



McNichols Faculty Assembly

Minutes of 4 September 2014

Present: Laurie Britt-Smith, Dave Koukal, Allegra Pitera, Steve Abell, Kate Walters, Mustafa Demir, Matt Mio, Jocelyn Bennett-Garraway, Jill Turner, Noah Resnick, Charles Wilson, Jacob Kagey, Kathy Moran, Rosanne Burson, Carmon Weekes, Todd Hibbard, Rita Barrios, Maureen Anthony, Harold Greene, Mark Schumack, Jeffe Boats, Carol Weisfeld

Excused: Tom Fockler

Unexcused: Evan Peterson, Terry Howard,

I. Call to order at 12:45 and agenda approved unanimously

II. Minutes of 21 August approved 12:46pm

III. Announcements

A. Shared Governance Clearinghouse (Exec) – August meeting discussed the Michigan Transfer Agreement with Carolyn Rimle and Diane Praet

B. BOT Academic Affairs Subcommittee (Pres/VP): Next meeting October 30, 2014.

C. Open positions on the Shared Governance Roster: Still need CHP Graduate program review committee member, SOA Undergraduate program review committee member, CES reps for Assessment, the CCC and Online course/Instructor evaluation ad hoc committee member.

IV. New Business

A. Michigan Transfer Agreement (MTA): Carolyn Rimle and Diane Praet presented/introduced the MTA to the MFA. The Michigan State legislation started this initiative in 2012 and the MTA agreement guidelines were finalized in Nov 2013. All state schools and 9 private institutions (including UDM) have signed to this agreement. It will be useful in recruiting transfer students to UDM. Carolyn gave a slide presentation laying out the 30cr composition of the MTA and how that will fit into the current version of UDM core curriculum. Adjustments and alignments will be made with the new core once it is adopted. UDM will still keep core requirements of Ethics and Religious studies unique to us.

B. Proposal of the new Core Curriculum: The final report detailing learning outcomes for the new core curriculum were submitted by the CTF in 2011. Subsequently the CCIC chaired by Kate Walters, has populated the new core with submitted courses following these learning outcome guidelines. There were 127 courses submitted, 64 recommended for at least one learning outcome, 12 recommended for 2 learning outcomes and 1 for three learning outcomes. Many other courses were not recommended for the new core, sent back for revisions by the authors and may be accepted at a later date, many did not come back after revisions were recommended and some courses are still in the process of acceptance by either college curriculum committees or the CCIC/CCC.

Colleges and programs must now go through reconciliation of these courses with their current core requirements and identify any problems (credit hours, course options, ability to finish a program within 4 years, etc) that will arise with the adoption of the new core. The CCC is populated (save for a CES rep, preferably an engineer) and is awaiting the adoption of charges for the committee so that they can continue the work of reviewing submitted courses to add to the core, manage requests for edits or adaptations of the current learning outcomes, etc. The CCC will be a living/fluid MFA committee that will constantly review and assess the core curriculum.

A lengthy discussion and questions/answer session with many visiting faculty and deans from across UDM was held: *Clarification of “reconciliation” was given*, many faculty and deans expressed concerns that a two week deadline for reconciliation of programs was not long enough. *It was also clarified what type of feedback was being asked for by the MFA in the reconciliation process*: MFA needs the identification of problems by each program and college in adopting the new core for fall of 2015. *If courses were still in the process of review what happens now?* Acceptance of the revised course will now be granted by the CCC once they have received their official

charges and begin to meet. *Where does one appeal a course denial into the core?* One of the charges of the CCC will be to address all appeals to courses and learning outcomes. *Is it possible to wait a year now that we have a visual representation of the core so that we can fill in with more courses or degree specific courses to make sure that programs would run successfully?* Support was given to the CCIC for continuing work on reviewing courses and populating the core regardless of individual demands or the negotiations that were ongoing for a new contract over the last year. It was stressed that we have known that this was coming for over a year and some programs/colleges have chosen to not address the submission of courses or the reconciliation necessities of their programs until just now. There cannot be the addition of any new courses after Dec 1st, 2014 if they are to be offered in the fall course schedule. *Would it really do any good to put it off another year if we will reach the same conclusion? It is possible that some colleges go ahead with adoption of the new core and other wait another year?* This would have to be discussed with the AVP but is unlikely.

The discussion was left without resolving all issues present with the new core presented. A two week period for reconciliation (Sept 18th) of the core by all MFA reps for their college programs stands. This reconciliation report should include all justified problems that their programs would face if this core is adopted. Solutions to these problems are welcome but not necessary in great detail at this time. The last date for voting to submit this core to the AVP is Oct. 4th if the University would like to present it to the BOT at the Jan meeting and therefore have it in the course guide for incoming freshman 2015.

V. Adjournment at 1:50pm – Next Meeting Thursday 18 Sept. in LS 115. (next mtg will be 2 Oct.)

Respectfully submitted,
Stephanie B. Conant, Secretary for the MFA
9/16/14