

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL
Tuesday, 14 April 2015, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: A. Anderson, R. Aravamuthan, J. Atkin, K. Baldner, Toni Woolfork-Barnes (for C. Tremblay), L. Coons, J. Cousins, K. Hillenbrand, C. Koretsky, M. Kritzman, D. Reinhold, D. Sachs, Heidi Vogley (for K. Hillenbrand), D. Walcott, G. Whitehurst

Absent without substitution: M. Bracey, M. MacFarlane

Guests: Ala Al-Fuqaha (Computer Science), Jim Butterfield (Political Science), Ann Miles (Sociology), Christina Stamper (Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs, Haworth College of Business)

Procedural Items

Council Chair M. Kritzman called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

Acceptance of Agenda

Atkin moved acceptance of the agenda, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Anderson moved acceptance of the minutes of 10 February 2015, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

Kritzman began by welcoming our guests and substitutes. She also noted that by notice of the Provost's Office, the circle drive at the Oaklands may no longer be used for parking during council meetings. You will be subject to ticketing and towing.

Action Items—Curriculum Proposals

Haworth College of Business – [HCOB 02-15] Deletion of the General Business Major – Christina Stamper

C. Stamper addressed the council, and explained that the General Business Major has experienced a significant decline in enrollment. The General Business Minor will remain on the books. Koretsky moved approval of this proposal to delete the General Business Major, seconded by Atkin. Motion carried.

Department of Computer Science – [CEAS-14-CS-065R] Establish a new Embedded Systems Venture Certificate – Ala Al-Fuqaha

Ala Al-Fuqaha addressed the council, and explained that this certificate program will engage undergraduate students from an early stage to gain professional experience with embedded, mobile and real-time system development. Participating students will operate a full-scale consulting and development firm that specializes in embedded, mobile and real-time systems. Atkin moved acceptance of the proposal to create this new certificate program, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.

Information / Discussion / Action Items

Selection of Member to Serve on the Committee to Oversee General Education

Raja Aravamuthan was re-elected for a three-year term on COGE, representing the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Data on Best Practices on Retention – David Reinhold

Reinhold made a presentation to the council on how to improve student retention. There is a lot of data indicating what works. The hard part is putting this into implementation. An interesting discussion followed.

Council Charges

We discussed the progress we've been making with respect to our charges from the Faculty Senate Executive Board.

Global Learning Outcomes – Jim Butterfield and Ann Miles, International Education Council

Speaking on behalf of the International Education Council, J. Butterfield and A. Miles addressed the council about "Global Learning Outcomes." Currently, fulfilling the "globally engaged" aspect of the University's strategic plan has revolved mostly around encouraging students to study abroad. While this is a great goal, only a small number of students will be able to take advantage of these opportunities, and so the IEC has been developing "Global Learning Outcomes" that faculty could incorporate into their courses across the University. Butterfield and Miller distributed a draft proposal of global learning outcomes for the University. IEC would like to see this lead to more specific learning outcomes being proposed for the college and department levels as well. A discussion ensued about how to encourage these learning outcomes across the curriculum.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kent Baldner