

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL
Tuesday, 10 November 2015, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members Present: K. Ackerson, A. Anderson, R. Aravamuthan, J. Atkin, Jane Baas (for C. Koretsky), K. Baldner, L. Coons, K. Hillenbrand, John Jellies (for D. Walcott), M. Kritzman, D. Reinhold, D. Sachs, E. Schleis, Connor Smith (for T. Fishman), C. Tremblay, G. Whitehurst

Absent Without Substitution: J. Cousins

Guests: Timothy Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Jim Butterfield, Political Science, and Chair, International Education Council; Gary Bischof, Chair, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences; Alexander Cannon, School of Music; Daniel Morgan, Chair, Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies

Also Present: David Paul, Philosophy

Procedural Items

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Anderson moved acceptance of the agenda (with a change in the order), seconded by Hillenbrand. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Anderson moved approval of the minutes of 13 October 2015 (noting that Whitehurst was in attendance), seconded by Ackerman. Motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

Kritzman reported that she spoke to Delores Walcott, who is recovering from her surgery. Delores thanked the council members for their get-well card, and hopes to be back next semester. Kritzman also reported the highlights of the most recent Faculty Senate meeting. She also reported on a recent meeting of the Faculty Senate council chairs.

Information/Action/Discussion Items

1. Visit with Provost Tim Greene

Provost Greene addressed the council. This is his annual visit to the council. He expressed willingness to come back more frequently at the council's request. General Education revision is high on his current list of priorities. He would like the council to "talk up" this process, so that the faculty knows that this process is taking place. The review portion of Academic Program Review and Planning is completed. Eleven programs were recommended for elimination. Second on his list of priorities is the "Western Signature" endeavor, which would allow students to note a "Signature" on their transcripts for certain kinds of advanced activities. The provost discussed the ramifications of the increase in students taking a significant portion of their educations at 2-year institutions prior to coming to Western, including "Early Middle College," where students start taking 2-year college courses while still in high school.

A lively discussion ensued.

2. Curriculum Proposal: [CEHD 579] Change the name of the program from "B.S. Elementary Education and Special Education: Learning Disabilities K-12" to "B.S. Special Education and Elementary Education: Learning Disabilities and Emotional Impairments K-12" – Daniel Morgan

Daniel Morgan explained that this name change reflects recently state-mandated changes and includes all three endorsements (Elementary, Learning Disabilities, and Emotional Impairments). This change was intended to be included in the proposal that was submitted last spring, but didn't meet the timelines to be included in the 2015 catalog.

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

3. Curriculum Proposal: [M5.15-16] Establish a new degree, Bachelor of Musical Arts (BMA) – Alexander Cannon

Alexander Cannon addressed the council. He noted that the proposed BMA degree would offer an education in the "musical arts" more generally, as opposed to the liberal arts (a goal of the BA degree) or performance (a goal of the Bachelor of Music degree). The faculty believes that a degree in the musical arts (BMA) with these requirements is vital to recruitment and retention. The WMU School of Music currently offers three types of degrees: a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Multimedia Arts technology, intended for students wishing to pursue professional careers in the various music technology industries; a Bachelor of Music (BM), intended as a professional degree for performers, composers, music therapists and music educators; and a Bachelor

of Arts (BA) in Music, intended as a liberal arts-style degree. The proposed BMA program will provide an education in the musical arts and provides students an opportunity to gain knowledge of many different aspects of music while providing enough flexibility in the selection of classes to allow the student to cultivate an area of musical expertise.

Hillenbrand moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by Whitehurst. Motion tabled. Questions were raised about the degree of specificity of "Learning Outcomes" for the proposed major, and whether or not the outcomes in the proposal are specific enough to be measured. The motion was tabled pending submission of more specific/measurable learning outcomes.

4. Curriculum Proposal: [CEHD 582] Establish an Accelerated Graduate Degree Program for the Master of Arts in Family and Consumer Sciences (emphasis in Child Life or in Family Life Education) – Gary Bischof

Gary Bischof addressed the council, and noted that this proposal would establish an Accelerated Graduate Degree Program (AGDP) for the Master of Arts in Family and Consumer Sciences (emphasis in Child Life or in Family Life Education). The Master of Arts in Family and Consumer Sciences has four emphasis areas: Child Life, Dietetics, Family Life Education, and Textile and Apparel Studies. This proposed AGDP does not include Dietetics or Textile and Apparel Studies. The accelerated graduate degree would allow WMU students majoring in Family Studies or Child and Family Development (the two undergraduate majors in the Family Science area of the FCS department) with an overall GPA of 3.0, a GPA of 3.5 in the major, and senior standing to take up to 12 credit hours of 5000 and 6000-level courses which would count for both the undergraduate major and the Master of Arts (MA) in Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS; emphasis in Child Life or in Family Life Education). Double-counting up to 12 credit hours will make completing a graduate degree more financially possible for WMU students.

Ackerman moved acceptance of this proposal, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried.

5. MOA-15/09 International Education Council Internationalization Initiative

Jim Butterfield addressed the council regarding this Memorandum of Action. The MOA recommends the adoption of an initiative entitled "Internationalizing the Student Experience: Preparing Students for a Globalized World." The initiative seeks to build on Western's strong record in promoting "student mobility" by increasing and enhancing study abroad and international student recruitment and services while internationalizing the educational experience of all students on campus. Three elements comprise this initiative in comprehensive internationalization of our university: I. Study Abroad; II. International Students at WMU; III. Internationalization at Home. Western has never systematically addressed internationalizing its campus in a

comprehensive manner. This initiative self-consciously emphasizes internationalization at home while maintaining and enhancing our efforts in promoting student mobility.

The council wants to hear from the Committee to Oversee General Education before recommending our endorsement to the Faculty Senate Executive Board. The council was generally enthusiastic about the general direction of the proposal.

Other

The 5000-level subcommittee has had its first meeting. The committee suggests that 5000-level courses be understood to be graduate level courses that are available to advanced undergraduate students. These courses should not be required in any undergraduate major or minor, but may be counted as electives in such programs. The subcommittee has two more meetings prior to coming back to this council.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Baldner