



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

April 26, 2024

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Governor Stancato in Room 1540 at the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Science, 259 Mack Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present.

Committee Members Present: Governors Atkinson, Barnhill, Busuito (via video), Gaffney, Kumar, and Stancato; renée hoogland, Faculty Representative; Linda Beale Faculty Alternate Representative; Dhruval Bhatt, Student Representative, and Hayden Johnson, Student Alternate Representative

Also Present: Governors Kelly, Governor Land (via video); President Espy; Provost Clabo, Vice Presidents Ezzeddine, Obasi, Ripple, and Staebler, Chief of Staff Smiley; Interim Vice President Gielczyk, Associate Vice President Hafner, and Secretary Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MARCH 6, 2024

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Kumar and supported by Governor Gaffney, the minutes of the March 6, 2024 meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee were approved as submitted. The motion carried.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PROGRAM FOR THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DOCTORATE

Provost Clabo presented a recommendation for the establishment of a new program for the occupational therapy doctorate. The proposal is aimed at modernizing the occupational therapy program and moving it towards the future of the discipline. She advised that many occupational therapy programs have already moved to a doctorate. The new program will have 103 credits, which is in line with other programs in the state. The department has a good plan for obtaining initial accreditation with its accrediting body and the Dean's office and the administration have obtained a lot of support for the program.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Gaffney and supported by Governor Kumar, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors establish a new degree program, the Occupational Therapy Doctorate program, in the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, effective Fall 2024. The motion carried.

DISCONTINUANCE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES IN APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Next, the board considered the administration's proposal for the discontinuance of two certificates, an undergraduate and a graduate certificate in applied behavioral analysis. Provost Clabo advised that the requirements to practice have been rapidly changing and that neither of these two certificates will be enough for certification in this field. The departmental faculty have expressed support and commitment towards growing the Master's program in this area, which will meet those requirements.

ACTION: Upon motion made by Governor Kumar and supported by Governor Gaffney, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors discontinue the Graduate and Undergraduate certificates in Applied Behavior Analysis in the College of Education, effective Fall 2024. The motion carried.

COURSE MATERIAL FEES ANNUAL REPORT

Provost Clabo presented the annual report on course material fees. According to the statute governing these fees, they may be assessed in instances where significant instructional costs arise from the use of consumable resources. Approval of course material fees for \$100 or less per course requires approval of the Provost and if over \$100 requires approval of the President. Provost Clabo advised that there were no major changes from the previous year.

PRESENTATION: HIGH IMPACT PRACTICES FUELED BY DETROIT

Vice President Ezzeddine provided background and introductory comments. Today's presentation was developed to provide real life examples of how the university's College to Career initiatives are helping to achieve the goals of Our Moment in Time, the university's strategic plan. Pillar 3 of the plan focuses on Outreach and Engagement, and today's presentation will highlight the efforts of faculty and students in two specific projects as examples of the important work underway, and the impact of that work on our students and the community the university serves.

The first project was presented by Dr. Mohammed Ismail, Chair and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Dr. Lubna Alazzawi, Associate Professor of Teaching in Electrical and Computer Engineering. The two faculty members summarized their work, a global project with both virtual and in-person components, and a partnership with a university in Germany. The program was part of the COIL project (Collaborative Online International Learning). The project focused on development of innovative solutions in automotive safety, monitoring drivers and driver awareness and drowsiness issues, using AI tools. A second project was designed to reduce the risk associated with leaving a child unattended in a hot car.

About 20 students in total (from both institutions) have participated over the last three years in COIL, which included mutual visits and a lot of online interaction. The program exposed students to a unique experience, as they learned how to deal with people from

different cultures and how to conduct projects across international borders. The students were also exposed to high impact research, some of which led to publication in an international high impact journal.

Student Roy Taylor spoke about his experiences with the program. He mentioned that working internationally opened his eyes to what engineering really means and the core values of communication and creativity. He also talked about the power of teamwork and how working with other students helped him learn more deeply than he would have on his own. He believes the experience has been immeasurably valuable to his future success.

The second project was presented by Dr. Jaime Goodrich, Director of the Humanities Center and Professor of English. She discussed a service learning initiative that involved a partnership between the English Department at Wayne State and the English and Language Arts faculty at Cass Tech High School in Detroit. Professor Goodrich provided some context about the project, which focused on interdisciplinary methods for teaching Shakespeare. As part of a grant, Professor Goodrich created an opportunity through her capstone course for undergraduate students to teach one class at a local high school or middle school. As a result of this initiative, the Wayne State students helped Cass Tech students build their writing skills through a program that lasted the majority of the semester and involved asynchronous communication, in-person visits to Cass Tech, and a concluding trip that brought the Cass Tech students to the Wayne State campus. The students involved in the Cass Tech collaboration gained a wide variety of professional skills that are transferable to any career.

Many of the WSU students planned to become teachers, and this was their first chance to teach. These experiences led to some tangible outcomes for the WSU students, such as acceptance into highly competitive graduate programs and published book chapters. Service learning also had more unexpected outcomes for our students, such as seeing how their education relates to the real world. For community partners, service learning can and has changed their impression of Wayne State. WSU student Rex Wagner, a double major in English and History, was part of this project and shared his personal perspective about his participation in the Cass Tech initiative. He and his classmates created a lesson plan to teach high school students about intertextuality in Shakespeare, equating it to sampling in hip hop or rap. He said that the experience was well received and that the Cass Tech students were engaged and funny. He added that the experience helped him realize what he should be doing with his life and felt it was one of the most unforgettable moments in his college education.

Members of the Academic Affairs Committee thanked the participants for the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at .

Sincerely,



Julie Miller,
Secretary to the Board of Governors