COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

200 Bricker Hall

April 17, 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:
Ms. Danielle Brown (College of Education and Human Ecology)
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)
Ms. Jill Hampshire (Office of Student Academic Success)
Dr. Don Hubin (Center for Ethics and Human Values)
Dr. Alan Kalish (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Andrew Martin (Office of Academic Affairs)
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonnello (College of Engineering)
Dr. Shari Speer (Graduate School)
Dr. Piers Turner (Department of Philosophy)
Dr. Celia Wills (College of Nursing)

The meeting came to order at 3:00 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR ERIC BIELEFELD

Bielefeld attend the Faculty Cabinet meeting on April 5, 2019. The main focus of the meeting was end-of-the-year business. There was discussion of the various University Senate committees and their effectiveness. Some subcommittees have a lack of agenda items and others struggle with a lack of engagement from the administrators whom they are supposed to be advising.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

Today representatives from Columbus State Community College met with Smith and Vice Provost James Moore. The discussion focused on next steps in the relationship between the two institutions.

Smith is attending two upcoming meetings with the Ohio Department of Higher Education: the Ohio Transfer Module Faculty Subcommittee on April 19, 2019; and the General Education Steering Committee on April 22, 2019. Professors Andrew Martin and Larry Krissek will join him at these meetings.

Today the first meeting of the Internationalization Strategy Steering Committee was held. The group is being co-chaired by Vice Provost Gil Latz, Office of International Affairs (OIA) and Smith. The Committee is working on strategic plan for OIA including how best to highlight international work at the University.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

The School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences requests a change in its admission requirements, beginning in Spring 2020. Currently, there are two levels of admission: freshman level (4 prerequisites and a 3.5 GPA to apply) and sophomore level (6 prerequisites and a 2.5 GPA to apply). The school would like to remove the freshman level admission. By moving to one admission requirement, the program hopes to reduce confusion about prerequisite and GPA requirements and to simplify the advising process.

At its meeting on April 3, 2019, this Council approved a request to revise the online Master of Arts (MA) in Art Education. The Department of Art would like the exact same changes applied to its traditional
MA. Due to a processing error, the Council did not receive the request to change the traditional program.

The Institute for Materials Research would like to use the term center for an Indian Institute for Technology (IIT) Bombay-Ohio State Frontier-Science and Engineering Research Center, until a formal proposal comes forward.

The Council did not express any concerns with these three requests.

TWO-YEAR CENTER REVIEWS – PROFESSORS ERIC BIELEFELD AND CELIA WILLS

- Center for Ethics and Human Values

Guests: Don Hubin, Director, Center for Ethics and Human Values; Pier Turner, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy

Hubin gave an overview of the Center for Ethics and Human Values (CEHV), including its history, organizational structure, current funding, internal partnerships, mission, and vision. He also discussed CEHV’s evaluative criteria and benchmarks, as well as the center’s future plans.

Hubin invited the Council to comment. Discussion included the following items:

- The Council asked if CEHV has a relationship with the Fisher College of Business (FCOB). Hubin responded that CEHV did reach out to FCOB during its development, but there was not much interest at the time. Turner added that there was a FCOB faculty member involved, but he has retired. Some FCOB faculty do participate in CEHV events.
- The Council asked what CEHV will consider its priority(s) when looking forward to its four-year review. Hubin responded that funding, specifically finding a donor for an endowed name, will be the priority. In order to obtain a big donor, Hubin remarked that the center may need to evaluate its priorities versus national priorities
- The Council asked what it means to be a faculty affiliate. Hubin replied that a faculty affiliate is someone who has indicated interest in CEHV. There is no specific role for a faculty affiliate.

The Council thanked Hubin and Turner for their report.

- University Institute for Teaching and Learning

Guests: Jonathan Baker, Faculty Fellow, University Institute for Teaching and Learning; Kay Halasek, Director, University Institute for Teaching and Learning; Melinda Rhodes-DiSalvo, University Institute of Teaching and Learning
Halasek gave an overview of the University Institute for Teaching and Learning (UITL), including its history, charge, pillars, programs, and goals. Halasek noted that UITL programming is open to all instructors at Ohio State, including undergraduate teaching aids.

Halasek invited the Council to comment. Discussion included the following items:

- The Council asked about UITL’s role in the peer review process. Halasek replied that the institute is creating a forward-looking document on peer reviews. Related, the institute is also a part of the Student Evaluation of Instruction conversation.
- The Council asked why the Teaching Support Program (TSP) only has a 25% completion rate for the completion of Phase 1 and 2. Rhodes-DiSalvo replied that the College of Medicine’s (COM) participation is low because practicing clinicians do not have the time to participate. If COM’s participation was removed, the percentage would increase quite a bit. Halasek added that Phase 2 takes longer to complete, so they expect the percentage to increase at the end of spring semester. Halasek also conceded that there has been confusion among faculty on when the program is completed.
- Halasek noted that the increase in base salary for completing the TSP is available to all full-time instructors—not just tenured-track faculty. She added that this benefit is a unique program compared to peer institutions.
- The Council asked about UITL’s involvement with student outcomes. Halasek replied that UITL has been involved with course and instructional redesign.


**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM – PROFESSOR ERIC BIEFELED**

Bielefeld gave an overview of the general education (GE) review process, including background on the University’s current GE, the initial charge from the University-level Advisory Committee on the GE curriculum, the work of the GE Review Coordinating Committee, the committee’s final report, the college and faculty feedback process, and the submission of a modified structure.

The proposed new GE program would apply to all colleges, with a structure that includes foundations, themes, and bookends, with well-defined learning outcomes for the program overall and for its components, with a total of 32-39 credit hours.

Bielefeld reminded Council members that they are voting on the structure and hours of the GE—not implementation. An Implementation Committee will be formed immediately to address implementation issues. All 12 undergraduate colleges submitted letters of support for the new structure, but none will formally adopt it until the work of the Implementation Committee is completed.
The Implementation Committee will be large. Subcommittees will be formed to focus on specific issues. The goal is to have the new GE implemented in Autumn 2021.

This proposal would mean one GE for all the colleges—this would be new to Ohio State. The College of Arts and Sciences has decided that it will have a college-level requirement of world languages.

Smith noted that the proposed new GE will be a decrease in hours for most programs. There may be an increase, however, for the STEM-heavy programs. The Implementation Committee will have to look into this issue and the possibility of double-counting.

The normal approval route for the proposal would be this Council, Faculty Council, and the University Senate. Since the last University Senate meeting of the academic year is April 18, 2019, Bielefeld presented the proposal at the Faculty Council meeting on April 3, 2019. The presentation was based on the hypothetical approval by this body.

Bielefeld invited the Council to comment. Discussion included the following items:

- A Council member expressed disappointment in the decrease in English and mathematics requirements, indicating that these are skills very much needed and sometimes lacking in our students.
- A Council member expressed hope that the Implementation Committee will have a firm idea on how new themes will be proposed, revised, and removed.
- The Council asked Bielefeld and Smith to explain the distinction between a college-level requirement and GE requirements. Smith explained that a college-level requirement does not fulfill GE requirements and it cannot be labeled as a GE. The colleges have been told that the decrease in the GE is not an opportunity to expand the major. This Council will need to monitor programs as they are created and revised.
- The Council asked who will approve GE status for courses. Currently, the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee (ASCCC) reviews and approves requests for GE status. It will continue with that role, but representation form other colleges is necessary—the exact format for which has yet to be determined.
- Is it fair for ASCCC to approve GE status when courses and themes are interdisciplinary? For example, one could argue that the health sciences colleges should approve courses under the Health and Wellness theme. Smith responded that each theme will have a faculty panel attached to it. The panels will be interdisciplinary, which should help with fairness and development.
- Fink noted that there are fears that ASCCC does not approve GE status for courses. This is not true and there are non-ASC faculty on ASCCC. ASC faculty fear that non-ASC colleges are expanding substantially in GE offerings. This is also false.
- Smith told the Council that GE status approval will occur though 2020.
• The regional campuses do have concerns about the proposed GE. The Office of Academic Affairs is working with them on the issues and they will be represented on the Implementation Committee.
• Andridge remarked that people are excited about the new GE. Implementation issues, however, are overshadowing the excitement.
• The Council asked Bielefeld and Smith to give examples of top implementation issues. Bielefeld replied the fourth theme, approval process for courses, double-counting GE and major courses, and the first course.

Bielefeld moved approval of the recommendation; it carried unanimously.

The proposal will now be on the agenda of the University Senate meeting on April 18, 2019 for action.

Smith commented that this is a landmark decision for the University with important impacts for our undergraduate students.

Bielefeld reminded the Council that the next meeting will be on May 2, 2019 from 12-2 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed