

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council Meeting Minutes
16 October 2018 in SU2579 3:30-5:00 PM

Call to Order

- Presiding: Kathy Shan

- Present: Alessandro Arsie, John Bellizzi, Yashika Bhoge, Maria Diakonova, Kathy Fisher (secretary), Sally Harmych, Michael Heben, David Krantz, Tom Megeath, Kristi Mock, Qin Shao, Von Sigler, Rebecca Sturges and Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, Qin Shao
- Absent: Terry Bigioni (excused), Brenda Leady (excused), Song Qian (excused)
- Others: Brian Ashburner, John Plenefisch

Approval of Minutes

- April 18 approved
- Sept 18 approved (with minor correction)

Faculty Senate Business

David Krantz:

- Welcome to new semester/updates by President Gabor and Provost Hsu
- Senate into final versions of revising constitution bylaws and rules of engagement
- Heidi Appel and Jon Bosenbrock proposing no credit course to track undergrads active in research
 - John P: doesn't affect student bill or loads but will allow to track they've done their capstone - will say if student passed.
- Administration trying to get more UT faculty serving on state committees: OTM (Ohio Transfer Module), TAGS (transfer assurance guidelines), etc.
 - In past we had no representation and were hit by some sanctions, but didn't have a say in how process was carried out
 - Now about 50 UT faculty serving, up considerably from past.
 - Kathy F: I'm on the Ohio Math Initiative which attends OTM meetings, currently we have no Toledo OTM members from NSM (one UT representative from English; Don Stierman from ES was a member but has recently retired).
 - John P: I don't know if someone has been selected to replace Don. They have a pool they select from when someone retires, the provost suggests names; it would be nice if we could make sure we have someone from NSM for replacement.
 - David K: This is really important, the professional staff from higher education often have a very different view point than faculty do, we really need a balancing of these two points of view.
- De-escalation training happened today

Sibylle Weck-Schwarz:

- Provost Shu (Sept 25 meeting) said anybody who has College Credit plus students should make sure students are actually using required textbooks to avoid complaints from schools that pay for those books
- Provost also forming a committee to review student evaluations
 - Need to be more consistent across university
 - Should electronic evaluations phase out paper evaluations?
- UT Policies: 19 policies currently expired, Faculty Senate charged to make recommendations so revised policies will be forthcoming in coming months – we should all look at them.
 - David: 30 day policies posted, important to pay attention and scan them all in case we have comments, note that comments are taken seriously if reasonably
 - Sibylle: New one on text book affordability out last week that we should all look at

Grad Council (Brian Ashburner)

- Academic grievance and academic dishonesty policies being updated this year
- Responsible Conduct of Research Training (CITI) taking place this Saturday
 - federal agencies require face to face training
 - first year we've done this - targeting 1st year graduate students in NSM, pharmacy and engineering for start
- First ever College wide grad student recruiting event November 3
 - Sent 400 emails out to dept chairs – so far few registered
 - Need to get word out to our students -3rd/4th year students to attend
 - Also targeting all graduating students from UT
 - Same day as College of Engineering Graduate recruiting day

Chairs Meeting (Kathy S)

- Possible NSM data science degree - want all depts to consider if any courses exist already that could be used
 - John P: I'm working with Song Xian in ES to identify such courses around university, want data science degree that will be housed in NSM, Another BA degree will be housed in Arts and Letters, currently working on core that both groups will take
 - Qin: We're working on something similar in the math department
 - John P: Yes, that's a concentration in data science in mathematics. We've been asked by administration to have a pan-collegiate major in place as soon as possible, and NSM will be the home.
 - Michael: Why wouldn't we ask math to be the home?
 - John P: Math will play an important role, Don White is in this group also.
 - Qin: What is the relationship between this BA and the BS in math department?

- John P: They are actually planning two separate degrees – BA and BS, one will be a data analysis degree to use data to work in the community. Want to include ethics, visual literacy courses; need to do this at low cost - without hiring new TT faculty; BG has is doing this already.
- Michael: I'm worried that in our hurry to do this on the cheap it won't be coherent.
- John P: There's been efforts for a couple of years to putting something together and haven't got a major yet. We're trying to look at what's already out there that could be put into a coherent program. There are a lot of parts already out there and we need to put this together quickly.
- Qin: I'm heavily involved in the math department effort and have been researching this. In Ohio these big data programs are either in the math dept or the computer science department or at OSU in they're in the Stats department. I haven't heard of a pan-collegiate degree – maybe this will be unique at UT.
- John P: The concern is that big data affects many fields but they all effect each area slightly differently; trying to have a common core; then students take a concentration that matches what they want to do as a career; It's not as coherent as something housed in math will be.
- Qin: Our approach is very unique to what other universities are doing. In 2013 big data was very new, I'm wondering if any programs from other universities have this kind of pan-collegiate model to follow?
- John P: Some universities such as Ohio State have developed programs with a lot of money, we need to do this on a low budget.
- Michael: I'm concerned we'll miss the boat. I think we need a core effort to do this – a group that's given responsibility to do this.
- John P: This is what we're doing. We're creating a core of courses and then around it have a periphery of courses from other departments.
- David: What's the vision for the goal of data science?
- John P: Some it is very simple things like how do you manage data sets coming in? What tools do you use?
- State wants every department to do 2 year pathways for students coming from 2 year institutions into our majors.
 - John P: Students take a block of courses at 2 year institution and it transfers as a block to the 4 year institution so they can complete a degree in 4 years.

Curriculum (John Bellizzi)

- 4 program and 6 course modifications
- The 4 degrees in Chemistry reducing requirements from 124 Credit hours to 120, just reducing electives
 - Chem 3710 and 3720 – add recitation as corequisite
 - John P: Is there a program modification needed along with this to reflect requirement change?

- John B: These are optional courses, students haven't been taking them, this is opening the door to these being more effective if students want to take them.
 - Chem 3720- raise prerequisite from D- to C-
 - EEES 1020 – rewording to clarify students only need one of two prerequisites, not both and to work around limitations of banner system
 - David: previously 1020 lab did not require taking lecture and students were taking it just to check off the natural science requirement.
 - BIOL 2150 and 2170 – raise minimum prerequisite from D- to C and wording clarified
- Approved by Council.
- David: general comment – as a college we're trying to move as many courses from D- to C or C-, noting D- is the default in Banner, recognizing that a student with D- in prerequisite has small chance of success in next course. Math has moved everything through, Chemistry and Biology are close, ES probably coming through soon
 - Kathy S: Physics: decided no, many were in favor, but final vote did not pass.
 - John B: D- still passing grade, just doesn't allow you to move on. Students enrolled before new pre-requisite are grandfathered in, will not enforce the pre-requisite; system prevents students without minimum grade from enrolling in next course without override. We only do overrides on request for students grandfathered in.

New / Unfinished Business (Kathy S)

CCAP Bylaws Revision

- Changes discussed last spring need to be revisited to be in compliance with Faculty Senate change
- John P: Faculty Senate guidelines says only Full professors can consider the promotion to full
- David: I don't recall any time discussing that issue in Faculty Senate. I'll see if there's any way we can re-open the discussion in Faculty Senate.
- Kathy S: We'll table our discussion of CCAP bylaws until we gain further information

Tenure and Promotion Elaborations Revision

We have the Faculty Senate Revisions and our NSM revisions which we did in 2016 and we need to make sure these match up.

- John P: I don't think anything in conflict in our elaborations and Faculty Senate Elaborations
- Kathy S: I didn't see anything either. I would like one or two T/TT faculty to go through this and look at it for next meeting to see if any language out of compliance with Faculty Senate Document
- Alessandro Arsie volunteers

- John B: Generally elaborations as go become more specific as drop down to lower level. Departments may need to look at theirs again to make sure they're in compliance with ours.

Academic Dishonesty

- Earlier meeting discussed need for a document for faculty outlining what to do if a student caught cheating (in case of grievance) – Kathy S has passed onto one of the reps to bring up with College Grievance Committee

Adjourned at 4:45.