative, transparent governance system is implemented to manage the new Core as it begins in Fall 2013
- 2.Working on governance structure proposal to bring to faculty and AcA
- 3.Also need a proposal for assessment of the Core, with a focus on ongoing improvement

G. Discussion

- 1.As we move away from broad survey courses, opportunity for faculty members to develop narrow, specialized classes that align with their academic passions
- 2.Core courses are also a place to recruit and attract students into the major
- 3.Core courses can be cross-listed to fulfill both major and Core requirements
- 4.The capstone project will vary considerably between majors from 1-3 quarters

IX. Announcements

A. Ombudsperson

- 1.Job description has been drafted and will be finalized by HR
- 2.Part time position, opening in January
- 3.Purview of the position will be limited to faculty (no staff, no students)
- 4.Looking for appropriate office space
- 5.Report to Connie Kanter, CFO, who has experience with oversight of similar processes at prior organizations
- 6.Staff person, not by contract (at-will)

B. Workplace Satisfaction Survey Committee (chaired by Ruth Donohue in HR) needs two more people to serve

C. New Curriculum Change forms

- 1.On Office of the Provost website
- 2.Anything with budget is due by November 1 to the Office of the Provost
 - a. Must already be approved by school/college curriculum committee
 - b. Deadlines were given to Deans and Associate Deans
- 3.Other changes are due by December 1 to the Office of the Provost