

Faculty Senate Minutes
April 4, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:13 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Academic Advisement & Student Development, Accounting & Finance, Athletics, Counseling & Human Development, Government & Political Affairs and Music.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written.

II. Proposed Courses and Programs

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ECON 355: Economics of Sex, Drugs, and Religion, 3 credits, G3, P. Proposal for a course that applies consumer theory, firm theory, and market failure to the economics of social issues via the broad topics of sex, drugs, and religion was approved without dissent.
- (2) HIST 359: First World War, 3 credits, G3. Proposal for new course on military strategy and tactics employed by the combatants during the First World War was approved without dissent.
- (3) MATH 234: Statistics for the Health Sciences, 4 credits, G2, DL. Proposal for new course tailored to nursing education was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (4) FORL minors. Proposal to reorganize as Language Studies or Culture Studies minors that may be completed in any language offered at MU was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE POLICY

- (5) Proposal to restrict P courses from carrying any additional General Education labels was not approved with 10 yes, 14 no, and 1 abstention.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed changes to P course labeling. Key points of discussion were:

- There is concern about courses that meet multiple general education requirements reducing the overall quality of a student's experience.
- Courses that count in degree program, carry a P label, and carry a D label meet three requirements. It was not clear how many courses fit this profile.

- There is insufficient evidence to show that this restriction would produce a more complete learning experience for students.
- Departments and instructors have invested time into course revisions to add a D label to courses that had previously been only P.
- Since P and D courses both require significant oral and written components, students gain more writing experience taking separate courses than only one.
- It is difficult to collect assessment data that directly evaluates the value of learning via one course or category.
- The mission of a liberal arts training is to have broad educational experiences in courses from a range of academic offerings.
- The D designation does not have an assigned credit within General Education and is often met along with other requirements. Limiting it for P courses while not other types of classes seems inconsistent.
- A suggestion was made to apply the restriction of all GenEd labels from P except for D when it is met independently based on the defined criteria.
- Students appreciate being able to complete their academic requirements without adding credits beyond the 120 required credits which is more likely when they are unable to cross-count courses.
- More courses that are both P and D labeled this semester are filled to capacity than those that are P only.
- Implementation is proposed for Fall 2018 so students currently planning to take P/D courses would still be able to complete them.
- Millersville's General Education program overall has strong breadth compared to other PASSHE schools.

A Snyder/Vaillancourt motion to call to vote approval of the proposed changes to P course labels was approved without dissent.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chair Pro Tempore Cook reminded senators of the June 6 Faculty Senate meeting at 3 p.m., senator elections in ASD, CHEM, FORL, GOVT, HIST, IDST, MATH, MGMK, MUSI, PHIL, SOWK, and SOAN, spring commencement, and committee elections to be held the last two meetings of the semester, April 18 and May 2.

Dr. Pannafino reviewed the online Curriculum Approval Process (CAP) designed by the CAP sub-committee of the Academic Council of Technology, including substantial input from Dr. Chuck Geiger, Dr. Ollie Dreon, Ms. Kimberlyn Broskie, and Mr. Mike Dulay. The system uses the Millersville Wiki and Comala Workflow to allow input and review of curricular proposals electronically. Key discussion points were:

- Planned implementation in Fall 2017.

- Only the mechanism of proposal review is being changed at this point to work with current policy.
- Faculty can log in from the current review site to enter proposal information or review active proposals.
- All departments and interdisciplinary programs will be able to initiate proposal reviews.
- Fields with explanations will guide entry of information. A proposal can be saved in-progress to return to later to complete.
- Workflow buttons will be used to move proposal through approval process bodies.
- Reviewers will work from a dashboard to evaluate proposals and still contact proposers regarding concerns.
- Adding a comment will flag a proposal for UCPRC review after an ACC. Otherwise, proposals will move on to Faculty Senate. The final steps will be Deans' Council approval and Registrar implementation.
- The weekly notification e-mail will be a summary based on proposals completed by any department.
- The system has been built with the ability to customize or update it as needed.
- Proposals should allow printing to a single document for review outside the system.
- Any faculty should be able to review proposals under consideration. Specific curriculum bodies will have separate dashboards showing what is under review by that body.

IV. Report of the Student Senate

Mr. Aaron Jaffe reported on the Dear World event and Jane Elliot campus visit.

V. Report of the Graduate Student Association

None

VI. Report of the Administrative Officers

Associate Provost

Associate Provost Adams reminded faculty of MIM, the annual Assessment Luncheon, and the upcoming D2L-Daylight environment. Interest was expressed in hearing an administrative update on enrollment, budget, and student costs.

VII. Curricular Notices

The Geography Department notified Senate of sending representation to the Social Sciences Area Curriculum Committee in 2017-18.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

GCPRC

NEW GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ART 584 & 585: Introduction to Studio Art for Graduate Students (+ discipline), 3 credits (up to 9 from different disciplines). Proposal for new courses to introduce post-baccalaureate or graduate students to fine arts studio topics in various disciplines.

IX. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

X. Faculty Emeriti

None

XI. Other/New Business

Dr. Barry David reminded senators of upcoming APSCUF elections for officers and committees.

Dr. Aimee Miller announced that there will be a reception following the May 2 meeting to thank Chair Börger-Greco for her 12 years of leadership at Faculty Senate.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller
Faculty Senate Secretary

Action Summary:

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