Present: Members: Scott Clark, Rahul Gomes, Abby Hemmerich, Mary Hoffman, Marquell Johnson, Carol Koroghlanian, Bill Miller, Kati Morley, Jamie Tester Morfoot, Evan Weiher
Guests: Margaret Cassidy, Deb Jansen, Provost Kleine, Jill Prushiek

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

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from November 16, 2021
   - Motion to approve the minutes of November 16, 2021. Motion was seconded and approved (9-0-0).

2. Provost 2020-2021 Academic Program Review Summaries
   - Provost Kleine was in attendance to discuss the 2020-2021 Academic Program Review Summaries and answer questions.
   - Special Education and Inclusive Practices: Both education programs have determined and moved forward with what needs to be covered within their name changes. Time-to-degree continues to be an issue. DPI standards change and SEIP quickly revises curriculum to meet the requirements. Agree the department should involve the students sooner in the profession. Has a strong relationship with ARCC. Workload is also part of the Strategic Plan, possibility of more 4-credit courses (university-wide discussion). The department has been approved for and is searching for another position.
   - Education for Justice and Equity: Positive name change. Under strong leadership. Recognize the work those in/involved with public school have experienced during pandemic. APC provided good ideas regarding time/credit-to-degree as it’s a challenge in education departments, they’re at DPI’s whim. Agree in the need for an “off ramp” for students who are no longer interested in pursuing a career as an educator. The department is searching for three positions, hopeful students will want to continue to be educators in the current climate.
   - Biology: Top-notch, large department chosen as UWEC’s nomination for UW System’s teaching excellence program award. Very high HIPs. A lot of departments eliminated field experiences during COVID but Biology created a model used by other departments. Agree the lab manager’s position should be full-time. Agree department should keep tabs on EDI, a lot of new faculty and programs. They received three positions.
   - These three are outstanding departments, well-known outside of Eau Claire. Agreement between APC and Provost on majority of topics.
   - Recurring themes (STEM departments) in program reviews surrounding lab managers, storage space, labs. Will there be an increase in these with new science building? Bigger lab spaces will be included, but no word on an increase in lab managers. MSE has had to come up with ways to manage their equipment/labs/chemicals and have done so.
   - General Questions
     - 2-year progress reports? Returned directly to Academic Affairs, some compliance issues, could send to APC as well. Have never not made progress, could be discussed further.
“Continue in present form”: Is losing its meaning, all need to change, unsure of definition, want a more robust process. E.g., most programs “continue in present form” but need additional FTE. Should be discussed further.
  · Review Form was intended to save work for APC, tried to categorize recommendations this year, if the form isn’t helpful can discuss alternatives, need to think about what we want to accomplish

Overlap between University Assessment and APC during program review?
  · Assessment Committee has no jurisdiction over process, they review the assessment plans. This would be a structural change, process is initiated by Academic Affairs and moves through governance (per UW System)

Marquell will add program review discussion to the agenda this spring
  · Thoughts for program review discussion: All departments should think about their vision moving forward, what they are aspiring to be, where they are going

Associate Deans have discretion over the academic standing policy and have agreed this fall not to automatically suspend first year students who are finishing their first semester under a 1.0 GPA. Will work with Registration, students will receive a probation letter with conditions (need to meet with ARCC adviser, adjust their schedule, take Gen 201, and meet with the Associate Deans for reflection). Still determining what mid-semester check-ins will be and adding resources to help get the students back on track. Not a policy change, may bring a change depending on how this semester goes. Students with a GPA between 1.0-2.0 will receive a warning letter offering additional resources.
  · Current change is only for first year students; they may find the appeal process challenging/discouraging. Encourage other students to make sure they complete the appeals. Will reexamine whether to include every student if brought forward as a policy change.

Chair Marquell Johnson adjourned the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Forcier
Secretary for the Meeting