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Faculty Assembly Meeting November 5, 2014 Ochre Court State Dining Room 3:00-4:30 p.m. Quorum Count: 72

The vote to approve the minutes from the October 1 meeting was postponed until the December 2014 meeting.

Announcements:

Treasurer's Report (James Yarnall): The current amount in the Assembly's fund is \$1,058.68.

Mission Committee Report (Jennifer Bonoff): Dr. Sheila Quinn (Psychology Department) will host student presentations exploring connections between psychology and the University's mission. Copies of the University's mission statement cards are available to departments, at department expense, from Design Services.

Update on the status of the Academic Integrity Policy (Craig Condella): The Executive Committee is in the process of drawing up a charge to the Academic Integrity Committee. Dr. Condella thanked those faculty members who volunteered to serve on the committee.

Provost Announcement (Scott Zeman): Dr. Zeman has created an advisory group to consult with the Provost on the restructuring of the Office of Academic Affairs. Members of the group include Timothy Neary (Chair), Sheila Quinn, Martha Rose, Jim Ludes, and Malcolm Smith.

Curriculum Committee Update:

Eileen Gray (Chair of the Curriculum Committee) announced that a proposal from the Cultural and Historic Preservation Program is currently under review and will soon be available for faculty review online.

Motion: The Curriculum Committee moves that the 30-day vetting period be waived with regard to the CHP program proposal.

VOTE Yes = 86%No = 13%

Abstain = 1%

The motion passed.

Core Review Committee Update:

Clark Merrill (Chair of the Core Review Committee) provided an update on the implementation of the new core curriculum:

- Part I of the new core, the university seminars, is currently up and running.
- Parts II and III will be rolled out beginning in Fall 2015.
- Part IV is not being dealt with yet.

Regarding university seminars, invitations to teach University Seminar I in Fall 2015 will be sent out soon. The deadline for submissions will be January 16, 2015.

Laura O'Toole, Dean of Arts and Sciences, discussed the test-out option for University Seminar II.

- A pilot for testing out of UNV 102 was conducted the week of September 22.
- The pilot was developed over the summer in a consultative process that included the Chair of the Department of English and Communications, the Writing Center Coordinator, staff from CTL, IT User Support Services, and University Relations (The latter of which is linked to the notification and on-line registration process).
- The tests and rating process (rubric, proficiency bar, grading process) were developed by Matt Ramsey and Michelle Lariviere to align with the UNV 102 SLOs as developed by the English Department faculty. Recommended process was approved by the Provost prior to notification of first year students, FYT and UNV101 instructors.
- Per the proposal approved by faculty and former provost, external raters were hired and participated in a norming session prior to rating student essays. Random papers were cross-checked internally by members of the English Department and our Writing Center Coordinator for inter-rater reliability.
- 94 students registered for 120 seats in six 1.5 hour test sessions in University Computer Labs.
- 79 Students completed tests. Completed essays were uploaded to Canvas sites constructed for each test session.
- 8 Students Passed at a Sophomore Level of Proficiency.
- More specific data from the test will be used to inform UNV 102 instructors as we workshop assignment development for measuring the UNV 102 SLOs in the spring.

Question: Can faculty see the instrument that was used to evaluate student writing on this test?

Answer (Clark Merrill): Yes. Contact Clark Merrill.

Clark Merrill continued to provide an update on the new core.

The Philosophy Department and Religious and Theological Studies Departments are developing new courses to fulfill Part II of the new core.

Regarding Part IIIA of the core, students must take two courses in each of the four major themes for a total of 8 courses. Most of those courses will come from the course distribution

requirements in Part IIIB of the core. One course can be fulfilled with a university seminar. One course can be fulfilled with a professional studies course or an interdisciplinary course.

Department chairs and program directors will be getting a memo about submitting courses to count for credit that fulfills Part III.

Question: How will transfer courses be treated?

Answer (Clark Merrill): They will count for the core the same way that they currently count for core complements. The issue of assigning theme credit to transfer courses has not yet been discussed by the Core Review Committee.

Comment: A decision on that is needed soon. There are students entering with a significant number of credits.

Answer (Clark Merrill): The committee's intention is to be as lenient as possible.

Question: What happens to the credits if a student tests out of University Seminar II?

Answer (Clark Merrill): The requirement is fulfilled but students do not receive credits for taking the test.

Question: The interdisciplinary programs are excluded from the distribution in Part IIIB. Only one interdisciplinary course can count for Part IIIA. Is that correct?

Answer (Clark Merrill): Yes

Question: Will upperclass students be able to take new core courses and have them fulfill requirements under the old core?

Answer (Clark Merrill): Yes, there will be a "bridge" between the new core and the old one.

Question: Does a current core complement course have to go through the approval process for Part III of the new core?

Answer (Clark Merrill): Departments will take the lead on which courses will count for the new core. Department chairs and program directors will send proposals to the Core Review Committee for every course departments want to have count for the core. Courses that are for majors only or courses with significant prerequisites shouldn't be proposed.

Question: Who makes the final decision on theming?

Answer (Clark Merrill): The Core Review Committee will decide based on the department's recommendation. Any single course can only fulfill one theme.

Question: On Part IIIA, can either an interdisciplinary course and a professional studies course count or is it one or the other?

Answer (Clark Merrill): One or the other.

Class Deans Update:

Martha Rose, Jayme Hennessy, Robin Hoffmann, and JD Swanson discussed their role as class deans including the challenges faced by each respective class, how they assist in the transitions needed to meet these challenges, and what types of programming they organize.

Executive Session:

The Faculty Assembly went into executive session to receive an update from FACSB chair Jameson Chace.

Adjourned 4:50 p.m.