

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

ZOOM

September 16, 2020

3-5 PM

MINUTES

Attendance

Faculty:

- ✓ Dr. Rebecca Andridge (College of Public Health)
- ✓ Dr. Eric Bielefeld (Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Patricia Enciso (Department of Teaching and Learning)
- ✓ Dr. Kevin Evans (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences), Chair
Dr. Sara Fowler (College of Dentistry)
- ✓ Dr. Jill Galvan (Department of English)
- ✓ Dr. Pasha Lyvers Peffer (Department of Animal Sciences)
- ✓ Dr. Maria Pruchnicki (College of Pharmacy)
- ✓ Dr. Paul Rose (Moritz College of Law)
- ✓ Dr. Karl Whittington (Department of History of Art)

Staff:

- ✓ Mr. Peter Spreitzer (University Exploration)

Students:

- Mr. Ross Bales (IPC, Medicine)
- ✓ Mr. Brandon Bishop (USG, Political Science)
- ✓ Ms. Aviva Neff (CGS, Theatre)
- ✓ Dr. Dustin Servello (CGS, Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology)
- ✓ Mr. Sridhar Uppalapati (USG, Engineering Physics)
Mr. William Vu (IPC, Dentistry)

Administrator:

- ✓ Dr. W. Randy Smith (Office of Academic Affairs), Vice Chair

Guests:

- Dr. Anika Anthony (Graduate School)
- Dr. Alicia Berton (Graduate School)
- Dr. Michael Bisesi (College of Public Health)
- Ms. Adrienne Bricker (Office of the University Registrar)
- Ms. Danielle Brown (College of Education and Human Ecology)
- Dr. Paulette Curtis (College of Education and Human Ecology)

Ms. Lisa Delaney (Office of the University Registrar)
Dr. Rob Griffiths (Office of Distance Education and eLearning)
Dr. Kate Hallihan (John Glenn College of Public Affairs)
Dr. David Horn (College of Arts and Sciences)
Dr. Arpana Inman (College of Education and Human Ecology)
Dr. Alan Kalish (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Andrew Martin (Office of Academic Affairs)
Dr. Sayoko Moroi-Fetters (Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science)
Dr. Jeanne Osborne (College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences)
Dr. Andrea Prud'homme (Fisher College of Business)
Ms. Rosie Quinzon-Bonello (College of Engineering)
Ms. Gail Stephenoff (Office of Student Academic Success)
Dr. David Tomasko (College of Engineering)

The meeting came to order at 3:02 p.m.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR – PROFESSOR KEVIN EVANS

Evans welcomed everyone and discussed the Council's basic Zoom meeting etiquette. He encouraged members to participate and ask questions while proposal representatives are in attendance.

COMMENTS FROM THE CO-CHAIR – PROFESSOR W. RANDY SMITH

The University Senate will discuss the following proposals from the Council at its meeting on September 17, 2020: proposal to change the name of the Master of Education and Extension Education, and the proposal to add a clinical/teaching/practice faculty track to the College of Arts and Sciences.

A project co-sponsored by Ohio State has been provisionally awarded \$500,000 in the 2020 Alliance for the American Dream competition sponsored by Schmidt Futures. The project, called Opportunity Port, helps eligible individuals seal their criminal records, an important factor in their ability to secure housing and employment.

The Ohio Department of Higher Education hosted a meeting on September 11, 2020 to discuss changes to the General Education and the Ohio Transfer Module. Smith and Martin attended.

Smith would like to bring more attention to State-mandated transfer initiatives. He will convene a work group composed of individuals from the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of the University Registrar.

As in past years, a college will be invited to a Council meeting to give an overview of its current academic programming and its future vision. Smith will extend an invitation to the College of Education and Human Ecology and the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING ADMISSIONS UPDATE – PROFESSOR DAVID TOMASKO

The College of Engineering wants to make changes to its admissions process that would have positive impacts on student progress. While there is a substantial change to the admissions process, there are no changes to the academic programs.

Tomasko noted that the interest in engineering has steadily increased over the past decade. The college accepts approximately 1,600 freshmen each year.

Currently, there are eight different admission processes in the College of Engineering (COE). Some programs are very competitive. If a student is not accepted into his/her preferred major, there is no easy way to change his/her engineering focus.

Under the new admissions policies, a student accepted to the College of Engineering will take freshmen-level courses in his/her first year. In February of that year, the student will indicate his/her top three majors by submitting an application to the college. The student will need to articulate his/her interest in the majors and be in good academic standing. Applications will be reviewed in March and a student will receive his/her offer(s) after final grades are submitted in April.

The main goal of this revision is to place all eligible students in an engineering field. The college also hopes that the new process will stop students from re-taking courses that they already passed in hopes of a more competitive GPA.

Tomasko noted that this will be a mindset change for the college. Faculty will move from gatekeeping mode into recruitment mode.

The Council asked how this revised process will impact the regional campuses. Tomasko replied that first-year engineering courses are already offered at the regional campuses. Students will need to be enrolled in the College of Engineering before applying, which will require students to change their campus to Columbus (academic advisors can assist with this process). Tomasko added that recent creation of the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology degree may encourage students to stay and graduate from the regional campuses.

The Council asked if faculty are supportive of this change. Tomasko replied that there have been many conversations with engineering faculty about the change and the shift to recruitment mode. Representatives from the College of Medicine and the Office of Legal Affairs attended faculty meetings to discuss their admission process and legal implications, respectively. Tomasko expects there to be some challenges with faculty, but the majority are supportive.

The Council asked if there is a pathway for students who do not get into one of their top three majors. Tomasko replied in the affirmative. Students can re-apply the following year, they could change colleges, or they may get an offer from one of the engineering programs that they did not designate.

Spreitzer noted that many required engineering courses have long waitlists. How will this change impact class enrollment? Since students will start taking classes earlier, Tomasko hopes the revision will help the waitlist issue.

Andridge asked how the college will evaluate success. Tomasko responded that there is no specific plan, but he expects that the college will monitor the number of students who are not accepted into their preferred majors. They will also monitor the repetition of courses for GPA improvement.

The Council asked if the college expects a significant change in the number of students enrolled in each program. Tomasko replied that they only expect marginal changes.

Evans thanked Tomasko for attending the meeting. Please contact Rosie Quinzon-Bonello or Tomasko with any additional questions.

PROPOSALS FROM SUBCOMMITTEE D – PROFESSORS KEVIN EVANS AND W. RANDY SMITH

- **Proposal to change the name of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science – College of Medicine**

Guest: Sayoko Moroi-Fetters, Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

Proposal to change the name of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science to Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

This name change will reflect the many different research programs and interdisciplinary work within the department. Currently, the department consists of eight subspecialty practices: Comprehensive, Cornea and Anterior Segment, Specialty Contact Lenses, Retina, Uveitis, Glaucoma, Neuro-Ophthalmology, and Oculoplastics.

Concurrence was received from the College of Optometry.

The Council did not have any questions or concerns.

Evans moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward unanimously.

- **Proposal to revise the Sustainable Agriculture Program, Associate of Science degree – College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences**

Guest, Jeanne Osborne, Assistant Dean, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Ohio State ATI (Agricultural Technical Institute) proposes to revise the Sustainable Agriculture major leading to the Associate of Science (AS) degree.

The proposed revisions to the Sustainable Agriculture AS program are a result of the newly developed Sustainable Agriculture Bachelor of Science (BS) in Agriculture major in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The AS degree will no longer map to the Natural Resource Management—Sustainable Agriculture specialization. It will now map to the Sustainable Agriculture BS, which is a better fit.

Changes include removal of courses that map to the Natural Resource Management major; addition of courses that map to the Sustainable Agriculture major; and expansion of technical elective requirements from 3 to 5 credit hours. The overall credits for the degree are unchanged.

Andridge applauded the detailed assessment plan.

Osborne informed the Council that the AS was developed in anticipation of the Sustainable Agriculture BS. It took longer than expected to develop the BS. The faculty and students are very excited for the changes to the AS.

The Council asked if there is a philosophical shift with these changes? Osborne responded in the negative.

Evans moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward unanimously.

- **Proposal to revise the PhD degree Epidemiology Specialization – College of Public Health**

Guest: Michael Bisesi, Senior Associate Dean, College of Public Health

The College of Public Health proposes to revise the PhD degree Epidemiology Specialization. This proposal has been reviewed by the Combined Graduate School / Council Curriculum Committee.

The proposed changes are a result of the division reviewing its own curriculum to help prepare students for their careers. The division worked with the University Institute for Teaching and Learning on the revisions.

Changes include modified topics in didactic courses; updates to existing seminars; removal of two required courses; a change from elective to required for two courses; and the addition of one new course. The goal of the revised curriculum is to ensure that key knowledge, skills, and qualities essential for PhD—Epidemiology doctoral students are reflected.

There is no adverse impact on current students.

Evans noted that the Combined Graduate School / Council Curriculum Committee asked the college for additional details. Evans thanked Bisesi for providing that information, which proved to be very helpful in reviewing the proposal.

Servello noted that there seems to be a decrease in faculty interaction because of the changes to PUBHEPI 8899.03. Will there be opportunities for students to network with faculty? Bisesi replied that there will be many network opportunities with faculty and working professionals. He added that the college wanted to standardize some seminars and make them more robust and interactive.

Evans remarked that it is good to see that such a long-standing major has not grown stagnant over the years.

Evans moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward with one abstention.

- **Proposal to revise the mode of the MPH-PEP program – College of Public Health**

Guest: Michael Bisesi, Senior Associate Dean, College of Public Health

The College of Public Health proposes to revise the mode of the Master of Public Health-Program for Experience Professionals. This proposal has been reviewed by the Combined Graduate School / Council Curriculum Committee.

The college would like to move the Master of Public Health-Program for Experienced Professionals (MPH-PEP) to a fully online program. The MPH-PEP curriculum started as a fully in-person program with weekend delivery. Over time, hybrid and fully online courses have been added to the curriculum. A move to fully online is the natural next step and it will help students find a better work/life balance.

Actual changes to the curriculum are minimal other than the new modes of delivery.

Evans noted that accommodations have been made to the schedule for students who observe religious holidays.

There is an MOU with the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (ODEE).

Bisesi informed the Council that there is national demand for online public health education. He expects the program's outreach to be beyond Ohio. Griffiths added that the market is very strong for the MPH-PEP.

The Council asked if classes will be more synchronous or asynchronous. Bisesi said that the format will vary from course to course, but he expects a mix of both. During COVID, there has been a higher percentage of synchronous courses.

Evans moved approval of the recommendation; it carried forward with one abstention.

DISCUSSION OF LONG-TERM REVIEW OF CENTERS AND INSTITUTES – PROFESSOR ERIC BIELEFELD

Per University rules, the Council on Academic Affairs oversees the review of university-level centers and institutes. Centers and institutes should have an initial two-year review after their establishment followed reviews every four years.

There are about 80 university-level centers and institutes, which would average to 15 reviews per year. Given the Council's normal workload, more personnel would be required to review this many centers/institutes per year. Plans for a new process were underway but were derailed by COVID.

This year, Smith would like the Council to do five formal reviews. Subcommittee B, chaired by Bielefeld, will lead the reviews. Subcommittee B will also work on a template to assist with the reviews.

The Council asked about its role in reviewing a proposal's budget. Smith responded that the Council's main role is to look at the rationale and academic substance of the center or institute's role—and not the budget, although clearly resource needs must be met for a center/institute to survive. If there are questions or concerns about the budget, we could send the proposal to Senate Fiscal Committee.

Smith clarified that most centers/institutes are not funded by central administration unless it is a university-wide initiative. Most are funded through grants, college contributions etc.

The Meeting adjourned at 4:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

W. Randy Smith
Katie Reed