University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire  
University Senate Academic Policies Committee  
Vol. 52, Meeting No. 10  
Tuesday, February 23, 2016  
Council Oak Room, 260 Davies

Present:  
Members: Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Ned Gannon, Jerry Hoepner, Bob Hooper, Patricia Kleine, Marie-Claire Koissi-Kouassi, Cheryl Lapp, Sean McAleer, Bob Nowlan, Jean Pratt, Mathew Riedel, Stephanie Wical

 Guests: Michael Carney, Margaret Cassidy

Presiding: Chair Jean Pratt called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of the 02/09/2016 meeting minutes
   • Motion to approve minutes of February 9, 2016, seconded, approved as distributed.

2. Provost’s Report: Program Review
   • American Indian Studies finished too late for this cycle and will be included in the next
   • Departments have been working on converting 4-year degree plans for LE
   • HLC/Pathway Project-PAM and SAM have been instrumental in changing campus, have three years to load reporting documents before HLC’s arrival in fall 2019, we need to pay closer attention to evaluation and assessment which is an area most universities struggle with during accreditation

3. Provost’s Update
   • Biology -
     • Have been consciously paying attention to transfer students
     • Department is now staffed with more ecologists, many faculty in biology/physiology have retired, department is finding it more difficult to teach basic courses as there is a huge demand for the “other kinds of biology”
     • Paid a facility to help develop a strategic plan, biochemistry is a large program and Biology has worked with Chemistry to streamline the program
   • Social Studies -
     • Very impressive that it’s entirely volunteer led, not a department but a committee
     • Must stay on top of the regularly changing DPI requirements
     • Have noticed a decline in the number of students, have single and dual certifications
   • Education Studies -
     • Embraced the new edTPA requirement, students have been piloting this for almost three years
     • Many EDI-focused courses
     • DPI requirements change often, department needs to be resilient
     • Hoping they are able to reduce the number of credits-to-degree (closer to 120)
   • Materials Science -
     • Approved for Materials Science and Engineering; graduating majors paid less due to not carrying “engineering”
     • “Engineering” courses are going through the appropriate curriculum committees
     • As faculty are needing to be replaced, will look at engineers
     • Small and effective program in terms of community outreach, both with businesses and K-12; provide demos, try to sell services
     • Doug Dunham volunteered to serve as Provost’s proxy at WiscAMP meetings in Madison; hope to obtain more minorities in the STEM field, we’ve increased from 0 to 12+
   • Philosophy and Religious Studies –
     • Department makes significant contributions to general and liberal education courses
     • Students do very strongly in their research and internships
     • Need to pay closer attention to how frequently/when their electives are offered
Psycology -
• Enormous program, nationwide one of largest majors
• Able to manage the large number of majors due in part to using students to serve as peer advisors (peer advisors keep office hours for students to come to them with issues)
• Department contributes to Honors, pays close attention to the American Psychological Association
• Asked to watch growing demand for neuropsychology and to determine whether it’s possible to offer a statistics course for other social science majors

Questions -
• Concern surrounding assessment process. Have made changes in courses in past, unsure of how to represent the changes made within the process? The narrative statement on the assessment eForm wasn’t helpful (sample was written for a course with nothing wrong)
  × Process is important within the departments, should review what’s occurring, they have a more sophisticated view of how things should be assessed and should be used to see how successful/unsucccessful assessment is
  × Let members of the Assessment Committee know what doesn’t seem to work, Provost will mention to Stephen Hill and Mary Hoffman
• Biology’s Question #7 comment – “SAM/Winterim funds should be used in the near term, what about the long-term?”
  × Department will use the $1M they received from Duxbury
• Biology’s Question #11 comment – “Topic for Academic Master Plan”?
  × It is still a question
• What is edTPA?
  × The new student teacher performance assessment aligned with national standards
• Lack of student-centered culture and friendliness within Education Studies, gatekeeper-type area?
  × Corridor once locked is now left open and no longer a significant barrier
• Feels like some of the suggestions made by review committees are being watered down, e.g., a strong concern of students and the review committee for Education Studies was that majors aren’t feeling prepared to serve individuals with special needs, pedagogical concerns between Education Studies and Special Education, hope those significant issues move forward
  × Currently departments have around one year to put recommendations in motion; 2012-13 reports are due this spring.
  × We should be asking departments to follow-up so we can 1) check their progress [many continue to use IP] and 2) insure the loop is closed and recommendations are being fulfilled
  × There’s no language in the review form that says feedback has to return to APC, next time for input is in 7 years during the next review
  × How will we ask for follow-up information? Departments are already overstretched.
  × Need to determine which are most critical, there are new chairs throughout the process who may not be aware of what occurred in past
  × Follow-up report just to Provost and AVC, not APC
• If would be helpful if we had a way to rank the recommendations. There are too many and they’re not all equally important.
  × Specificity-issue, internal and external reviewers make specific suggestions, summary is created
  × If it’s not able to be completed by department than it should be removed, only rank those within the department’s control
  × There’s a risk of removing things
• Philosophy and Religious Studies’ Question #6 comment – “Utilize CETL resources” -- Using CETL resources addresses pedagogy but what about the others?
  × Deans follow-up on nationally accredited programs
• Veiled personnel problems that are well-known by the University, how do you follow-up?
  × Deans are more aware than you think, very sensitive to those issues, talk about the issues with the department and follow-up with them regularly
4. **Miscellaneous business**
   - Physical Activity/Wellness Requirement – There will be sufficient capacity for all remaining students to meet the requirement, communication will be sent to students informing them of the extra sections of KINS 186 being offered, freshmen weren’t allowed to register for the courses so the requirement will be waived beginning 2015-16, KINS 186 will eventually no longer be offered along with a couple of the Nursing courses.

5. **Upcoming agenda items**
   - Due to lack of time, this item was not discussed.

Chair Jean Pratt adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Forcier
Secretary for the Meeting