

Faculty Senate Minutes for Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Attendance: All departments present except for Accounting & Finance, Counseling and Human Development, Library, Music. Others present included: Brittney Goranson (SGA), Dr. Robyn Davis, Dr. Jack Ogutu, Dr. Tiffany Wright, Dr. James Delle, Najjiyyah Pendleton (SGA).

- I. **Minutes from Faculty Senate meeting on Tuesday, 2/4/20** – send changes and corrections via email to Jeri or Kat
- II. **Proposed Curricular Frameworks for endorsement:** None
- III. **Proposed Courses and Programs**

Undergraduate Course Proposals Consent Agenda (UCPRC), Chair: Ollie Dreon

Unanimous Approval for the following:

New Courses

- 1) ECON 335 Forecasting and Analytics (ECON New Course Proposal 008): Proposal for a new course with a G3 designation.

Course Changes

- 1) ESCI 261 Introduction to Oceanography (ESCI Course Change Proposal 069). Proposal to change prerequisites to C- or higher in MATH 101 or Math Placement of MATH 160 or higher.
- 2) GEOG 329 to 229: Recreation and Tourism to Sustainable Tourism (GEOG Course Change Proposal 069): Proposal to change course number and title as well as add DL designation.

New Curriculum (none as of 2/14/20)

Curricular Change

- 1) EDFN (Professional Bloc) (EDFN Curriculum Change Proposal 018): Proposal to update EDFN Professional Bloc by incorporating course name changes and changes to course objectives.
- 2) MATH (BS/BA Mathematics-Actuarial Science Option) (MATH Curriculum Change Proposal 025): Proposal to add MATH 372: Financial Mathematics I as a requirement for the BS/BA Mathematics-Actuarial Science Option.

Undergraduate Course Proposals Non-Consent Agenda (UCPRC), Chair: Ollie Dreon

New Course – extensive discussion and vote

- 1) GEOG 130 Introduction to Environmental Science (GEOG New Course Proposal 055): Proposal for a new course with DL and G2 designations.

Dr. Dreon discussed the details of how the course came to Faculty Senate, and stated that a secret ballot decision was unanimously approved by UCPRC. Dr. Walsh clarified the procedures and policies for this type of situation. Questions were welcomed. Dr. Walsh motioned to use a private ballot for the senate decision, Professor Jeri Robinson seconded, the motion was approved with one opposition by AEST. Extensive discussion took place prior to a vote/decision.

New Course election results were 15 in favor, 10 opposed, 1 abstained – proposal has now passed.

Graduate Course Proposals & Graduate Course and Program Review (GCPRC), Chair: Tiffany Wright
No course or curricular proposals as of 2/14/20

IV. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson:

Dr. Walsh announced that Officer Elections are forthcoming and nominations needed!!!!

Faculty Senate Meeting Dates Spring 2020 (1st and 3rd Tuesday)

- o March 3rd
- o April 7th and 21st
- o May (5th is first day of finals....may have electronic vote?)
- o June date TBD – Dr. Walsh asks that we consider meeting the second Tuesday of the month
Senators were encouraged to consider becoming an officer of faculty senate. Dr. Walsh will be happy to assist. Gen Ed Review Committee meeting in March.

V. Report of APSCUF

No report – however, Dr. Walsh encouraged Senators to read the memo within the Chancellor’s recent email and the APSCUF response that followed.

Friday social at Bert’s has been cancelled for Friday, Feb 21.

VI. Report of the Student Government Association

Getting ready for fall 2020 elections, March 23-29, they will be able to vote through ???

Report by Najiyah Pendleton. GSA is still seeking student reps for various roles. The big event will take place on April 18th. SGA is working on an open study hall with the ELCM, looking for faculty support to help with this (*Math is where they really need help*).

VII. Report of the Graduate Student Association - none

VIII. Report of Academic Administrative Officer

Dr. Delle shared that we are engaged in three searches which are coming to a successful conclusion soon.

The Middle States report and evidence inventory have been uploaded into the middle states portal and circulated to reviewers. Reviewers will arrive at MU with questions beginning on the 29th of March. They will be here for three days, all day on Monday and Tuesday, 1/2 day on Wednesday. They will be providing their report on Wednesday afternoon. They will not take questions or answer questions as is their protocol. This will essentially be a preliminary report. Middle States will give us a formal response in July which can take any number of forms. The report might have recommendations, might give sanctions (warnings with request to report changes, probation), or it might say that all is good. It’s very rare that any university in our segment gets a complete green light.

Dr. Delle is now the Acting Accreditation Coordinator control, he is in charge of the finalization of the Middle States review. Dr. Victor DiSantis is now the Acting Coordinator for Strategic Planning because Lisa Shibley is unable to come to work for the foreseeable future.

The memo from Chancellor’s Office was shared by Dr. Delle. Faculty should look for upcoming information on this subject. No details are available at this time.

Dr. Gaudry reported that all 14 PASSHE institutions will offer Chinese classes in the near future.

IX. Announcement of new courses, programs or changes to existing courses/program

None

X. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees

- Academic Outcomes and Assessment (AOAC) Chairperson: Robyn Davis stated that the committee met but there was no quorum. They are still moving forward with internal pilots for this spring. The assessment luncheon with Maryellen Weimer of the Teaching Professor, will take

place on Tuesday, 21st of April, in Lehr Dining Hall. Please spread the word.

- Academic Policies (APC) Chairperson: Jack Ogutu
 - Two proposed changes to the “Academic Dismissal policy” were discussed and this will be a first reading. Drs. Ogutu and Nandedkar will share information. The documents are posted in D2L.

Dr. Jack Ogutu presented the academic dismissal policy, changes were made in response to Senate recommendations made in the fall of 2020. Proposing two changes.

The Academic Dismissal policy was taken back to student government and the committee and is now being brought back to senate with changes. Dr. Ankar Nandedkar and Dr. Jack Ogutu presented the new proposal. A vote on the policy change recommendations will take place at the next meeting.

- Educator of the Year Committee (EDOY): Ex-Officio chair, Shaun Cook
 - The committee has scheduled a meeting for 3/6 to consider the applicants. Currently under review.

XI. Reports of the Faculty Senate, Convened Committees, Area or Special Committees

XI. Faculty Emeriti Resolutions

- 1) Dr. Lewis H. Shoemaker, Professor Mathematics Department
Dr. Cynthia Taylor motioned to approve, Dr. Gaudry seconded, unanimous approval

XII. Faculty Senate Elections: Senate Officers are needed for the following positions for AY 20/21

- 1) Chairperson
- 2) Chairperson Pro Tempore
- 3) Secretary

XIV. New Business Joe Sciaretta discussed benchmarks of decentralizing advisement and noted that early alerts were an attempt to minimize Z grades which were just shy of 300 last spring, with 188 in fall 2019. With early alerts there has been an 11% decline in the number of “F” grades. Early alert usage for fall decreased by 15% by individual faculty participation. Good news is that the number of unique individual alerts increased by 19%. More details are forthcoming.

XIII. The meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jeri Robinson-Lawrence, Art and Design