

University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
University Senate Academic Policies Committee
Vol. 57, Meeting No. 7
Tuesday, December 1, 2020
Via Microsoft Teams

Present: *Members:* Abby Hemmerich, Mary Hoffman, Bob Hooper, Marquell Johnson, Carol Koroghlanian, Bill Miller, Dalete Mota, Kati Schaller, Evan Weiher
Guests: Margaret Cassidy, Marc Goulet, Deb Jansen, Colleen Marchwick, Jean Pratt, Jill Prushiek

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

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from November 17, 2020

- Motion to approve the minutes of November 17, 2020, as distributed. Motion was seconded and approved (7-0-0).

2. Center for International Education (CIE) Proposal for Winterim Study Abroad

- Colleen Marchwick was in attendance to provide information and answer questions. Requesting an extension of a current study abroad with Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso (PUCV); a 3-week session in January or those studying at PUCV for the semester could participate in a 3-week session in February. CIE worked closely with Spanish faculty member prior to bringing the proposal forward. No separate orientation will be needed for participants.
- How many of these programs have accommodations with a host family?
 - Typically the foreign language programs, students are able to experience language immersion. Some programs give the option to live in a home or residence hall.
- Status of American citizens being able to enter?
 - US currently a hot spot, will determine when study abroad can resume. Passport holders can enter. There are hurdles.
- Motion to approve the Center for International Education’s proposal for Winterim study abroad at PUCV. Motion was seconded and approved (8-0-0).

3. Revisit Proposal for Clarifying Language on Course Registration Policy

- Proposal sent back third time for discussion due to issues with wording of the process. Associate deans provided simplified wording and Jamie provided extensive wording. Discussion.
 - The effort put forth is greater than the benefit of having a policy, it affects so few students. Recommend continue as is – associate deans/chairs resolve on a student-by-student basis.
 - Departments could add verbiage to course descriptions in Catalog.
 - Suggested extensive text is too much for a policy, policies are different than processes, Catalog doesn’t usually contain processes
 - Issue in that students want to see where the policy is stated
 - Not sure a statement can be constructed to alleviate concern about the process, table and can bring back
- Motion was made to table the proposal. Motion was seconded and approved (8-0-0).

4. Academic Affairs Consideration for Suspension of Service-Learning Requirements for Spring and Summer 2021

- Associate deans requested consideration of suspension of Service-Learning (SL) for the remainder of the academic year for students graduating in spring and summer 2021. Discussion.

University Senate Academic Policies Committee Minutes continued

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

- Support. Concern about the number of opportunities available and non-traditional students (may be teaching kids at home, working, etc.), pandemic will be ongoing
- Support. May be more stress and pressure on students in the spring due to family members/friends in the hospital, added to pressures of classes will be coping with family issues, unemployment, losing housing, can't dismiss the amount of stress that will continue until vaccine widely available
- Against. Time to achieve the requirement, can help students find a SL opportunity
- Leaning toward against. Time remaining, especially in summer; compelling case regarding struggling non-trads along with Benita's departure (no interim has been identified)
- Support. Don't like to force work without pay, great projects are good but there are bad ones too, some students just do something to get it done, not high value
- Against. University has a SL requirement which is also part of the LE process, should be standing behind and supporting it
- Would like to reexamine SL, do we even want to continue, used to be a mark of distinguishment, now being completed at pre-college level and has lost benefit to students, good to make connections in community but would like to make it more valuable, a community engagement experience
- Working on academic strategic plan, community service isn't listed, there are a lot of areas where communicate engagement or community-based research fit into the plan and may be the opportunity to take a deeper look
- Data: SL web site is accurate/only 56 opportunities available, 500 students have applied for graduation in spring and 25 for summer
- Support. Should be readjusted during pandemic, some are teaching kids in addition to everything else, social isolation, do the agencies even want the extra work of converting opportunities to virtual, everyone is under too much pressure, many high schoolers are already participating, now is not the time to enforce it
- Many people are looking for ways to cut back, this is pandemic-related, we can help by temporarily suspending the requirement
- Previous email was sent to students who hadn't completed SL, students enrolled in a course where SL is embedded wouldn't receive the email and are expected to complete it
- Some courses with embedded SL may not be able to complete it, some requirements included on syllabus haven't always been successful during pandemic
- Move it forward to Senate for a larger discussion, provide pros and cons
- APC may revisit SL in future, invite Provost
- Be sure to include graduating students from UWEC-BC
- Motion to move the Academic Affairs consideration for suspension of Service-Learning requirements for spring and summer 2021. Motion was seconded and approved (5-2-1).

Chair Marquell Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Forcier
Secretary for the Meeting