

Faculty Senate Minutes
February 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Government & Political Affairs and Management & Marketing.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the December 6, 2016 meeting of the Faculty Senate were approved as written with one abstention.

II. Proposed Courses and Programs

NEW GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) EMGT 609: Disaster Response and Long-Term Recovery, 3 credits. Proposal for new course was approved without dissent.
- (2) ENGL 616: The Documentary, 3 credits. Proposal for new course was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (3) ECHD 511: Early Childhood Education in Today's Society. Proposal to update course number, title, description, and outcomes was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO GRADUATE POLICY

- (4) Academic Standing Policy. Proposal to address academic appeals and dismissals for graduate students was approved without dissent.

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (5) ART 128: Art Integration, 3 credits, G1. Proposal for new course to provide education students with a theoretical and practical knowledge base about art and its role in learning was approved without dissent.
- (6) HIST 218: People and the Environment, 3 credits, G3, W. Proposal for new course to introduce environmental history in Europe and the Americas from 1500 to present was approved without dissent.
- (7) HIST 282: The Transatlantic Slave Trade, 3 credits, G3. Proposal for new course to examine the Transatlantic slave trade as a transcontinental episode that was responsible for the forced migration of millions of Africans to the Americas and Europe was approved without dissent.
- (8) HIST 285: Decolonization of European Empires in Africa, 3 credits, G3. Proposal for new course to examine the process of the fall and dissolution of European

Empires in the decades following the end of the Second World War was approved without dissent.

- (9) EHEM 319: Emergency Management Planning, 3 credits. Proposal for new course to analyze planning methodologies and constructs as well as pitfalls and limiting factors in the development and execution of emergency management plans at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (10) PSYC 454: History and Systems of Psychology. Proposal to modify prerequisites was approved without dissent.
- (11) PSYC 455: Seminar in Psychology. Proposal to modify title, prerequisites, and credits was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE POLICY

- (12) New document defining Area Curriculum Committees was approved without dissent.
- (13) Revised Undergraduate Curriculum Approval Process was approved without dissent.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chair Börger-Greco welcomed senators to the spring semester.

IV. Report of the Student Senate

Mr. Aaron Jaffe reported on elections for Student Senate executive board, review of club operations request, and concert and Superfest planning. He announced Jane Elliott will be on campus April 20. Faculty interested in having her visit their classroom or attending a luncheon with her should contact Mr. Jaffe.

V. Report of the Graduate Student Association

None

VI. Report of the Administrative Officers

Provost

Provost Prabhu commented on potential impact by the national travel ban, noting that students and faculty have access to a PASSHE immigration counselor. Faculty should be proactive in reporting international travel plans using the extra pages of the Travel Request Form. Dr. Prabhu also reminded faculty of the spring Faculty Convocation and Writing Institute event with Tara Kazak on February 10. It was noted the convocation would be recorded for faculty who are not able to attend. Dr. Prabhu also commented on

the Pennsylvania budget released today, noting a 2% increase for PASSHE schools is helpful but not sufficient to close budget deficits. He also reminded faculty that university resources should not be used for personal organization or participation in political/social advocacy events.

Associate Provost

Associate Provost Adams reported that workflow review for curriculum is now being tested.

VII. Curricular Notices

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) BIOL 486: Behavioral Ecology, 3 credits. Proposal for new course examining evolution of animal behavior via natural selection with substantial field component.
- (2) BIOL 484: Mechanics of Animal Behavior, 3 credits. Proposal for new course exploring physiological mechanisms that regulate animal behavior.
- (3) BIOL 483: Applied Ethology, 3 credits. Proposal for new course on animal behavior relevant to work with captive and/or domesticated animals.
- (4) BIOL 329: Plant-Insect Interactions, 3 credits. Proposal for new course on chemical and biological interactions between plants and insects.
- (5) BIOL 442: Wildlife Ecology & Management, 3 credits. Proposal for new course on how wildlife ecology, history, policy, and statistics shape wildlife management decisions.
- (6) 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.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (7) BIOL 385: Principles of Animal Behavior. Proposal to revise course title, number, and prerequisites and remove W label.
- (8) BIOL 418: Aquatic Entomology. Proposal to revise course number, prerequisites, and description.
- (9) FORL minors. Proposal to reorganize as Language Studies or Culture Studies minors that may be completed in any language offered at MU.
- (10) FORL BA. Proposal to reorganize major as Language Studies or Culture Studies options that may be completed in any language offered at MU.

It was noted that a Social Work dissertation research course will be requesting a waiver of the two-meeting rule to make up for delays in review at their collaborating institution.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

GCPRC

NEW GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ENGL 630: Studies in American Ethnic Literature Since 1945, 3 credits. Proposal for new course to study representative literary works of various ethnic groups in contemporary America.

IX. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

X. Faculty Emeriti

None

XI. Election of Senate Officers

Chair Börger-Greco noted that Aimee Miller and Shaun Cook have agreed to continue if elected, but that a potential candidate for chair is still determining workability. Elections were postponed to the next meeting.

XII. Retention Initiatives Update

Senator Sciarretta updated senators on student participation in academic recovery seminars, program staffing, and the Early Alert pilot. He noted that monitored students are highlighted in MAX for faculty input. Policies and efforts to promote more effective ways to motivate students sooner to make positive academic progress. Mr. Sciarretta noted the Well Student Check is still available for students experiencing non-academic issues faculty observe.

It was highlighted that student athletes are included in this system. Senator Gallagher reported that faculty reporting is helpful for advancing student athlete performance even though a few are still falling through the cracks.

XIII. Other/New Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller
Faculty Senate Secretary

Action Summary:

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