Minutes
University Senate Academic Policies Committee
Volume 51, Number 12
March 31, 2015


Guests:  Mickey Kolis, Marc McEllistrem, Rose Battalio, Margaret Cassidy, Jennifer Fager, Deb Jansen, Jill Prushiek, Jill Prushiek, Jeff Vahlbush, Amy Jewell, Jacob Wrasse, Heather Kretz, Joey Bohl

Chair Pratt called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM.

1.0 Meeting Minutes
Minutes from 03/17/2015 were approved as circulated.

2.0 Educational Studies Review
Educational Studies was commended for its achievement of students, its setting and achieving of departmental goals and its work with campus and regional communities.

Discussion on why the “Strengthen and Review Early” box was checked when the reviewers suggested “Continue in Present Form”. The Review Early might make sense but it was unclear on the Strengthen and how it could be done. APC’s recommendation will be to Continue in Present Form by disagreeing with the summative recommendation and then put in the narrative the recommendation to Continue in Present Form.

Discussion of a separate review for the graduate program. Battalio and Kolis responded that they are working on figuring out how to proceed with the graduate program. A goal is to have a new MEPD program in place for the 2016-2017 academic year.

In response to the question regarding #14 on the spreadsheet that has both agree and disagree by the Chair, the Chair explained the demographics that lead to the issue. 1/3rd of the group is both Elementary Education and Special Education and the other 2/3 is just Elementary Education. The perception from the just Elementary Education group is that they don’t have enough Special Education. Educational Studies is trying to get more Special Education embedded into the Elementary Education program.

Discussion of Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction certified versus CAPE National Certification (self-study page 3 and 23). Educational Studies doesn’t the benefit outweighing the cost for National Certification. Students are finding positions across the country with the present standards.
Discussion of Math Education placement (self-study page 5 artifact 4). Low numbers due to incomplete statistics. As response rate has increased, the placement rate has increased and is more accurate.

Discussion of Principal Licensure Certificate. Curriculum has been determined. An outside administrator is looking at the curricular information to beef it up and make it clearer. It will then be forwarded to curriculum committee for approval.

Discussion on external reviewers comment about the lack of evidence for dispositional advising. Department feels it is working well. Will be collecting the data to show its effectiveness.

Discussion regarding “gated access” mentioned in external and internal review. Changes have been made to improve student access to faculty. Department continues to work on the issue.

3.0 Proposal to Remove Foreign Language Requirement for Admission
Admissions Director, Heather Kretz, and Joey Bohl presented proposal to remove the foreign language requirement for admission to the University. Rapid Action task force has looked at streamlining access to the University. Removing the requirement fits in with the holistic admissions process. Doesn’t affect the foreign language course offerings. Certain programs draw students to UWEC, if those students did not take 2 years of foreign language they can’t even apply. Admissions provided data for 36 students that applied for admissions that didn’t have 2 years of foreign language. Parents and students have walked out of Admissions presentations when they find out that UWEC requires 2 years of foreign language because they then know they can’t apply.

Discussion about whether certain course offerings in high school limit the ability for students to take 2 years of foreign language.

Discussion on whether removing the requirement will reduce the quality of students accepted and whether there is data to support the conclusion

Item will be brought back to the next APC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:52 pm.
Respectfully submitted
Doug Dunham
Secretary for the meeting