

Faculty Senate Minutes
March 7, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. All departments were in attendance except Athletics, Counseling & Human Development, Government & Political Affairs, and Music.

I. Minutes of previous meeting

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

II. Proposed Courses and Programs

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) ANTH 336: Language and Communication, 3 credits, G3. Proposal for new course to examine language as human's primary means of communication was approved without dissent.
- (2) BIOL 483: Applied Ethology, 3 credits. Proposal for new course on animal behavior relevant to work with captive and/or domesticated animals was approved without dissent.
- (3) BIOL 484: Mechanics of Animal Behavior, 3 credits. Proposal for new course exploring physiological mechanisms that regulate animal behavior was approved without dissent.
- (4) BIOL 486: Behavioral Ecology, 3 credits. Proposal for new course examining evolution of animal behavior via natural selection with substantial field component was approved without dissent.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (5) BIOL 385: Principles of Animal Behavior. Proposal to revise course title, number, and prerequisites and remove W label was approved without dissent.
- (6) BA, Psychology. Proposal to add a 3-credit capstone requirement to the program was approved without dissent.
- (7) BS Math, Actuarial Science. Proposal to change required courses was approved without dissent.
- (8) Gerontology minor. Proposal to modify courses within program was approved without dissent.

III. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Chair Börger-Greco announced the summer Faculty Senate meeting will be held June 6 at 3 p.m. and reminded ASD, CHEM, FORL, GOVT, HIST, IDST, MATH, MGMK, MUSI, PHIL, SOWK, and SOAN to hold elections for a senator and alternate before April. She also noted that the Educator of the Year Award will be announced at the next Senate meeting.

IV. Report of the Student Senate

Student Senate President Luckenbill reported on finance approvals. Mr. Aaron Jaffe reported on a forum held to discuss campus racial issues, thanked administration, staff, and faculty who attended, and encouraged more faculty to join in related discussions and efforts to improve social equity on campus.

V. Report of the Graduate Student Association

None

VI. Report of the Administrative Officers

President

President Anderson commented on the conversations about racial tensions on campus and intentions to engage the campus in improving respect and the climate on campus. He also reminded faculty of Made in Millersville and Advocacy Days coming up in April.

Provost

Provost Prabhu echoed concerns for ensuring that everyone on campus feels safe and welcome and urged faculty to engage in this aspect of campus life. A request was made for returning the Campus Grill to Gordinier. It was noted that the space has been converted to Saxby's but that the administration is considering ways faculty might use the new dining facility.

Associate Provost

Associate Provost Adams urged all faculty to come to MIM and encourage students to attend the event. He also noted that a broad set of reviewers, including faculty, staff, alumni, and community members, is being recruited to evaluate student presentations.

Deans

Dean DeSantis noted that Graduate Admissions will now be using student ambassadors to help with recruiting and interacting with potential students. He also announced that Dr. Dennis Downey will be speaking at the graduate commencement ceremony on Friday, May 12 in Pucillo.

VII. Curricular Notices

NEW UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) BSE Middle Level, Special Education Dual Certification. Proposal for new option to combine training in Special Education with Middle Level concentrations.
- (2) BS Allied Health Technology, Sports Medicine. Proposal for new option to prepare for work in athletic training without participating in the 3+2 program.

CHANGES TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (3) SOCY 305: Social Research Methods. Proposal to adjust prerequisites.
- (4) SOCY 301: Craft of Sociology. Proposal to add prerequisites.
- (5) BA, FORL. Proposal to reorganize language degrees into one degree with options in Language Studies, Certification, or Culture Studies.
- (6) BIOL 438: Neurobiology. Proposal to remove lab component, change to 3 credits lecture, remove W, and drop ENGL 110 prerequisite.
- (7) BIOL 396: Ichthyology. Proposal to change title and modify prerequisites.
- (8) BIOL 352: Nutritional Science. Proposal to allow students to earn credit for this course and WSSD 452.
- (9) BS Biology, Animal Behavior. Proposal to change incorporate new courses and adjust course options.
- (10) BS Biology, Environmental Biology. Proposal to update curriculum.
- (11) BS Biology, Marine Biology. Proposal to update curriculum.
- (12) BS Allied Health Technology, Pre-Athletic Training. Proposal to update curriculum to align with 3+2 program leading to MS degree.

VIII. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

GCPRC

NEW GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (1) SOWK 776: Dissertation I, 3 credits. Proposal for new course to establish research plan and begin work on dissertation project.
- (2) SOWK 777: Dissertation II, 3 credits. Proposal for new course to complete research and dissertation.

CHANGES TO GRADUATE COURSES & PROGRAMS

- (3) AEST: MS Technology & Innovation. Proposal to convert MEd program to MS with the current MEd program as an education core track and a second new enterprise core track.

A question was raised about whether content or program structure determines the suitability of designating a degree as masters in science versus education. It was noted that there is wide interpretation of this and MS was selected to better meet PASSHE pressures for program graduates by having two tracks in the same degree.

A Walsh/Cook motion to waive the two-meeting rule for consideration of SOWK 776 & SOWK 777 was approved without dissent.

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UHCC

Dr. Haines, Dr. Downey, and student representatives of the Honors College advocated for proposed revisions to the Honors College Curriculum. Students stressed the benefit of the reduced credit requirement for students wishing to complete the program along with other pursuits such as second majors, minors, student teaching, or study abroad experiences. It was noted that some unchanged aspects of the curriculum were missing in the proposed structure. A question was raised about the proposed informal review. Dr. Downey indicated that feedback from students would trigger a discussion between the HC Director and faculty teaching honors courses about how to better meet HC goals. It was noted that approved criteria exist outlining attributes of courses designated for HC.

UCPRC

It was noted that faculty with questions about when or which course proposals should be reviewed by UCPRC may contact Dr. Dreon. Development of the online process will help direct proposals automatically and more effectively.

GERC

Dr. Ron Baker introduced a proposal from GERC to restrict P courses from carrying any other GenEd labels. He noted the unique structure and purpose for P courses and concerns that overlap of course labels pares down student engagement in GenEd. Courses currently designated as both P and D would be requested to select only one option. Discussion addressed the idea that P and D define different goals that are not mutually exclusive, a request that current P/D courses be allowed to retain both while new courses select only one, a suggestion that P courses retain D labels as appropriate but no longer be allowed within the major, the burden to students, particularly transfers, to complete credits if separate courses are required, and that since satisfying the D requirement does not carry credit within the GenEd program, it should be applied to any courses as meets the specified criteria including P courses. It was noted that spring break may make it difficult for departments to adequately discuss the proposal. An A. Miller/Robinson

motion to table the proposal about GenEd labels on P courses until April 4 was approved with one dissenting vote.

IX. Reports of the Faculty Senate Special Committees

None

X. Faculty Emeriti

None

XI. Other/New Business

Senator Sciarretta reminded faculty that the second session of Early Alert reporting will close this week. He noted that students have reported appreciation of the contact initiated by alerts and that support for continuing beyond the pilot phase will need to be considered.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aimee L. Miller
Faculty Senate Secretary

Action Summary:

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