COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

April 3, 2019
3-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:
✓ Dr. Rebecca Andridge (Public Health)
   Dr. Anika Anthony (Educational Studies)
   Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Speech and Hearing Sciences), Chair
✓ Dr. Kevin Evans (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)
✓ Dr. Sara Fowler (College of Dentistry)
   Dr. Debbie Guatelli-Steinberg (Anthropology)
✓ Dr. Curtis Haugtvedt (Marketing and Logistics)
   Dr. Jennifer Higginbotham (English)
   Dr. Roberto Myers (Material Science Engineering)
✓ Dr. Melvin Pascall (Food Science and Technology)

Students:
✓ Mr. Nat Crowley (USG, Finance)
✓ Ms. Kate Greer (USG, German and History)
   Ms. Neethi Johnson (CGS, MBA)
✓ Mr. Blake Szkoda (CGS, Chemistry and Biochemistry)
✓ Mr. William Vu (IPC, Dentistry)

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

Guests:
Dr. Meg Daly (Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology)
Ms. Cindy Davis (Office of the University Registrar)
Ms. Lisa Delaney (Office of the University Registrar)
Dr. Steve Fink (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Robert Griffiths (Office of Distance Education and eLearning)
Dr. Kate Hallihan (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
Dr. Alan Kalish (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Andrew Martin (Office of Academic Affairs)
The meeting came to order at 3:00 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Bielefeld is attending this afternoon’s College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate Steering Committee meeting. Smith will chair this meeting in his absence.

Rob Griffiths (Office of Distance Education and eLearning), Norman Jones (OSU Mansfield), and Smith are meeting with the 15 colleges and the regional campuses on the future of distance education (DE). The discussions focus on where each college is and where it would like to go with DE. Eventually, each college will receive a survey on next steps with distance.

The Office of Academic Affairs is in the final stages of three dean searches (Arts and Sciences, Law, and Public Health).

External site teams were recently on campus to evaluate the Department of Speech and Hearing Science and the School of Earth Sciences. On April 4, 2019, Smith will meet with accreditors for the clinical psychology program.

The University has awarded three faculty members with the President and Provost’s Award for Faculty Service: Professors Lisa Florman (History of Art), David Horn (Comparative Studies), and Blaine Lilly (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering).

On April 4, 2019, there is an Ohio Guaranteed Transfer Pathways Steering Committee meeting. The committee is working on an exception policy for programs that are too specialized to be part of the transfer pathway program. Andrew Martin will join Smith.

On April 5, 2019, Smith will be in Chicago to present at the annual Higher Learning Commission meeting. He is leading a session on peer reviewers.
PROPOSAL FROM SUBCOMMITTEE C – PROFESSORS CURTIS HAUGTVEDT, ANIKA ANTHONY, DEBBIE GUATELLI-STEINBERG; MR. WILLIAM VU

- Proposal to revise the History Major, Bachelor of Arts – College of Arts and Sciences

Guest: Christopher Otter, Associate Professor, Department of History

The Department of History proposes to revise its Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree program.

Currently, history majors are required to complete one 4000-level Reading Seminar in History and one 4000-level Research Seminar in History. The department proposes to change this requirement’s language to two 4000-level Seminars in History.

The current seminar requirement creates a scheduling conflict because there are substantially fewer research seminar courses. There is also overlap between the reading and research seminars. To expand its seminar offerings, the department would like to designate all 4000-level reading and research courses as seminars. This will give students and the department much more flexibility.

The Council asked if this change will effect current students. Otter replied that the revision will only effect incoming students.

Fink told the Council that the College of Arts and Sciences enthusiastically supported the proposal.

Bielefeld moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

STUDENT EVALUATION OF INSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Guests: Cindy Davis, Office of the University Registrar; Alan Kalish, Office of Academic Affairs

Kalish and Davis gave an overview of the work of the Student Evaluation on Instruction (SEI) Oversight Committee, including its members and responsibilities. They also give an overview of historical SEI usage and response rates, as well as the transition from using PeopleSoft to eXplorance Blue.

Kalish and Davis invited the Council to comment. Discussion included the following items:

- SEI reports available to department chairs.
- The use of text analytics with written comments.
- The development of a cumulative report for classes.
- Creating a mid-semester SEI.
- Transparency for faculty and students.
• Allowing faculty to see the GPA linked to a particular response (not to a particular person).
• Is there a way to follow-up with a student a few years after he/she takes a course? It would be helpful to know the long-term effect a class has on a student.
• The importance of protecting a student’s identity on the SEI.
• We need to re-educate faculty on the SEI. There is a lot of myth and rumor about it. It might be helpful to develop a one-pager for both faculty and students on what the survey is and its importance.

Smith noted the creation of the SEI was very controversial. It took over 10 years to approve.

Kalish told the Council that the SEI Oversight Committee would like to do an assessment of the SEI, including efficacy of the current SEI and review of proposals. The last formal assessment was in 1998. The Council supported a formal assessment of the SEI and asked for an initial report in Autumn 2019.

The Council asked that the one-pager document be created as soon as possible.

GE PROPOSAL UPDATE – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

The College of Arts and Sciences (A&S) has submitted a revised version of the general education (GE) proposal. The A&S Faculty Senate will vote on this version at its meeting on April 10, 2019.

Smith stated that we have to be sensitive to A&S’s role in the GE. 85% of GE enrollments are in A&S courses.

The GE approval process will be discussed at the Faculty Cabinet meeting on April 4, 2019.

The goal is for this Council to vote on the proposal at its meeting on April 17, 2019 and for the University Senate to vote on it at its meeting on April 18, 2019.

Smith reminded the Council that the proposal is for one university-wide GE with fewer required hours. The GE will still be aligned with the Ohio Transfer Module.

An implementation committee will be formed as soon as possible.

If approved, the new GE will go into effect in Autumn 2021. Smith does not expect there to be transition issues with students.

Smith remarked that he hopes the new GE will spark a new era of curriculum development at the University. A faculty panel will be created for each theme. The panel will help assist with curriculum development.
The Meeting adjourned at 3:54 PM

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed