

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

November 15, 2017

3-5 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Rebecca Andridge (Public Health)
- ✓ Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Speech and Hearing Sciences)
 - Dr. Debbie Guatelli-Steinberg (Anthropology)
 - Dr. Curtis Haugtvedt (Marketing and Logistics)
 - Dr. Jennifer Higginbotham (English)
- ✓ Dr. Karen Irving (Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Dr. Laurice Joseph (Educational Studies)
- ✓ Dr. Maria Miriti (Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology), Chair
- ✓ Dr. Roberto Myers (Material Science Engineering)
 - Dr. Melvin Pascall (Food Science and Technology)

Students:

- ✓ Mr. Mario Belfiglio (USG, Biology)
- ✓ Ms. Kate Greer (USG, German and History)
- ✓ Mr. Daniel Puthawala (CGS, Linguistics)
 - Mr. Blake Szkoda (CGS, Biochemistry)
- ✓ Ms. TaLeitha Varner (IPC, Pharmacy)

Administrator:

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

Guests:

- Ms. Danielle Brown (College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Dr. Rob Griffiths (Office of Distance Education and eLearning)
- Dr. Kate Hallihan (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
- Dr. Alan Kalish (University Center for the Advancement of Teaching)
- Dr. Larry A. Krissek (Office of Academic Affairs)
- Dr. Andrew Martin (Department of Sociology)
- Dr. Catherine P. Montalto (Department of Human Sciences)
- Mr. Rand McGlaughlin (Office of University Registrar)

Mr. Jack Miner (Office of University Registrar)
Mr. Mark Runco (Office of Enrollment Services)

The meeting came to order at 3:03 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR—PROFESSOR MARIA MIRITI

Miriti had no comments.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR—PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Smith reported that the minutes from the 11/1/17 Council meeting will be reviewed and approved at the December 6, 2017 meeting.

The University is looking into developing a few new programmatic areas: sustainability, eSports and gaming, and a revision to the nutrition program.

The discussions around sustainability are led by Professor Elena Irwin in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). In addition to CFAES, the following colleges are involved in sustainability discussions: Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Business, Public Affairs, Public Health, and Law. The sustainability group hopes to come up with a plan this academic year. The current focus is on undergraduate curricular offerings, including certificates.

Smith is convening the conversations around eSports and gaming. The following colleges are involved: Arts and Sciences, Engineering, Education and Human Ecology (EHE), Medicine, Business, along with the Offices of Affinity and Trademark Management, and Distance Education and eLearning.

There are currently three colleges that offer nutrition programming at Ohio State: EHE, CFAES, and Medicine. The multiple offerings—particularly in human nutrition—has always caused confusion for students. Smith is convening a group with representatives from the three colleges plus a representative from Public Health. The group met on November 8, 2017 to discuss the future of nutrition at the University.

In addition to the areas above, there is continued interest in how to best offer distance education at the University going forward. There are also preliminary discussions about inter-professional health education.

Smith is convening a Syllabus Work Group. Issues have recently come up around academic misconduct, and variability in syllabus content. Since syllabi vary widely across campus, it can be difficult for students to understand instructors' expectations. The work group is looking at the possibility of moving towards university-wide standards for syllabi. Contact Smith if you are interested in being part of this group.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education is holding a meeting on General Education on November 17, 2017. The group is looking into the possibility of developing State-wide General Education principles. Smith and Professor Lawrence Krissek, now an Associate Vice Provost working with Smith, are attending. Early in 2018, Smith would like this Council to revisit the issue of closed door majors. Smith will invitation representatives from Enrollment Services (Undergraduate Admissions and the Registrar's Office). The Registrar's Office has been gathering data on these programs.

The University is celebrating its sesquicentennial during the 2019-20 academic year. Smith is serving as a faculty advisor for the celebration.

The University Senate approved a Tax Exempt Textbooks Resolution from Undergraduate Student Government at its meeting on November 9, 2017. Smith congratulated Belfiglio on his presentation to the Senate.

PROPOSAL TO REVISE UNDERGRADUATE TUITION POLICY—PROFESSOR MARIA MIRITI AND MR. JACK MINER

During the 2016-17 academic year, the University Senate's Fiscal Committee considered a resolution by the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) that "supports the adoption of policies and procedures that allow high-achieving undergraduate students to take up to 21 credit hours each semester without having to incur any additional fees." Current policy provides that undergraduate students pay incremental amounts when enrolled in more than 18 credit hours per semester.

Fiscal committee discussed proposing a revision that contemplated permitting students who plan to enroll in courses totaling between 18 and 21 credit hours to petition to waive incremental tuition amounts under the following circumstances:

1. Courses that provide credit for internships
2. Courses that engage students in research
3. Courses that permit students to graduate on-time, perhaps limited to rank 4 students

Petitions would be evaluated by academic advisors with, as yet, unspecified criteria for evaluation.

The Fiscal Committee is seeking guidance from this Council and the Council on Enrollment and Student Progress (CESP) as it considers developing a proposed revision to the undergraduate tuition policy. Specifically, the Committee seeks guidance on the academic benefits that may obtain, any restrictions or conditions to grant a waiver, including but not limited to those enumerated in the list above, and procedures and criteria to evaluate student petitions.

Pre-semester conversion, the University had very little control over credit overages. Overages were approved *ad hoc* by academic advisors.

Miner reported that CESP looked at the success of students who took more than 18 hours. CESP also confirmed with the Office of Business and Finance that the removal / revision of the policy would not significantly hurt the University's revenue. They also reached out to academic advisors. The majority of advisors support the complete removal of the current policy.

Among CESP's recommendations are

- Incremental tuition not be charged to undergraduate students enrolled in more than 18 hours
- Develop specific criterion for when advisors can approve over 18 credit hours
- If a student wants to take more than 21 hours, an advisor must get approval from the department chair and / or associate dean

The Council was supportive of CESP's initial recommendations because the change in policy does not appear to hurt the University and appears to benefit students.

CESP will vote on its final recommendations at its meeting on December 5, 2017. This Council will make its final recommendations at its meeting on December 6, 2017. After this Council, the proposal will go to the Fiscal Committee and then to the central administration for action.

Smith encouraged Council members to continue thinking about the proposal. After the 12/6 CAA meeting, Miriti and Smith will need to draft a statement to send to Senate Fiscal.

Smith thanked Miner for his time. He also remarked how fortunate the University is to have a customer-friendly Registrar's Office. Our Registrar's Office is well-regarded nationally.

GENERAL EDUCATION REVISION UPDATED—PROFESSORS LARRY A. KRISSEK, CATHERINE P. MONTALTO, ANDREW MARTIN, AND W. RANDY SMITH

As this Council knows, the University is currently conducting a review of its current general education (GE) requirements. The main reasons for the review are: current GE is 30 years old; there is a new University mission / vision statement; we need input from current faculty who were not here when the GE was created; we now have selective admission on the Columbus campus and many students are admitted with a considerable part of the GE complete; and the University-level Advisory Committee (ULAC) for the GE is advocating for a review.

The review officially began in Spring 2017. A GE Review Coordinating Committee was established. In Spring 2017, the committee hosted listening sessions with the colleges, regional campuses, and various interested parties. The committee started meeting weekly in the summer. In Autumn 2017, the committee published its recommendations, and hosted follow-up listening sessions with pertinent bodies and administrators. The final report will be submitted in early 2018

The Committee is working under the following guiding principles:

- Cohesive, integrated program with clear learning outcomes
- Intentional multi-year program integral to student experience
- Provision of disciplinary breadth
- Thematic components
- Emphasis on understanding various modes of inquiry

In order to be an educated global citizen, successful students will:

- Demonstrate certain qualities, abilities and characteristics that prepare them to be engaged citizens and leaders for life
- Engage with and apply a range of important modes of human thought and inquiry
- Be educated global citizens who can examine significant aspects of the human condition in local, state, national and global settings today, and in the foreseeable future

The GE Review Committee proposes a structure with three parts: Foundations (Preparation), Themes (Practice), and Bookends (Reflections and Connections).

Students will take one course in each of the following Foundations: Writing and Information Literacy; Math and Quantitative Reasoning; Art; Literature; History; Natural Science; and, Social and Behavioral Science.

Students will take five courses in Themes: three courses from the Citizenship Theme and two courses from one of the four other themes (Sustainability; Health and Wellness; Places and Spaces; and, Transformative Ideas). Each theme has subthemes.

Students will take two courses in Bookends: General Education Seminar and General Education Capstone.

The Council discussed the proposed structure. There were several key points:

- Importance of well-designed assessment to inform whether new structure is working
- Support for team teaching (possibility of seeding interdisciplinary research)
- Support—with caveats—for double-counting major and general education program (as long as the GE is not weakened)
- Reservation about allowing colleges / programs to “narrow” choice within GE categories

The Meeting adjourned 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith

Katie Reed