



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 23, 2017

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:09 a.m. by Governor Dunaskiss in Room BC of the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Governors Dunaskiss, Kelly, Nicholson, O'Brien and Trent; Faculty Representative Jennifer Hart and Louis Romano, serving as Faculty Alternate Representative; and Kamil Abu-Shaban, Student Alternate Representative

Committee Members Absent: Student Representative Ryan Laith

Also Present: Governors Busuito, Gaffney and Thompson, and President Wilson; Provost Whitfield, Vice Presidents Burns, Decatur, Hefner, Lanier, Lessem, Staebler and Wright, and Secretary Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 28, 2017

ACTION: Upon a motion made by Governor Trent and supported by Governor Nicholson, the minutes of the April 28, 2017 minutes were approved as submitted. The motion carried.

PRESENTATION: COLLEGE OF FINE, PERFORMING, AND COMMUNICATION ARTS

Governor Dunaskiss called on Dean of the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts, Matt Seeger, for his presentation on the College. Dean Seeger indicated that he would address three important questions facing the College: Identifying strategies that could help move major building projects forward, identifying steps that can enhance recruitment and retention, and seeking opportunities to improve community engagement activities. The College includes four departments: the Department of Communication, the Maggie Allesee Department of Theater and Dance, the James Pearson Duffy Department of Art and Art History, and the Department of Music.

The arts have a large footprint at the University, and the Dean talked for a few moments about a recent project that garnered an Emmy award, a video produced in conjunction with the Division of Marketing and Communication. He noted that it was the first Emmy

ever won by Wayne State University. He lauded the many students and staff involved in the production, including UTV Associate Director Darryl Shreve and UTV videographer Jeffrey Keene, and indicated that the video would be used for promotion efforts to recruit new students, primarily through social media. He praised many other successes of the College, and discussed philanthropic efforts undertaken to raise funds needed for building projects including the Hilberry Gateway Project.

Other programs brought to the committee's attention included the jazz program, the PhD program in Communication, the Bachelor's program in Public Relations, which was recently accredited by the PRSA Society, and the Journalism Institute for Media Diversity. In terms of community engagement, the college students, faculty and staff are involved in more than 400 unfunded events a year, including mobile arts projects for grade school students, programs in the Detroit parks and recreation during the summer, supported by the Provost's office and philanthropy, the Urban Debate League program in the Detroit Public Schools, the J.C. Heard Jazz Week at Wayne for Detroit Public School Students through partnerships with Channel 6 and the Detroit Jazz Fest, among others. Other efforts at community outreach include a robust debate and public speaking program, WAYN Radio, work with the South End, support of the Warrior bands, and the university art collection.

There are approximately 2,000 majors in the College, down from the previous 4 years, but the Dean advised that work is underway to address enrollment challenges. He noted that the program's 6-year graduation rate of 47.6% was the highest in the university.

In terms of retention efforts, an entrepreneurship learning community will be put in place in the Thompson House, and completion scholarships are available through the Dean's office, to aid students. The college provides an offset to defray travel expenses for campus tour guests coming from beyond a 75 mile radius of Detroit, and housing awards are available for regional students who have to live on campus. New programs areas include Animation, Arts Administration at the Masters level, and Music Technology with a refurbished lab, and the Business Music program.

The Department of Communication is working on a Graduate Certificate in Crisis and emergency risk communication, in conjunction with the World Health Organization. The intention is to have this certificate available on-line.

Future goals include stabilizing enrollment, through recruitment and retention, continued program and curriculum innovation, community engagement and funding support, building on the arts renaissance and contributing to the University's entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Professor Romano asked for clarification on enrollment for the college. Dean Seeger noted that there were about 2,000, full-time students in the program, and around 25-30 students from outside of Michigan at the undergraduate level, with higher numbers at the graduate level. Recruitment efforts from outside Michigan include a program that identifies markets within 1 day's drive of Detroit, and identifying alumni in those areas for

participation in those efforts. The target is to attract up to 200-250 out of state and regional students, as well as recruiting nationally, particularly for the theatre and dance programs.

Governor Trent complimented the college for its successes, and advised that that many notable people from outside of Michigan came to the University to complete the theater program and that the those successes should be leveraged in recruitment efforts. She also praised the entrepreneurship learning community. Dean Seeger noted that it is a challenge to have the facilities needed to entice students and meet their curricular needs. He hopes that STEM could increasingly be thought of as STEAM, because arts are the spark of a lot of innovation and that there has been work in this area with the K-12 Education system.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN CYBER-PHYSICAL SYSTEMS

CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ADULT ACUTE CARE NURSING TO GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ADULT-GERONTOLOGY NURSE

CHANGE IN NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE TO THE SCHOOL OF INFORMATION SCIENCES

DISCONTINUANCE OF A DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

DISCONTINUANCE OF A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

DISCONTINUANCE OF EDUCATION SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

DISCONTINUANCE OF A GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

In recognition of time constraints, Governor Dunaskiss asked the committee to consider the action items on the agenda for approval as a group, in a single vote. These items include program discontinuances, establishments and name changes, and Governor Dunaskiss asked if there were any questions from committee members on the recommendations before them.

Provost Whitfield was asked about the rationale for discontinuances presented, and he advised that the recommendations were for programs that were covered by existing degree programs, new programs, or were affected by retirement and faculty, or where there was no faculty to supervise students in those areas.

He also noted the changing trends in terms of teacher education and the need to focus on signature programs. Governor Thompson asked about the type of employment that could be garnered by the cyber physical systems certificate. The Chair of the Department of Computer Science was called on to respond. Professor Xue-wen Chen noted that

there were many cyber physical system positions existing and up-coming in engineering and that the industry was evolving for both transportation and mobility.

Professor Hart asked whether the change in the name for the School of Library and Information Science was going to require a change in curriculum. Dean Yee advised that name change will broaden the training for librarians. Provost Whitfield mentioned that Library communications and information transmission has evolved and advised that he felt the name change is appropriate. The change is also in-line with what peer universities have done and will meet current demand in the field, for librarians with interdisciplinary knowledge. Governor Gaffney asked about the term “admissions moratorium” in regards to the Special Education Certificate. Associate Provost Darin Ellis noted that an admissions moratorium was put in place to examine the continued demand for the program and to allow time for students currently enrolled to finish before a degree or certificate is discontinued by the Board of Governors. In terms of the discontinuance of programs in Special Education, Governor Gaffney noted that there was industry demand for Graduates trained in autism work. Associate Provost Ellis agreed. Associate Dean Kathleen Crawford-McKinney advised that special education certificates, in terms of endorsements for educational purposes, were still in place. The Masters of Education and the Doctoral work have been curtailed. The Doctoral program has been rolled into a new program and the Masters programs are rolling into the Masters of Education in Teacher Education. The Autism program was on moratorium, to examine the numbers of students enrolled.

Governor Dunaskiss asked for a motion to approve the action items before the committee, which include the establishment of Certificate in Cyber-Physical Systems, the name change for the Certificate in Adult Acute Care Nursing to Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Nurse-Acute Care, the change in the name of the School of Library and Information Science to the School of Information Sciences, and the discontinuance of the four programs included in the agenda. The following action was taken:

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Trent, and supported by Governor Nicholson, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors:

Establish a certificate in Cyber-Physical Systems effective, fall 2017.

Approve a change to the name of the Graduate Certificate in Adult Acute Care Nursing to Graduate Certificate in Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner-Acute Care (AGNP-AC), effective fall 2017.

Approve a change to the name of the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) to the School of Information Sciences, effective fall 2017.

Discontinue the Doctor of Education in Special Education, effective fall 2017.

Discontinue the Doctor of Philosophy in Special Education, effective fall 2017.

Discontinue the Education Specialist Certificate in Special Education, effective fall 2017.

Discontinue the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice, effective fall 2017.

The motion carried.

UPDATE ON GENERAL EDUCATION REVIEW

Provost Whitfield provided the Board with an update on the general education review, advising that general education consists of basic educational skills that are thought to be critical in rounding education in liberal arts, STEM and other areas. In the last 3 years, the work on revisions to the general education requirements has been taking place, primarily by 2 committees of faculty and staff from around the university, organized as the General Education Reform Committee and the General Education Oversight Committee (GEOC). A draft proposal has been developed, after feedback from focus groups and presentations across the university, and has been shared with the President. The goal is that after further review, the finalized proposal will be shared with the Board at its next meeting, for adoption, with implementation in fall of 2018. Professor Romano asked about the timetable for approvals from the Faculty Senate, expressing concern that this timetable did not provide time for adequate faculty consultation.

Board Statute 243.03 provides guidance on revisions to General Education, and Associate Provost Darin Ellis advised that the statute indicates that the General Education Oversight Committee is to recommend changes to general education to the President. He noted that the GEOC voted on the recommendation on May 1st and sent to the President. He added that the Academic Senate Policy Committee has been reviewing that proposal, and has forwarded feedback.

Professor Romano explained the importance of consultation on curricular issues, and advised that the Academic Senate has not seen a formal proposal, and to approve changes to general education without faculty consultation would cause significant problems. Associate Provost Ellis talked about consultation that has occurred through the Senate's Curriculum and Instruction Committee, throughout the year, as well as in discussions with the Senate Policy Committee on a number of topics related to the general education revisions that have also occurred throughout the year. He added that to get everything accomplished for this timeline requires some expediency.

Professor Romano noted that the faculty were not on campus in the summer and, with the changes in committee membership that will occur in September, they will be unable to discuss the proposal until September. President Wilson noted that the next meeting of the Board was in October and the faculty return in August and could look at the proposal at that time, forward their recommendations regarding the list of changes they would like to see, and have the proposal ready for the Board in October. Prof. Romano reaffirmed his doubt regarding the timeline for review in a condensed schedule, and while he

understands the administration's interest in bringing this to a conclusion, added that the administration had taken 3 years to develop the proposal, and that faculty should have adequate time to review, and propose modifications where they feel they are needed.

Associate Provost Ellis added additional comments about consultation that has already occurred, The Senate Curriculum and Instruction Committee was consulted throughout the entire year and the proposal was shared. The Policy Committee communicated with the Provost about issues they would like to see addressed in the original proposal. Many of those concerns were addressed in the GEOC recommended curricular framework. With these changes, the final proposal bears little resemblance to the one presented more than a year ago.

Governor Kelly agreed that the faculty had to have adequate opportunity to examine the proposal but work within a realistic timeline. Professor Romano reiterated that one of the challenges that they face is that the faculty committee members change annually. He summarized the academic procedures that the Senate would use for this review, which would include a review by the Senate's committees, the receipt of recommendations from those committees by the Policy Committee, and a recommendation from the Policy Committee on the final proposal.

Governor Dunaskiss noted that while members may change, the business of the committees and the business of the Senate cannot change. Programs and processes that are currently underway could not be stopped because new members are coming onboard. Governor Kelly asked how long would it be possible to delay the final vote by the Board and reasonably implement it in the fall of 2018. Associate Provost Ellis advised that the University bulletin is published between March and April, and would need to reflect the new general education program so that incoming students understand the requirements. The schedule for Board meetings and Board authorization also needs to be taken into consideration. Provost Whitfield added that there will be additional training of advisors to make sure that they understand the changes. Monica Brockmeyer noted that effective communication through not only the advisors and the bulletin, but other websites and then the Gen Ed Oversight Committee should also be considered in the ambitious timeline.

Governor Nicholson stated that he would like to see the general education revisions completed and implemented for the fall of 2018. He added that it was already a year behind schedule and the delay has been detrimental to the students. He encouraged all parties to do what needs to be done to be able to implement the new program for fall 2018, and not to wait another year. Governor Dunaskiss echoed Governor Nicholson's sentiments. As an educator from the K-12 system, she appreciates and understands the needs of the students, and their expectations, and those are very different from the gen ed program currently in place. For the sake of the students, she encouraged everyone to pull together and get this done.

Professor Romano noted that the proposal would affect budgets, teaching loads and hiring, and that schools and colleges need to be consulted, in addition to the Academic Senate, regarding that impact. Associate Provost Ellis advised that he attended a recent

meeting of the College of Liberal Arts Faculty Council and reviewed the curricular framework, and the same offer has been made to all of the schools and colleges.

Mr. Abu-Shaban asked for an example of the proposed changes. Mr. Ellis responded by saying that the Gen Ed requirements currently sit at about 46-47 credits depending on how they are counted. The proposed program reduces it down to 29 to 32 credits. Some of the current breadth or group requirements have been merged into broader categories, and some of the specific requirements have been proposed to be dropped. President Wilson advised that he would commit to engaging the faculty in the fall and if it takes a few extra weeks to complete the review process, he may suggest consideration of a special meeting to be called for this purpose. .

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned was adjourned at 12: 04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie H. Miller
Secretary to the Board of Governors

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