Minutes  
University Senate Academic Policies Committee  
Volume 49, No. 8  
October 30, 2012


1. Chair Pratt called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

2. The minutes of the October 23, 2012 meeting were approved as distributed.

3. APC was presented with various viewpoints on the proposal for 30 hours of service learning in section C. Additional Requirements of the LE Framework Proposal from the University Liberal Education Committee.

- D. Mowry and L. Bica provided context for ULEC’s decision to retain UWEC’s current requirement of 30 hours service learning.
- B. Knight expressed the need (supported by literature) for service learning to be more purposeful and intentional. In order to be effective, service learning needs to be integrated into curricular and co-curricular experiences.
- B. Knight addressed concerns about students’ negative responses to service learning when “forced to volunteer.”
- B. Knight mentioned that currently there are approx. 135 students planning to graduate in December that have yet to complete the service learning requirement. It was explained that many students try to easily and quickly complete this requirement with little to no intentionality.
- Members of the University and Eau Claire Community involved with service learning provided information in support of the current service learning requirement at UWEC. Non-profit organizations (specifically the Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Club) recognized the success that many students achieve through service learning. Students often continue to volunteer after the service learning requirement is met. Service learning can also strengthen the relationship between the University and the Community.
- It was noted that the APC and the University should not confuse civic engagement with volunteerism.
- Provost Kleine addressed Service Learning from a risk management perspective and raised concerns about the coverage of students who participate in service learning opportunities outside of coursework.
- P. Martin acknowledged the recognition of service learning as a valuable tool in connecting knowledge and skills to the community. He also expressed the concern that service looses value when it is required. He explained that there is a culture of students attempting to complete this requirement with as little time and effort as possible.
• Chair Pratt made it clear that APC was not looking to remove service learning as a requirement, but is considering alternative options to make this requirement more meaningful.

• APC will revisit this topic in two weeks (tentatively) and vote on this LE requirement at that time.

4. A proposal for Program Review was brought forward from M. Wick and the Provost’s office. Revisions were made to update the process in response to feedback on both the current review process and the PEEQ review process.
   • Concerns were expressed about the removal of external reviewers, the possible inefficiency of internal reviewers, and the inclusion of administration in the reviews from external accreditors.
   • M. Wick presented APC with draft matrices (the Public Accountability Matrix and the Strategic Accountability Matrix) to be used in the revised Academic Department/Program Review.
   • Motion was moved and seconded to Approve the Revisions to the Academic Department/Program Review Process with the understanding that both the internal and external review processes will remain in place and that the Strategic Accountability Matrix (SAM) and the Public Accountability Matrix (PAM) will be reviewed by APC at a later date. Motion passed 8 for, 0 against

5. The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Olm, secretary for the meeting