

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Academic Policies Committee
Vol. 56, Meeting No. 10
Tuesday, March 3, 2020
Chancellors Room, 311 Davies

Present: *Members:* Robert Hooper, Marquell Johnson, Hans Kishel, Der-Fa Lu, Joel Meier, Bill Miller, Darrell Newton, Vicki Samelson, Evan Weiher
Guests: Margaret Cassidy, Rodd Freitag, Mary Hoffman, Gretchen Peters

Presiding: Chair Marquell Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from February 25, 2020

- Motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2020, as distributed. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously (6-0-0).

2. Department of Music and Theatre Arts Program Review

- Chair Gretchen Peters was in attendance to provide information and answer questions.
 - Process resulted in multiple conversations within the department including discussions around the department's core values, began search for guitar position reconfirming that musical theatre is very important to the department, emphasized the importance of Recording Arts and Fine Arts Administration Certificates, aware of student stress/heavy workloads/retention and hopeful this process will help in the conversations on how to proceed, appreciative that Theatre Arts was included in the program view as previous reviews were completed via the accreditation process with NASM, understand the added value of more outreach in the summer (e.g., Shell Lake summer camp)
- Students come for music and aren't retained, are they staying at UWEC or going elsewhere?
 - Department will need to better track students who don't stay in the major, but feel quite often students stay on campus, it is a major that students decide on in high school and when they get here and experience what it's like to study music in an academic environment it's not what they envisioned. The major is different in that students must be admitted and its dependent on their concept of it while in high school.
- It was noted there may be an error on one of the data sheets – indicates a 25% 4-year graduation rate and the time-to-degree average is 4.5 years.
- Staggering change in retention, is it somehow related to the make-up of the faculty (full-time/part-time/adjunct)?
 - Complicated topic that needs to be addressed next in the department's Student Success Plan. A committee will be created to work through the issues, track which studio students are leaving from and who the faculty member is. May be consistent with trends in education, may be tied to stress and anxiety students feel navigating college and the nature of performance and the major across the country, ARCC, will be reviewing a couple of specific sequences (music theory)
- More specifics of how department decreased the number of credits students took in music (162 to 149) and theatre (151 to 133), and because more than 120 credits isn't norm, are there ways to decrease the number of credits further
 - To get to the level of k-12 single licensure, a lot of curricular changes made to music ed instrumental/choral last fall to get to 120; decreasing Bachelor of Music would be a struggle due to requirements of accrediting body (NASM), also difficult due to applied lessons credits

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- Departmental faculty are overworked, what are some strategies to decrease this
 - Not manifested in credit but what is expected and attached to a credit, a lot of one credit obligations (lessons, ensembles) but with that comes five hours of practice, dress rehearsal, 2-day tours, guest artists. A matter of saying what can be attached to a credit, when you have a class you have so many hours with students, but then faculty continue to add obligations
- Gretchen would be open to having a dialogue with students regarding the added workload to one credit courses. See the problem, but the issue is how the department determines a solution.
- What are department's strategies to recruit minority students?
 - Major ensembles go on tour every year and are selecting schools with diverse demographics, have various faculty who chose to go into schools in Chicago/St.Paul to work with students, faculty form relationships with schools with high minority populations (provide lessons), could change audition processes (hold them within particular schools)
- Concern if you streamline from one credit to two or three credits?
 - Don't think it's possible, can't add more credits to ensembles, already a high number of credits, students required to participate in ensembles every semester and they'd love to be in two to three a semester, faculty need to determine what they'd like to eliminate
 - Recommend department look at statistics, determine how the expectations of a one credit course differ at other institutions. NASM may have data as well.
- Concern regarding theatre arts majors unable to get into courses due to rotation, particularly upper-division courses
 - Don't want theatre education back. Theatre curriculum was on rotation that is offered every four semesters, but significant changes were made this fall knowing this was an issue. Convinced students are going to have an easier time registering, decreasing the need for substitutions.
- Pablo – Nearly two years later and MOU still in process with a goal of completion by the end of this year, fundamental disagreements remain, relationship with Pablo and how UWEC uses it is shifting, complicated relationship and the university is tied to its success, complicated details related to financial aspects, UWEC has done a good job trying to define things within the MOU/trying to determine problems and create solutions, fundamentally very expensive to run Pablo and its being run in a way that isn't consistent with how a state undergraduate university is run, UWEC is paying their obligation and department is funding through 128 account
- Program Review Form - Item No. 2 Rebuild the Department with FT faculty and Item No. 10 Reduce dependence on IAS; invest in faculty, including in the scenic design are
 - Leave both blank, APC acknowledges there is a process outside of program review that addresses this, support Rodd's statement

3. Completion of Department of Economics Post Dean Review Form

- Program Review Form - Item No. 11 Continue critical progress of moving department to the College of Business
 - Leave blank, for the department to decide and acknowledge, the issue may be revisited with personnel changes

Chair Marquell Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Forcier
Secretary for the Meeting