**Educational Affairs Committee Draft Minutes**

October 6, 2020

***Voting Members (Present):***

Kevin Ahern

Poonam Arora

Keith Brower

Mark DeBonis

Isabel Frazza

Donald Gibson

Christie Gonzalez-Toro

Steven Goss

Evangelia Ieronymaki

Ella O’Brien

Alana Pons

Rani Roy

Meg Toth

Steven Schreiner

Sarah Wacker

***Ex Officio Members (Present):***

Jeff Cherubini

Edward Dee

Jake Holmquist

Carlos Tonche

William Walters

1. Approval of the Agenda
   1. Motion: To approve the meeting agenda of October 6th meeting
   2. Discussion: None
   3. Vote: Motion carried
   4. Resolution: The meeting agenda was approved
2. Approval of Minutes from August 18, 2020
   1. Motion: To approve the minutes from August 18th
   2. Discussion: None
   3. Vote: Motion carried
   4. Resolution: The previous meeting’s minutes were approved
3. Report of the College-Wide Curriculum Committee (CCC)
   1. Jeff Cherubini reported for the CCC
   2. Unanimously approved curriculum changes for the Mathematics MS Program within the School of Science, as well as a unanimous approval of a new real estate Minor within the O’Malley School of Business
   3. Next meeting is October 20th for Jeff’s group
      1. Any new proposals need to be in by Thursday October 15th
   4. Minutes from all school-level curriculum committee meetings need to be submitted to the CCC for archiving, regardless of whether there is any CCC action to be taken.
4. Report of the College Technology Committee (CTC)
   1. Jake Homlquist reported for the CTC
   2. Last meeting was a lot about compliance, and classroom technology training
   3. Now working on classroom record and release waiver related to camera policy
   4. No questions
5. Report of the College Library Committee (CLC)
   1. William Walters reported for the CLC
   2. Met last week and elected Crystal Xu in accounting for minutes
   3. Library at 50% capacity for seating, but had fewer students than expected so there is plenty of room
   4. 4 day quarantine for returning books, so the reserves system is not being used this term
   5. Temporary budget cuts, $80,000 cut for some journal subscriptions
   6. Book acquisition budget was cut but should have no effect on faculty requests as the library will delay some orders.
   7. Notification of budget changes already sent out to chairs and faculty
   8. Internet café in use by admissions now from 8:30-3:30pm, and open all other times
      1. Students can still use vending machines and microwaves even if admissions staff and guests are in the space
   9. 4th and 5th floor computer labs get close to capacity but no other concerns with space
6. Report of the Graduate Council
   1. Have not yet had a meeting, meeting tomorrow 10/7, so nothing more to report at the moment
   2. On the agenda for tomorrow is the remote status for graduate courses for intersession and for spring terms
7. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Structure of the School of Liberal Arts and the School of Science
   1. Letter to EAC Report Attached
      1. The provost reported on these matters
   2. Faculty Survey Attached
      1. Not many responses for either survey, but the consensus from both schools is that they do not see value in a merger
   3. Student Survey Attached
      1. Not many responses for either survey, but the consensus from both schools is that they do not see value in a merger
   4. Open forum immediately following this meeting
      1. Allowing more people to give comments on the issue
      2. Want all voices to be heard
   5. Jeff has question on if there will be curriculum changes as that will have to go through his group – Answer is that there are no immediate affects on any curricula – only a change to the administrative structure is being discussed.
   6. Provost will call a special meeting in a week or two to review the ad hoc committee’s work and make a recommendation to the president.
8. Old Business
   1. In-Class Camera Policy – Follow up
      1. “In order to promote community, it is important that faculty are able to interact and engage with students. Thus, during online class activities, students are required to leave their cameras turned on. Students with extenuating circumstances may request an exemption from this requirement to the professor in writing.”
      2. Some concerns about student equity have been raised
         1. Some students have raised anxieties about being on video
         2. Believe there are many benefits to having your camera on, but understand that there could be an equity issue
         3. Should it be revisited? Jake says that the development to blur background has now improved situation since we last made the rule; Mark DeBonis said some professors are on their own documents the whole time so they cannot see their students at all anyways; Meg Toth says that the policy does not need to change as it is beneficial to student and professor, and she thinks it works as is; Poonam Arora says that it allows faculty to be far more flexible, and does not think we she should change it
         4. There was no discussion raised to change the policy as it seems to be working.
         5. Jeff Cherubini suggests we send an additional college wide prompt about reminding students to keep cameras on especially with all going virtual next month
9. New Business
   1. No new business
10. The next meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2020 at 3:30 pm.
    1. Be prepared for the special meeting in the next week or two regarding the results of the ad hoc committee.