

**Faculty Senate Minutes
October 19, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Communications & Theatre and History.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the October 5, 2010 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written.

II. Wabash National Study- Teagle Scholars

Teagle Scholars from the Wabash Study, Charlie Blaich, Kathy Wise, and Todd Roswarski, presented an overview of results from Millersville students surveyed at the beginning and end of their freshman year (2008-09). These students will be surveyed again in their senior year. Four high-impact practice areas were highlighted: Good Teaching, Academic Challenge, Diversity Experiences, and Deep Learning. Dr. Blaich pointed out that all institutions have students reporting good experiences as well as student reporting bad experiences. A key item noted for Millersville was that about half of freshman polled spent 10 hours or less weekly on class work outside the classroom. The ability to glean ideas from other institutions in specific areas was questioned, and Dr. Blaich noted the Wabash Study is a collaborative project. He also noted in response to a question that there are only weak correlations to faculty-student ratios because of the breadth of student experiences reported.

III. Proposed Courses and Programs

Second Readings

(1) NEW GRADUATE COURSE

SOWK 611: Children and Youth At-Risk, 3 credits. Proposal to offer a course to study the concepts, policies, practices, and research in the field of child services was approved without dissent.

(2) CHANGE TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

PHYS 131: Physics I with Algebra, 4 credits. Proposal to change pre-requisite to MATH 101 or equivalent placement testing/evaluation before registration was approved without dissent.

(3) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

SPED 346: Secondary Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Settings: Educational & Social Implications, 3 credits. Proposal to offer a course to prepare secondary education

majors to effectively teach students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms was approved without dissent.

(4) REVISED COURSE APPROVAL DOCUMENTS

Revised course approval documents from UCPRC: Instructions for Forms, Record of Approvals, Course Proposal Form, General Education Curriculum Application, Writing (W) Label Application, Perspectives (P) Label Application, Cultural Diversity and Community (D) Course Application were approved without dissent.

IV. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

None

V. Report of the Student Senate President

Student Senate President Darling reported on Homecoming kickoff, the Student Organizations website, and student representatives to university committees.

VI. Report of the Graduate Student Association

GSA President Tomao reported they are looking for a graduate student representative to the Educator of the Year Selection Committee.

VII. Report of the Administrative Officers

Provost

Provost Prabhu expressed enthusiasm at what might be learned from the Wabash Study. He also noted that the 11 pm Tuesday deadline for fall grades this year is because of the short time between the end of the semester and the holidays. He encouraged faculty needing an extension to noon Wednesday to contact their dean.

Associate Provost for Academic Administration

Associate Provost Burns indicated that the Wabash Study allows us to learn about ourselves and evaluate how our practices might be adjusted to positively impact our students. A comment was made whether schools with smaller student response ranges might have systemic good practices we could emulate. However, it was noted that Millersville probably had greater diversity in responses than some institutions because of the larger survey size, including all freshman, about 900 students. A larger than typical decline in positive responses about diversity at Millersville was speculated to be backlash from too much emphasis on diversity as part of the first Orientation schedule. A comment was made about whether lower studying times reported might reflect Millersville's population of first-generation college students. Dr. Burns responded that there are many ways to interpret specifics but that understanding perceptions of students can help us adapt our practices. Dr. Prabhu emphasized the importance of good implementation strategies for new programs to keep experiences meaningful.

Assistant Vice President for Academic Services

Vice President Redmond reminded faculty of the restructuring of the AIM program to the Pre-Scholars summer program and the MU Scholars program.

Coordinator of General Education

Dr. Schneller commented on the recent presentation on campus on student-centered learning, noting the presentation will be available on the GenEd website. She also encouraged faculty to attend a follow-up Brown Bag session.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

UCPRC

First Readings

(1) NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSE

SOCY 308: Sociology of African American & Latino/a Education, 3 credits, D label.

Proposal to offer a course focused on the secondary and post-secondary educational experiences of African American and Latino/a youth in the United States.

IX. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

X. Faculty Emeritus

None

XI. 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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