Academic Affairs Committee Meeting  
November 20, 2019  
3:10-4:00pm

Attendees: Andrea Wheeler, Doug Jacobson, Brian Behnken, Courtney Vengrin, Anne Marie VanDerZanden, Don Beitz, Janice Friedel, Terry Boylston, Sarah Moody.

Minutes recorded by Brian Behnken.

Minutes from previous meeting were unavailable.

Committee reports: none.

New business:
MAT history, Dr. Amy Rutenberg visited. Question about title of program, master in teaching or master of art in teaching in history? Proposal was revised accordingly. Moved by Jacobson, seconded by Vengrin. Vote, 6 for, 0 against.

Unfinished business:
Vengrin, University Learning Outcomes. New language for policy on common language for student learning outcomes. Also four new university outcomes. Outcomes generated by colleges. Short discussion on different outcomes as broad umbrella or overview ideas. College FS reps have vetted this. Needs to be done by 2/2020 for accreditation. Moved by Jacobson, Beitz seconded. 7 for, 0 against.

Charges to the committee:
Diversity requirement: continuing discussion. Student rep Moody provided student perspective, mentioned that Student gov/Elena Hoffman had talked to constituents. They feel courses don’t represent US diversity, or title of course/requirement might seem deceiving. Classes need to focus on diversity, not international. Beitz mentioned orientation class, one credit course first semester just to discuss diversity. Moody says this would be well received, in addition to the div requirement. 3 credit class needs to stay. VanDerZanden mentioned this is part of onboarding that could happen in orientation. She suggested using this as a standin for a 1 credit class, and noted that a stand alone class would be a hard sell, but the orientation part would not be. Moody asked about making the orientation div class a true requirement, mentioned a penalty like a registration hold if students don’t do it. VanDerZanden said this has been an issue and probably no. Wheeler asked, do we still need to review current div classes? Moody yes, many courses still too broad. Some don’t seem to fit. Beitz, how to do review? Jacobson mentioned they have failed. Behnken mentioning changing/tightening the learning outcomes of the requirement and having all course recertify. Jacobson said we did this and it didn’t work. Said he wouldn’t do it again as curriculum committee chair. Wheeler asked about getting students to help rewrite proposals. Moody said this would work and they have some strength/motivation to push this forward. VanDerZanden suggested renaming div req. Moody mentioned requirements too vague. Behnken noted renaming just a band aid without real change. Friedel brought up human sexuality class as a problem. Moody responded that div courses need to be about div and have a
US focus. Mentioned hard decision need to be made. Jacobson said the US thing is part of the problem. VanDerZanden returned to names again, perhaps looking at IP and DR together. Wheeler asked about having a full meeting devoted to the div requirement so we can present an idea to EB. Most seemed to agree that a separate meeting would be necessary.
Meeting adjourned: 4:05pm