

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council
Meeting Minutes for September 6, 2016
Student Union 2579 3:30 – 5:00 PM

Call to Order

- **Presiding:** – Tim Mueser
- **Present:** – William Taylor (secretary), Deborah Vestal, Brenda Leady, Edith Kippenhan, John Bellizzi, David Krantz, Hans Gottgens, Kathy Shan, Charles Odenthal, Jim Anderson, Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Yanfa Yan
- **Absent:**
Don Stierman, Kevin Gibbs, Michael Cushing (excused), Sandip Janda (student representative).
- **Others Present:** John Plenefisch (ex-officio), Bruce Bamber (Past Chair, ex officio),
- **Student Representative:** Nadine Sarsour (student representative)

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of April Minutes postponed until the Oct. meeting. Posted on NSM Council website for review.

NSM Committee Assignments:

Tim: Schedule for upcoming meetings is posted on NSM website; third Tuesday of each month. Needed a volunteer for secretary, Bill volunteered. Representatives on executive committee will be Tim (Chair), Hans (Vice Chair), Bill (secretary), Mike, Charles. Also needed volunteer for curriculum, John Bellizzi, new to council volunteered – has been on curriculum previously. David volunteered for ES, Jim for M&S, Deborah for Biology. Sibylle volunteered for elections once again. Need two more, Edith and Mike volunteered. We need representatives to report from faculty senate, we will figure it out at the time. John P attends grad council and offered to report.

Establishing an NSM Undergraduate Standings Committee: (John Plenefisch)

John P: in the NSM catalog it lays out what happens to a student that is accused of academic dishonest or has a grievance and the process by which they can appeal this. They can appeal the decision of the instructor in order to department chair, dean and then college appeals committee. If not resolved at the college level the student can appeal to the Student Grievance Council, university wide committee. Jim Zubricky is the chair of that committee. The procedure does not state what happens inside the college. We need to establish a college procedure and College Appeals Committee. Students often don't do anything until the end of the semester and then run out of time.

Jim: Put something between the instructor and the university that's going to increase the time.

John P: they could still run out of time, but we set time frames so they know not to wait.

Edith: Often appeals will come at the end of the semester. Committee will not be available during the summer so time line will be different for fall and spring semester.

John P: In our constitution, for the University committee student must begin appeal no later than the last day of classes in the semester following the semester in when the grievance occurred. (excluding summer). They have a semester to do this.

David: To be clear, as of now we do not have an acting college appeals committee?

John P: We do not. What I can do is send suggestions to NSM council based on the University committee. Rules should be driven by the college. May want to include students (as per U committee).

Tim: Process at the graduate level appeals to dean and then graduate standings committee.

GSC can't be overturned by any administrator, next step is in the courts. Judges don't usually

overturn academics but they will overturn administrative. We may want to consider same thing. Who populates the college appeals committee? Should it be by administrative appointment?

David: You want two things, a policy at the college level and the new committee.

John P: The same appointees form the committee and come up with the rules. People can be appointed from the entire college. NSM in council in consultation with the Dean shall appoint the members of the committee. How are students selected? Needs to be determined separately, student gov't, ambassadors but has to be NSM students. Should be 5 faculty, one from each department. Students could be 3 or 4 but needs to be discussed. The committee needs to be populated before semester, not ad hoc.

John B: If any grievance is taken to court, having an additional committee strengthens the case if both committees find the same way (i.e. college and university appeals committees).

Jim: Can curriculum committee populate this committee? Cases may be addressed by email to streamline.

Tim: Keep in mind that due to open records emails may end up in court. It is best to discuss cases in meetings.

John P: I will send some comments and have NSM work on this come up with a workable version.

Reports from Faculty Senate (David Krantz):

David: President Gaber works well with faculty senate reviewing policies with faculty input. Provost Hsu discussed coding core curriculum courses into banner that hadn't been uploaded. Enrollment up 1.5%. Many changes at administrative levels were noted. Provost addressed faculty senate emphasizing new strategic planning, again encouraging Faculty input. There was a discussion to move to competency-based education. Don't know what programs may be relevant, possible medical technology. The idea of workforce development was raised. This time next year we are promised to have new better curriculum tracking system. One point that will affect each of us: as employees of the University we will have to verify our spouses or domestic partners with legal documentation including things like marriage certificates to 3rd party vendor. Guaranteeing that this communication will be secure. Other Ohio universities are doing this. That is not the same as open enrollment but will run in parallel.

Edith: At the end of spring some sports advisors had access to blackboard courses and faculty were unaware. Faculty senate shut it down. Sports advisors want to monitor athlete's grades directly but if given blackboard, they will see all students.

David: Working with success coaches in past, I gave access to individual student for an individual course. So it seems possible. In blackboard, 5 different categories for accessing info.

Reports from Graduate Council (John Plenefisch):

John: GC can do curriculum changes over summer so math/stats changes are approved as of august 5. Also provided proposal review schedule for graduate courses– to be more organized, I will send to curriculum Committee. If you want it be done by the fall has to be in the system by April 17.

Hans: Amanda Bryant-Friedrich is new Dean of graduate school. She is an active researcher in college of pharmacy. She knows graduate education and promises transparency re: budget.

John P: Enrollment is up overall, slightly down in our college. They will be readdressing deferment and family leave policies. Also looking to expand professional development opportunities for grad students. GSA president Eric Simpson spoke about travel funds for grad students. Funding amount: active grad student \$330/yr to attend conference.

Reports from NSM Chairs' meeting (Tim Mueser):

Tim: In July, looking for outstanding alum nominations, one went forward. There was no August meeting. In September we had a report from Adam Hintz, the replacement for Chris Habrecht.

Adam mentioned it is no longer tri-college students services, but now is just “student services” they serve the two Colleges.

Edith: They have done major update of their website, much better now.

Tim: Discussion of how to record Fs for dishonesty. Conclusion, everyone is responsible. This is important for example, when faculty sign the override form. If it is entered into the system as F due to dishonesty can't do a grade change. Budget being scrutinized. T and P elaborations was completed and now in place. Departments told to bring procedures in alignment. Issue about books was raised. Many faculty are telling students to bypass the bookstore, that is in violation of our contract with the bookstore.

John: You cannot say in your syllabus to get your books from amazon etc. Also important, for CCP courses – high school students their school buy the text, has to go thru bookstore. Get book orders in early.

Edith: Bookstore is doing price match for amazon etc. come in with ISBN, they will match is official seller, but not if you do custom textbook.

Brenda: Same issue is relevant to purchase of clickers, they are available either through the bookstore or direct from turning technologies.

Tim: We have a contract with the bookstore, so in any written correspondence with students you should not suggest that they go elsewhere other than the bookstore. That was the advice.

In another issue, we use to have Department program review. This is coming back. Order of departments for review will be 1) Math/Stats 2016-2017, 2) ES (2017-2018), 3) Chem (2018-2019), 4) Bio (2019-2020). Tony Quinn provided an update of attempts to partner with MS-only universities programs. Those students might be recruited to enter our graduate program.

John P: NSM1000 will go from 1 to 2 credit hours. Instructors met and discussed goals of course, and SLOs. 1 hour could not fit all goals. Since this is an NSM course NSM curriculum. Committee will discuss and vote. But, technically it must go through a department – to sign off. So we will just sent it through biology. Bruce will sign off as new chair. John P will be person of record.

•New Business (David Krantz):

David: Issue of cross-listed courses raised, to be discussed in a upcoming meeting.

Currently, default to pass a course is D-, Math going thru all courses and changing this to C-. I am requesting that we in College review default prereq for a passing grade. Probably should be either a C- or a C, not D-. A student that scrapes through with D-, will likely not to well in the next course in the series. Next, state share of instruction (reimbursement for course) is ~40-50% discounted for any course considered general education course, as opposed to a tag course for our majors. If a course is both gen. ed. otm and tag, the gen. ed. category wins out. Every dept. in our college has a true gen. ed. intro course and the 2000 level course for our majors. We should discuss whether we want to change how we view our intro courses. Considering how many students go thru these, it could be lots of money for the university. Next, there is a distributive requirement for undergraduate students. That is not a state requirement. It is defined by program. University may have a say, currently checking into details. I am suggesting opening this up for discussion. We have the right to define what fulfills the distributive requirement. There is no reason to force out students to take 4 more courses to get the undergrad degree. I suggest that these three topics: default to D-, gen. ed. vs. tag, distributive reqs. Should be reviewed by curriculum committee. And have a recommendation come from that committee.

Tim: I suggest everyone take this their faculty meeting for discussion.

Meeting adjourned (5:05 pm).