Millersville University
Faculty Senate - Meeting Minutes
10/04/2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm. All departments were in attendance except for Athletics (ATHL) and Interdisciplinary Studies (IDST).

Also in attendance: Dr. Gail Gasparich (Provost), Dr. James Delle (Assoc. Provost), Dr. Rachel Finley-Bowman (Assoc. Provost/GenEd Task Force), Alison Hutchinson (Registrar), Dr. Robyn Davis (APSCUF), Dr. Nivedita Bagchi (GenEd Task Force), Dr. Steve Kennedy (GenEd Task Force), Dr. Abdulsalami Ibrahim (GenEd Task Force), Dr. Lynn Marquez (GenEd Task Force)

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Minutes of the Faculty Senate
   a. Minutes from the 09/20/2022 meeting were approved via a Saunders/Granruth motion without dissent.

III. Proposed Curricular Frameworks for endorsement
   a. None

IV. Proposed Courses and Programs for approval
   a. Consent Agenda – approved without dissent
      i. Undergraduate New Courses
         1. HIST048 – The Art & Craft of History
         2. HIST049 - Historical Investigations
      ii. Undergraduate Course Changes
          1. HIST047 – Senior Seminar
          2. HIST046 – Craft of History
      iii. Undergraduate New Programs
           1. None
   iv. Undergraduate Program Changes
      1. None
   v. Graduate New Courses
      1. None
   vi. Graduate Course Changes
      1. None
   vii. Graduate New Programs
        1. None
   viii. Graduate Program Changes
        1. SOWK082 – MSW
        2. ENGL195 – MED English
        3. ENGL196 – MA English

V. Report of the Faculty Senate Chairperson – Jeri Robinson
   a. Announcements
      i. Faculty Senate Meeting Dates Fall 2022 (1st and 3rd Tuesday @ 4:05pm)
         1. October 4th and 18th
         2. November 1st and 15th

VI. APSCUF Updates
   a. None
VII. Report of the Student Government Association  
   a. None

VIII. Report of the Graduate Student Association  
   a. None

IX. Report of the Administrative Officers  
   a. None

X. Announcement of new courses, programs or changes to existing courses/program  
   a. None

XI. Reports of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees  
   a. GERC, Dr. Jeff Wimer, Chair
      i. GenEd Voting Policy Discussion
         1. After last senate discussion, feedback from departments, and a regular
            GERC meeting the committee proposed the following voting procedure
            for deciding on a new potential general education model.
            a. GERC – Voting Proposal Outline
               i. Eligible voters
                  1. Tenure and tenure track faculty
               ii. Electronic format
                  1. 5 business days
               iii. 50% + 1 of faculty constitutes a quorum
               iv. Single ranked choice ballot with the three options.
                  1. Round 1: 50% + 1 of voting faculty required to
                     accept model.
                  2. If no choice receives a 50% + 1, then the lowest
                     ranked choice votes are reallocated and then
                     must meet 60% + 1 threshold for approval in
                     this second round
         2. Discussion centered around improving understanding of the ranked
            choice model and reallocation process. Concern was expressed over
            complexity and need to communicate the nuances of the process prior
            to vote. Differences between ranked choice methods in elections and
            referendum voting models was explained. Additional voting options
            were suggested.
      ii. General Education Model Voting Proposal - A Blazer/Saunders motion to adopt a
          general education reform runoff voting model with following parameters was
          made. Vote to approve the voting procedure will occur at next senate meeting.
          1. Eligible voters
             a. Tenure and tenure track faculty
          2. Quorum
             a. None
          3. Format
             a. Electronic/Online Vote
             b. Structure
                i. Round 1: Vote for all three options. 50% of voting
                   faculty + 1 is the threshold required for model adoption.
                ii. If a choice does not receive the required threshold, then
                    the two highest options move to Round 2.
iii. Round 2 (if necessary): A vote on the two highest selected options from Round 1. 50% of voting faculty + 1 is the threshold required for model adoption.

c. Timing
   ii. 1 week break from the start of first voting period.
   iii. 3 business day voting period for second round (if necessary). Anticipated dates on current timeline 12/05/2022-12/07/2022.

4. Finalized proposals are required at least 1 week prior to any vote.
   iii. A Blazer/Albert motion to waive the two-meeting rule and vote on the proposed general education voting procedure did not pass.

b. GCPRC, Dr. Tiffany Wright, Chair (not present, presented by Dr. Delle)
   i. New policy for full time status for graduate students was presented to establish reasonable definition of full-time status that is currently lacking.
      1. Full-time/Part-time Status - To be considered full-time, graduate must be registered for at least 6 credits by the end of the drop/add period for any given term. Audited courses are included in the computation of semester credit load.

XII. Reports of the Faculty Senate, Convened Committees, Area or Special Committees
a. General Education Task Force
   i. Distributed packets of general education reform documents and models. The task force explained the two proposed model drafts (Gateway and Journey) and fielded a variety of questions.
      1. In general, these models reflect the need to better communicate general education to students and MU community.
      2. The models represent a broad overview at this point and any selected model would require additional work to fully build it out.
      3. The task force notes that learning objectives are broad at this point and need to be solidified.
      4. It is also noted that these are draft models and the hope is that this is the start of a more robust focused conversation on general education reform on campus.
   ii. Questions/Comments
      1. Is there an alternate experience for transfer students?
         a. No, given new PASSHE general education transfer more transfer students are likely to have general education completed.
      2. Will there be a need to have more committees to certify new model?
         a. Undetermined, it is probably within the roles of AAC and UCPRC as they handle current general education changes.
      3. How do we get student feedback on these models? And can we hear this feedback before they are finalized?
a. There is a SGA forum, but getting feedback from existing classes may be a good idea.

4. Would the FYE change?
   a. Refer to the FYE Task Force recommendations and external reviewer comments for some of the suggestions on changes to this experience.
   b. It was noted that removing FYE from specific departments may impact programs who rely on teaching FYE courses to their new majors as an unofficial part of their program.

5. It was suggested that the certificate option associated with the Gateway model be removed to reflect that this option could be applied to either new or our existing model.
   a. A counter argument was made this option makes the model unique and helps differentiate the proposed models.

iii. Senators should share this information with their departments and encourage them to engage with the process.

1. Refer to general education reform website for information, forum dates, and packet contents.

XIII. Faculty Senate Elections
   a. None

XIV. New Business
   a. None

Meeting adjourned at 6:04pm via a Saunders/Witmer motion that was approved without dissent.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ethan Frost
Faculty Senate Secretary

ACTION SUMMARY – 10/04/2022

Minutes Approved
  • 09/20/2022

Curriculum Approved
  Undergraduate New Courses
    • HIST048 – The Art & Craft of History
    • HIST049 - Historical Investigations
  Undergraduate Course Changes
    • HIST047 – Senior Seminar
    • HIST046 – Craft of History
  Graduate Program Changes
- SOWK082 – MSW
- ENGL195 – MED English
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