

Faculty Senate Minutes
February 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Athletics, Business Administration, Interdisciplinary Studies, Library, and Nursing.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the February 2, 2010 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as corrected.

II. Proposed Courses and Programs

Second Readings

(1) CHANGE IN UNDERGRADUATE POLICY

The proposed changes to the undergraduate studies academic policy on Academic Standards, Probation, and Dismissal was approved with one dissenting vote.

Discussion was held about why the change was needed. Concern was raised about limiting in-person appeals for students. Key issues noted by Registrar Candace Deen and ASC Chair Sikora were the short time-frame for scheduling in-person appeals over winter break, the commitment to retaining in-person appeals for first time dismissals, that ASC provides students with academic recommendations upon their first dismissal, and that Millersville has one of the most extensive structures for allowing student appeals.

(2) CHANGE IN UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

ART Proposal to add ART242: 3D Design as a pre-requisite to ART295, ART296, ART282, ART291 was approved without dissent.

(3) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

ART386: Special Topics in Studio Art: Beginning Weaving, 3 credits. Proposal for a course to allow for offering individual sections on a variety of topics in art was approved without dissent.

(4) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

ART486: Special Topics in Studio Art: Public Art, Public Place, 3 credits. Proposal for a course to allow for offering individual sections on a variety of topics in art was approved without dissent.

(5) CHANGE IN UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM

BS CHEM, Biochemistry option. Proposal to adjust course requirements to align with revised biology curriculum was approved without dissent.

(6) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

SPAN314: Survey of Spanish American Literature II, 3 credits. Proposal for a course to explore Latin American literature since the beginning of the 20th Century was approved without dissent.

(7) CHANGE IN UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM

AS CSCI. Proposal to adjust course requirements to more clearly define appropriate courses needed in computer science courses and math was approved without dissent.

(8) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

WSSD485: Performance Enhancement: Training in Sport, 3 credits. Proposal for a course to explore the relationship between physical activity and psychological development, health, and well-being was approved without dissent.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Faculty Senate Chair Börger-Greco reminded senators of the upcoming Middle States site visit.

IV. Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Wrobel reported on an April 10 Keystone Community Cares Day with clean-up at Brookwood and in community, an April 17 MU Alumni Walk-a-Thon, an April 24 Green Yard Sale, ongoing allocations, and students attending the COSGA conference to present on safety initiatives at MU.

V. Report of the Graduate Student Association

Graduate Student Association Representative Randolph reported on a February 27 Red basketball game, a March 17 St. Patrick's Day celebration, students attending the National Black Graduate Student Conference, and plans to partner with the Counseling Center to start a graduate student support group.

VI. Report of the Administrative Officers

President

President McNairy thanked the campus community for patience during the recent snow storms. She commented on the Governor's proposed budget which keeps our funding flat but includes another year of stimulus funding and the potential return of Key93 funds to be used for campus renovations. Dr. McNairy encouraged faculty to petition the legislature to support education funding. She also noted that the capital campaign is at \$45 million and will go public in October to raise an additional \$15 million and that the First Friday faculty gathering will be held only once in the spring.

Provost

Provost Prabhu noted work to coordinate scheduling based on student demands for courses and offer more options for incoming transfer students. A comment was raised about continuing to consider scheduling needs of non-traditional students.

Vice President for Student Affairs

Vice President Breaux encouraged faculty to take advantage of work study funds from federal allocations, noting positions should be posted on the centralized database for student recruiting. Discussion was held regarding how to tap into these funds. The administration instructed faculty to speak with deans or the Provost's Office about options if departmental funds have been depleted and to encourage students to work on campus. It was noted that students may wish to consult with Financial Aid about how these earnings might impact their financial aid package.

Associate Provost for Academic Administration

Associate Provost Burns reminded faculty there will be a public forum to meet with the Middle States site visit team and to RSVP attendance plans for the spring faculty convocation. He emphasized that scheduling during the site visit will require flexibility.

Dr. Burns also announced formation of a task force exploring the format for an interdisciplinary degree program. He noted that the goal is to allow combination of majors and minors together to meet student interests in new fields. The intention is to submit a format for this program to PASSHE for approval this spring while on-campus curriculum review continues to approve specific variations. A question was raised about the role of the Interdisciplinary Studies council in the review process. Dr. Burns indicated that the proposed overarching format would be reviewed at all levels so that individual combinations of current degree programs might not need additional review while newly-developed programs would still go through the normal curriculum review process. Dr. Prabhu indicated that many sister schools have these and noted the ability to attract students without development of new courses. He also mentioned that integration into these programs could help justify low-enrollment programs. It was also noted that developing similar programs at the Master's level will probably not be simultaneous but could be informed by the format.

In response to questions, Dr. Burns noted that APC is reviewing feedback from the electronic drop/add process and that there has been no change in the implementation plans for the transfer articulation process though a start date is not yet in place.

Assistant Vice President for Academic Services

Assistant Vice President Redmond noted that faculty can submit reports by the early warning intervention system through February 19 and that the possibility of allowing reporting all semester is being explored for the future.

VII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

GCPRC

First Readings

(1) NEW GRADUATE CURRICULUM

ELED, Online Certificate in Gifted Education. Proposal to offer an entirely online certificate program in gifted education.

Dr. Prabhu commended the department on their organization of this program.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

IX. Faculty Emeritus

None

X. Other/New Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller
Secretary of the Senate

Action Summary:

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