

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES COUNCIL

Tuesday, 3 December 2019, 3 to 5 p.m., Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members and substitutes present: Jessica Birnbaum, Deanna Bush, Michael Duffy, Clifton Ealy, Bruce Ferrin, Kathryn Hillenbrand, Marilyn Kritzman, Irma Lopez, David Reinhold (designee for Provost Jennifer Bott), Kate LaLonde, Daniela Schroeter, Xiaoyun Shao

Members absent: Carrie Cumming, Dianna Sachs, Rebecca Natale and Sarah Strathman (Western Student Association)

Academic advising liaison present: Betsy Drummer

Advisory member present: Ed Martini

Guests: Andrea Beach, Associate Dean, College of Education and Human Development; Deborah Droppers and James Lewis, Department of Human Performance and Health Education; Cynthia Klekar-Cunningham, Director, School of Communication; Margaret Dupuis, Acting Chair, Department of English; Maarten Vonhof, Director, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability; Louann Bierlein Palmer, Graduate Studies Council; Marilyn Duke, Director, Academic Resource Center

Procedural Items

Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m. by Chair Bruce Ferrin. He welcomed those in attendance.

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Bush to revise the agenda to add CEHD 1022-REVISED: Create an Event Management Major, as the proposal was resubmitted; and to remove AVS 05-19 Create certificate in Aviation Integrated Supply Management, which has been withdrawn by the department. Hillenbrand seconded the motion. The revised agenda was approved.

Approval of the Minutes

It was moved by Lopez and seconded by LaLonde to approve the minutes from the 12 November 2019 meeting as provided. Motion carried.

Chair Comments

There were no chair comments from Bruce Ferrin.

Action Items

Curriculum Proposals – Postponed on 11/12/2019

1. *Theatre – T.1 19-20A: Change title of B.A. in Theatre Studies to B.A. in Arts Administration and revise curriculum from exclusively Theatre to choice of core courses from any discipline in the college*

It was moved by Lopez and seconded by Kritzman to approve Theatre – T.1 19-20A. Although no one was present from the department to present the proposal, the council acted in lieu of a presentation. The motion carried with one abstention.

2. *Geological and Environmental Sciences – CAS 17-449: Create Environmental Geology Major*

It was moved by Hillenbrand and seconded by Lopez to approve CAS 17-449: Create Environmental Geology Major. Although no one was present from the department to present the proposal, the council acted in lieu of a presentation. The motion carried with one abstention.

3. *CEHD 1022: Create new major in Event Management*

It was moved by Lopez and seconded by Birnbaum to approve CEHD 1022. Andrea Beach, James Lewis and Deb Droppers addressed the council, in support of the proposal. Cynthia Klekar-Cunningham addressed the council, in opposition of the proposal.

It was moved by Kritzman and seconded by Schroeter to move into executive session. The motion carried. The council moved into executive session at 3:35 p.m.

It was moved by Kritzman and seconded by Schroeter to move out of executive session at 4:05 p.m. Motion carried. The council moved out of executive session.

Kritzman called for a secret ballot vote and distributed ballots. Chair Ferrin announced that proposal CEHD 1022 has been postponed. Chair Ferrin shared with the proposal organizers and guests that the curriculum proposal should: 1) be more student-focused/student centered; student needs, more focused on WMU students; 2) there is potential content curricula overlap with: the School of Public Affairs and Administration and the School of Communication in the College of Arts and Sciences; and in the Department of Marketing in the Haworth College of Business; 3) consider market research/demand for the Event Management major beyond student's asking for the major; 4) additional research and link to the professional certification/exams; what does certification allow someone to do? 5) how do the other universities/colleges (45 with event management majors) coordinate with/handle the event management major/potential overlap with other departments/units on campus.

New Curriculum Proposals

4. *Business Information Systems – HCOB F19-02 – Delete Telecommunication and Information Management Major*

It was moved by Kritzman and seconded by Lopez to delete HCOB F19-02 – Telecommunication and Information Management Major. Although no one was present from the department to present the proposal, the council acted in lieu of a presentation. Motion carried with one abstention.

5. *English – CAS 17-428A – Revise English minor and change title to English minor: Literature and Language*

It was moved by Ealy and seconded by Duffy to approve CAS 17-428A – Revise English minor and change title to English minor: Literature and Language. Margaret Dupuis, Acting Chair, Department of English, addressed the council. The motion was postponed to allow the English Department to work on student learning outcomes.

6. *Aviation – AVS 05-19 – Create certificate in Aviation Integrated Supply Management*

The proposal was withdrawn from the agenda by the department.

7. *Institute of the Environment and Sustainability – CAS 17-448 – Create new Sustainable Brewing Operations concentration within the Sustainable Brewing major*

It was moved by Ealy and seconded by Bush to approve CAS 17-448 – Create new Sustainable Brewing Operations concentration within the Sustainable Brewing major. Maarten Vonhof, Director, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability addressed the council. Motion carried with one abstention.

Information/Discussion Item

1. *Prior Learning Assessment – Louann Bierlein Palmer and Dave Reinhold*

One of the council charges is to investigate best practices regarding prior learning assessment (PLA).

Louann Bierlein Palmer and Dave Reinhold addressed the council. The College of Education and Human Development has researched the matter of issuing credit for prior work experience. Assessment is granted on a course by course basis. Since each course has student learning outcomes, this is easier to accomplish. The usual method of review is by submission of a portfolio. Faculty must have expertise in assessing the submitted work.

Minimal cost is associated with the credits earned. There is a cost associated with the assessment of the portfolios.

The Graduate Studies Council is reviewing PLA and piggybacked off the work of the CEHD. Two ways to approach this: 1) centralized portfolio assessors; and 2) de-centralized by department and decision-making with centralized decision-making. Most accrediting bodies (i.e. Higher Learning Commission) are supportive of this process. The HLC requires a policy which states the maximum number of credits an individual may earn (i.e. Central Michigan University allows up to 60 credit hours).

GSC is looking to revise the existing policy re: credit by examination only policy. Voluntary faculty and voluntary programs are working with chairs and deans on this effort.

Reinhold distributed background information from programs at Bowling Green, Penn State and the State of Illinois.

The impact on faculty load is that it is voluntary, but it is hoped that workload for reviewing many portfolios will be considered as part of the overall faculty workload.

Other

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

Marilyn Kritzman, substitute for Secretary Dianna Sachs