

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

May 2, 2014

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:53 a.m. by Governor Massaron in Rooms BC in the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. Governor Massaron chaired the meeting in the absence of Governor Dunaskiss, who was unable to attend. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Governors Massaron, Pollard and Trent; Linda Beale, Faculty Representative and Jane Fitzgibbon, Faculty Alternate Representative; Nicholas Board, Student Representative and Brandon Shamoun, Student Alternate Representative

Committee Members Absent: Governors Dingell and Dunaskiss

Also Present: Governors Nicholson and O'Brien, and President Wilson; Provost Winters, Vice Presidents Johnson, Lessem, Nork, Staebler and Wright, and Secretary Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, March 21, 2014

The minutes of the March 21 Academic Affairs Committee meeting were approved with the following correction: Nicholas Board was present at the March 21, 2014 meeting.

ACTION – Upon motion by Governor Pollard and seconded by Governor Trent, the Minutes of the March 21 meeting were approved as corrected. The motion carried.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM IN SOCIAL WORK AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Provost Winters reported that the School of Social Work and the Department of Anthropology have developed a joint PhD in social work and anthropology. The two disciplines have a number of overlapping competencies as well as complementary strengths that will help develop social work anthropologists engage in global urban problems in a theoretically sophisticated and practical manner.

The program has been approved by the faculty and Chair of Anthropology. The faculty of CLAS, the School of Social Work, the Deans of Social Work and CLAS, the Graduate Council, and the Dean of the Graduate School.

Professor Beale inquired whether there is evidence of probable enrollment in the proposed program. Dr. Andrea Sankar, Department Chair, Anthropology, was invited to respond and said

that a few doctorate students, new students, as well as prospective students who have applied for admission into the Anthropology doctorate program have all expressed an interest in the program and indicated they would enroll in this program if it were available. Dr. Sankar added that her colleagues in Social Work have indicated that their students have also expressed interest.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Pollard and supported by Governor Trent, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve the establishment of a Doctor of Philosophy program in Social Work and Anthropology, effective Fall semester 2014. The motion carried.

REVISIONS TO THE PHD AND EDD DEGREES IN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The College of Education is currently the only unit in the University that requires a minimum of 100 credit hours beyond the Bachelor's Degree for its doctoral program. The college proposes lowering the required minimum to 90 credits for all doctoral programs in the college. Provost Winters advised that this change will allow the College of Education to become more competitive in the market and bring it in-line with other education programs and other PhD programs in the university.

Curriculum matters have been reviewed within the College of Education and the proposal has been vetted and approved by the faculty and Dean in the College of Education, by the Graduate School and the Dean of the Graduate School.

Governor Trent asked if a national survey was done to compare this recommendation to the standard credit hour requirement. Tom Edwards, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Education responded, and advised that research was conducted on comparable programs in the urban 20 (formerly known as the Urban 13). There were no findings of other doctoral programs with a credit hour requirement as high as 100 credits. When compared to the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Michigan State University, and Western Michigan University, all with doctoral programs in education, their standard is 90 credits.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Pollard and seconded by Governor Trent, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve the reduction in minimum credit hours required by the College of Education for the PhD in Education and the Doctorate of Education (EdD) from 100 credits to 90 credits, effective Fall 2014. The motion carried.

DISSOLUTION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN COLLEGE OF FINE, PERFORMING AND COMMUNICATION ARTS

Provost Winters next discussed the discontinuance of the MA in Theater and the PhD in Theater in the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts. She advised that this program has always been small, as most students in Theater have been interested in the MFA program and degree. There are currently no students in the programs, which have not accepted students since Fall 2011. The recommendation to discontinue the programs has been vetted by the faculty and the administration in the college and in the graduate school.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Trent and seconded by Governor Pollard, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve the discontinuance of the MA in Theatre and PhD in Theatre effective Fall, 2014.

DISSOLUTION OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN THE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

Provost Winters reviewed the next discussion item, the dissolution of a three certificates in the School of Library and Information Sciences:

- Graduate Certificate in Arts and Museum Librarianship
- Graduate Certificate in Records and Information Management
- Graduate Certificate in Urban Librarianship

Provost Winters advised that in each case, the certificate has not attracted students as anticipated. These proposals have been reviewed and approved by the faculty, associate dean, and dean of Library and Information Science and the Graduate Council and dean of the Graduate School.

Professor Beale asked for an explanation for the failure of three certificate programs, given the initial belief that there was 'great enthusiasm by the professional community and marketing analysis indicating strong enrollment potential.' She further inquired if there was prior determination of success and the expected timeline for that.

A representative from the program was not present to respond, but Provost Winters indicated that library science has shifted in the last few years, and that what was considered to be an option for good potential enrollment simply didn't pan out. Provost Winters will advise the department to send a letter of explanation to the Academic Affairs Committee addressing Professor Beale's concerns, including the marketing analysis rationale.

Governor Massaron commented that in the future, a representative needs to be available to respond to questions when there is a recommendation to dissolve programs.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Trent and seconded by Governor Pollard, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve the discontinuance of three Graduate Certificate programs, effective Fall 2014. The motion carried, with a vote of 3-2.

COURSE MATERIALS FEES ANNUAL REPORT (2014)

Provost Winters presented the annual information report on Course Material Fees. She advised many of the schools and colleges do not review the fees every year and sometimes fees go as long as 5, 10, or even 15 years with no change. For that reason, when increases are approved, some may seem very large. Provost Winters cited two examples from the report. In the School of Business Administration, there has been a large increase of the use of software, upon which the increase in fees was based. In Pharmacy and Health Sciences there has been an increase in the cost of clinical testing, which impacted the fee increases for that college..

A question was raised regarding whether there should be guidelines for how often fees should be increased. The Provost indicated that the decision to raise fees is very much dependent on the discipline, and that is why there are no specific guidelines in terms of time.

Professor Beale noted that from reviewing the report, many of the dance course fees increased from \$0 to \$50. She asked what the aggregate fee increase would be for a typical dance student who takes various dance courses, per semester/academic year and for one who is not a dance student but might take some dance courses.

Dean Seeger, from the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, was asked to address this question. Dean Seeger advised that the 8 courses in question are all new courses, and each course was examined for fee assessment. While the Dean could not provide a typical sense of how many students will be taking the courses, he indicated that a student would not likely take more than two of these courses in any given semester, with the corresponding fees likely to be \$100.

Professor Beale also asked if a calculation is done of the expected impact on students. Dean Seeger said it is considered with regard to the individual departments, but not across the entire college.

PRESENTATION: SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Provost Winters introduced Cheryl Waites, Dean, School of Social Work, for a presentation about the School to the Board.

The School of Social Work (SSW), which has a strong national reputation, celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2010 and will celebrate its 80-year legacy in 2015.

The mission of the school is focused on preparing competent practitioners and scholars who can critically examine and apply knowledge to advance social work practice and social welfare policy. Students are prepared to promote social and economic justice and overall well-being to individuals, families, groups, and within organizations. The School prepares students to provide innovative leadership and scholarship. The School of Social Work is also engaged in research and scholarship primarily relevant to urban communities.

Enrollment has been very strong building from 788 to 877 students over the last 5 years. The school consists of primarily graduate students, MSW students and a smaller undergraduate program, BSW students. The PhD program started in 2006 and is doing well: There are 8 graduates who are all employed and 2 will be defending their dissertations this summer.

The school consists of 24 faculty members; most are pre-tenured faculty or tenure track faculty. Student and faculty ratios have been benchmarked at 37:1 and based on enrollment and projected enrollment, more faculty are needed. As an accredited social work program, there are criteria that must be adhered to. To move toward that criteria this year, the school is hiring 5 new faculty members, 4 lecturers and 1 associate professor. The administration consists of a dean and 2 associate deans, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Dean for Research.

The School of Social Work is non-departmentalized. Its programs include a Bachelor of Social Work program (BSW), Where Online Works program (BSW WOW) a fully online undergraduate

program which has recently received special recognition from Bestschools.org as a wise choice and one of the 25 notable programs in the U.S. BSW WOW is the only undergraduate social work program fully online in Michigan.

The MSW program has two concentrations, one is interpersonal practice and the second is innovations in community, policy and leadership. All students are required to do field education or an internship and it is estimated that students have completed 290,000 clock hours in internship within the Detroit metropolitan area.

The final program is the PhD program. A new aspect of the doctoral program is the clinical scholarship track, which is doing well and has improved from last year. The School of Social Work has several graduate certificate programs, dual title programs, and a continuing education program called Continuing Education in Professional Development, where continuing education units are provided to the practice community in the metropolitan Detroit area. Workshops are offered in this program and customized training is provided for some of the nonprofit organizations in the region. The program supports faculty research and is involved in community engagement.

Research capacity and expertise is clustered around four areas: child welfare, gerontology and aging, health and behavioral health, and interpersonal violence. A cadre of faculty are doing research in all of these areas and students are in the field doing internships in these areas as well. Dean Waites indicated that between the period of 2009 and this current year, nearly \$5 million of external funding has been garnered.

The school has made a shift in their focus on development. That focus is now dedicated to securing more major gifts through individual giving as well as continuing to work on annual giving campaigns. BOV member Dr. Louis Cotman is in the process of developing an endowed scholarship in honor of Professor David Wineman, a former faculty member who retired in 1984 after teaching for approximately 33 years. He was regarded as a wonderful teacher and a great mentor, and in fact mentored some of the school's current faculty.

In terms of enrollment, the BSW program has a percent yield from admit to attend as 88% to 87% (2009-2013 respectively) with an equally high retention rate. The rate for time-to-degree ranges from 88% to 100%, and 90% of its students graduate on time.

Yield ranges for MSW students are from 72% to 76% (2009-2013 respectively), with strong retention numbers for students for that second semester. In recent years 90%+ students have completed the programs in a timely manner.

The high student success rate can be attributed to targeted recruitment and retention strategies. Recruitment efforts include an Open House and Welcome Days where students are invited to campus to become familiar with the school's programs. Students attend a mock class and meet all of the student organization leaders and field instructors. This initiative is followed by Welcome Days, a series of informational meetings where students learn more about the SSW programs. Recruitment efforts also include outreach to high schools, community colleges, and other universities who are considered feeder institutions.

In terms of retention strategies, The SSW Student Services Office has coined the term "Creating a Culture of Completion." Dean Waites said the SSW attempts to follow this motto in a variety of programs. Strategies include proactive advising, 7 learning communities that focus on writing, research, and leadership, supportive programs including tutoring, and the Social Work Early

Intervention program, a program for students who are in academic warning. This year, the Dean organized the Dean's Student Advisory Council, where she meets with students once a semester and they share strengths and identify areas that might need improvement within the School of Social Work.

In addition to the recognition the BSW WOW program has received, the dean highlighted several key developments and accomplishments within the school. The School of Social Work will be up for reaccreditation in 2014/2015. The school was one of eleven recipients to receive the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute Grant, (NCWI), a highly competitive grant initiated by the Children's Bureau and the University of Albany to improve the child welfare workforce in the United States. The SSW was ranked #37 by *US News and World Report*, which places the school in the top quartile.

Several School of Social Work faculty conduct research in the area of Interpersonal Violence and Dean Waites called attention to two such faculty members: Poco Kernsmith and Joanne Smith-Darden and their CDC grant have received \$1,000,000 to conduct research on the factors that facilitate and discourage intimate partner violence. Another notable award is Debra Patterson's award. Her grant is to deliver and evaluate a sexual assault forensic training program (SAFE).

Several questions were raised about the school's proactive advising initiatives. The Dean also advised that the school supports the Veterans Affairs Association on campus. She said that some of the leaders of that group have been SSW students. Dean Waites also mentioned that a faculty member is working to identify barriers to treatment for veterans.

Governor Trent asked if the school has ongoing efforts to attract males to the field of social work. The school has made efforts in terms of recruiting male students. One such way is through revitalizing the macro program Innovations in Community, Policy, and Leadership (ICPL). Dean Waites reported that in the late 60s, men were attracted to social work, perhaps because of the opportunities and abilities to do more community engagement. However over the past three years, there has been a shift from community engagement to direct practice or clinical practice and students are more interested in becoming therapists.

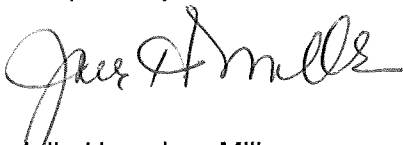
Professor Fitzgibbons asked if the same advising initiatives are in place for graduate and undergrad students. Dean Waites indicated all of the advising runs across the board for both BSW and MSW students.

Prior to adjournment, Governor Massaron acknowledged and thanked Student Representatives Nicholas Board and Brandon Shamoun for their service on the Academic Affairs Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Hearshen Miller
Secretary to the Board of Governors