

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall
December 5, 2012
3:30 - 5:00 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Heather Allen (Chemistry)
- ✓ Dr. Mollie Blackburn (School of Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Dr. Ken Goings (African American and African Studies)
- ✓ Dr. Ashok Krishnamurthy (Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Eric MacGilvary (Political Science)
- ✓ Dr. James Rathman (Engineering)
- ✓ Dr. Fernando Unzueta (Spanish and Portuguese)
- ✓ Dr. Kay Wolf (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Henry Zerby (Animal Sciences)

Students:

- ✓ Niraj Antani (USG, Political Science)
- ✓ Emily Chorey (Inter-Professional Council, Veterinary Medicine)
- ✓ Courtney Kasunoski (USG, Industrial and Systems Engineering)
- ✓ Sarah Lang (CGS, Education and Human Ecology)
- Ann Morrison (Optometry)
- ✓ Akshay Paropkari (Engineering)

Administrator:

- ✓ W. Randy Smith (Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

- Dr. Steve Fink (Arts and Sciences)
- Mr. Michael Gable (University Registrar)
- Dr. Kathleen Hallihan (John Glenn School of Public Affairs)
- Dr. Scott Herness (Graduate School)
- Mr. Michael Hofherr (Distance Education & eLearning)
- Ms. Sarah Odum (College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Mr. Shaen Picha (Undergraduate Student Government)
- Ms. Melissa Soave (Office of Academic Affairs)
- Mr. Andy Zircher (Education and Human Ecology)

The meeting came to order at 3:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7, 2012

Zerby moved approval of the Minutes of the meeting of November 7, 2012. The motion was seconded by Krishnamurthy and carried with all in favor.

REPORT FROM THE CO-CHAIR – PROFESSOR KAY N. WOLF

Wolf, Smith, and Zerby met with the College of Nursing to discuss proposed program changes, one of which has been assigned to Subcommittee C for review.

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – W. RANDY SMITH

Smith thanked all Council members who attended the dinner with the Provost on November 28, 2012.

Currently there are searches underway for new deans for the Colleges of Pharmacy and Public Health, and a new director for the John Glenn School of Public Affairs; and soon there will be a search for the Executive Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, given that President Gee has announced that the current Executive Dean, Joseph Steinmetz will become Executive Vice President and Provost on July 1, 2013.

Professor Leslie Alexander (African American and African Studies) is leading a group of faculty to develop program details for the proposed Second Year Residential initiative. It would be useful to invite her for an update to the Council in the weeks ahead.

Smith will host, on behalf of the Ohio Board of Regents, a meeting on December 7, 2012 where faculty from all public institutions will discuss the science component of the current Ohio Transfer Module (OTM).

Over the holiday break, Smith will work on the list of centers and institutes for review by this Council.

The University just published “The Holbrook Years”. The book chronicles the tenure of Dr. Karen Holbrook, the 13th president of the University. Professor Chris Zacher authored the book.

SUBCOMMITTEE D – Professors Kay N. Wolf and W. Randy Smith

- **School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences**

- Addition of Specializations to the Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) and the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Degree Programs: Guest: Professor Jane Case-Smith**

The proposal for the addition of the two specializations for the Master of Occupational Therapy and Doctor of Physical Therapy programs was tabled at the November 28, 2010 meeting awaiting clarification of selected issues. Case-Smith provided an overview of the specializations within the OT and PT programs.

The Pediatric specialization was created as a result of the Early Childhood interdisciplinary graduate specialization. In 2001 this interdisciplinary specialization was created with special grant funding. Faculty from Nursing, Special Education, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy were involved in teaching courses for it. Over the first five years there were 80 students enrolled in the program. Since then, students from OT and PT programs found this specialization most useful. The transitioning to the semester calendar was an opportunity to remodel this specialization and to include it in the OT and PT programs within the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. These programs provide most of the course work for the Early Childhood interdisciplinary specialization.

The name change to Pediatric specialization was considered as being appropriate. The only changes for students would be to complete a practicum and add a course. The suggestions are for the course in pediatrics to be taken in another department. The clinical practicum will count for at least 2 credit hours, and the extra course will count for 3 credit hours. All OT and PT students complete at least two full-time clinical courses as part of their degree. They have to be in two different settings. For pediatric specializations, it is required for one of these courses to be in pediatric settings.

There have been no more than 8 students from outside OT and PT programs in the last 10 years, and currently all students are from within these programs.

Wolf moved approval of this proposal; the motion was seconded by Lang and carried with all in favor.

- **Approval of the Remaining Dual Degrees**

Wolf presented the list of remaining dual degrees. The first set was presented and approved at the October 17, 2012 meeting. All these individual degrees were already approved during the semester conversion process.

Wolf moved approval of these dual degrees; the motion was seconded by Lang and carried with all in favor.

- **Fisher College of Business**

- New Graduate Minor in Business Health Sciences. Guest: Professor Stephen Magnum, Senior Associate Dean, Fisher College of Business**

Wolf presented the proposal. This new graduate minor will be transcriptable and is intended only for students in the health sciences colleges. The courses are specific for those cohorts of students and no other students can enroll in them. They might be general topics courses but with examples and applications in health sciences. The minor is completed in 2 consecutive years and counts for 12 credit hours (5.5 in 3 courses completed in first year and 6.5 in 4 courses in the second year). The finance and accounting courses will need to be taken in sequence, but there are no prerequisites needed for any of the courses. The students need to follow the norms of the Graduate School and complete the program in no longer than 3 years. An overall 3.0 GPA is required. The students in this graduate minor will have compact, demanding schedules; therefore this program will be mainly scheduled during Summer term. This graduate minor is a result of the partnership between the health sciences colleges and Fisher College of Business. There is a similar undergraduate minor, which is running successful. Details of the tuition were not available for the Council to review at this time. There is interest from donors within the health sciences to offset some of the tuition costs for students wishing to pursue this minor.

Similar cooperation is envisioned for a partnership of Fisher College of Business with other colleges within the University. There are discussions about offering this graduate minor as a distance education option, and also to be available to alumni of health sciences colleges.

Members of the committee recognize that while it is not their duty to question the tuition schedule for this minor; they recommend that, if it is not the case, an advertisement with the actual tuition cost for this graduate minor be in place for all interested students.

Wolf moved approval of this proposal with the suggestion noted above; the motion was seconded by Lang and carried with all in favor.

- **Update on Distance Education. Guest: Michael Hofherr, Associate Vice President for Distance Education and eLearning**

Hofherr open the conversation by presenting the current state of distance programs at the University. The Office of Academic Affairs with resources from the Office of the Chief Information Officer, created a new organization focused on technological and pedagogical

advancements in academics. The new organization will be called Ohio State Online. This organization will be committed to central investment in, and implementation of, eLearning tools; will provide seed funding for new programs; and will ensure expectations of rigor and quality by using a protocol for course development. This Office will encourage innovation and entrepreneurship allowing colleges to continue to develop their own curricula. Central governance will be provided for new degree programs, but the existing approval processes that involve this Council and the Office of Academic Affairs (OAA), will remain in place.

Currently there are decentralized approaches to distance education; online program development is sporadic and inconsistent; and there are no clear strategic directions or central coordinated efforts to enhance distance education. The market place is evolving rapidly with new platforms: Coursera, Edx, and Udacity emerging at large scale. The goal of this Office is to enable the University to become a global leader in eLearning, to create a presence in the open courseware arena, to grow distance education and to extend the University's outreach globally; and to create financial sustainability through education innovations.

The Office of Distance Education and eLearning has a firm foundation from which Ohio State Online will develop. In the next year there will be about a \$1.8 million investment in Distance Education initiatives. The three teams of Continuing Education, Learning Technology and Distance Education together will form the new Ohio State Online group and will report to the Executive Vice President and Provost. Online courses will be developed by the colleges whose faculty are providing them and will go through the existing approval process within OAA.

Currently there is no central management or oversight of distance education, there are only 2 distance programs and they require standard tuition. Ideally, in the future, there will be about 15 programs with more than 120 distance education courses. Charging market rate tuition for these programs will ensure funding generation for new programs. There are plans to include more than 90% of the courses in Carmen and offer services such as central web conferencing, enterprise lecture capture, and university web publishing to all departments and faculty.

Hofherr presented the distance responsibility model. Multiple and various initiatives will be focusing on eLearning: technology infrastructure, instructional development, 24/7 helpline, copyright and intellectual property guidance, approval process of the new programs, and quality assurance.

In response to Council members' comments and questions:

Research on students taking online courses shows that most of them: are non-traditional students, not looking for the campus experience; live in remote locations without possibilities to relocate, are at different points in their careers and are only looking to enhance their education; or are students who want to better prepare before they enter post-secondary settings.

The academic units will focus on market analysis, teaching faculty, quality assurance and repayment of the seed funds (if applicable) for newly developed programs. The seed funding will be used in various ways: via departmental transfers to develop new online programs; and directly

to enhance existing courses for online delivery by providing necessary technology and support. The new online programs will be designated for distance education and will have no geographic enrollment restrictions.

A steering committee will oversee the activity of the Ohio State Online office. This committee will include: 2 representatives from the Deans' Council; 6 faculty members; 2 students; various administrative members from Undergraduate Programs, the Graduate School, Vice Provosts for Academic Policy, Academic Programs, and Academic Planning, the Vice President for Strategic Enrollment, and the Associate Vice President for eLearning.

Starting in January 2013, Hofherr will meet with each college Dean to identify the opportunities for online courses and programs.

In the future the plans are to make enhancements to the curriculum to meet student expectations. The faculty will have more tools to expand their academic offerings not just in regular face-to-face setting, but also online. At present, there are no set rules or goals regarding which type of academic offerings should predominate in the future. It is likely that a vast number of courses will transform into hybrid delivery.

Council members expressed strong interest in having a continuing discussion on this topic, and Hofherr will attend future meetings to discuss and disseminate details of online academic offering, and address issues that can arise with this type of academic delivery. Future conversations will try to answer and establish what the rules of engagement are for the University's online courses and programs. The templates for course and program approval will be remodeled to clearly identify this type of offering. The Council also needs to have a role when existing programs change to online delivery.

The Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith

Liana Crisan-Vandeborne