

Natural Sciences and Mathematics Council Meeting Minutes
15 October, 2019 in SU2579 3:30-5:00 PM

1. Call to Order

- Presiding: Qin Shao
- Present:
 - Faculty: Alessandro Arsie, John Bellizzi, Bruce Bamber, Daryl Dwyer, Sally Harmych, Michael Heben, David Krantz, Tom Megeath, Kristi Mock, Song Qian, Sibylle Weck-Schwarz, and Kathy Shan
 - Student Representatives: Ammar Adil, Dani Villarreal
 - Others: Brian Ashburner
- Excused: Terry Bigioni, Kathy Fisher, Malathi Krishnamurthy

With the absence of Kathy Fisher, Mike Heben agreed to be Secretary for today's meeting.

2. Welcome by QS:

- Today is day of giving
- Introduction of student members (Ammar Adil and Dani Villarreal)
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3. Approval of Minutes

- Changes
 - KM – Under 2, NSM Council Tasks, second bullet, should say “has 124 hours”, rather than “it needs 124”. We need to reduce to 120.
 - KM - Sally is listed as member of both the Executive and Curriculum Committees. Should she be on both? SH: fine with being on curriculum committee only. KS – If SH is incoming chair, she should be on executive committee. Suggestion of Malathi joining the Curriculum Committee to take SH place?
- QS had a question - Do we need a vote to agree to not create a new committee to revise the bylaws, i.e. do we need to vote to assign the Executive Committee to the task of revising the bylaws? These items were written up in last meeting's minutes. Consensus: It was already decided - Executive committee has agreed to serve to revise the bylaws. We do not need another vote, and this part of the 9/16/19 minutes need not be changed.
- Motion to approve meeting with planned changes was approved.
- September 17 minutes were approved unanimously.

4. University reports and proposals

4.1 Faculty Senate (Sally Harmych, 10/08/2019 meeting notes inserted verbatim, except where indicated)

4.1.1 Executive Committee Report

- Liability insurance question: administration has decided that all on campus student organizations are covered by UT's policy and do not have to purchase additional liability insurance
 - Required to fill out the required release forms and complete required training
- UT foundation practices discussed with Dr. Gaber: Exec. Committee will report back their information
- Questions about the foundation from Mike Dowd:

- How much is being transferred to UT?
- Where is this money going and what is it being used for?
- Is it actually being used for student scholarships? With rise in the stock market why have the scholarship amount not increased? Current return to departments goal by the foundation is 4%, why has this # actually been decreased?

4.1.2 Provost Report

- Reminder about National Lab Day (>400 people registered, 17 diff. Labs, all but 2 were represented)
- Reminder that midterm grade reports for all 1000 and 2000 level courses are due October 18th
- Ohio Tech Credit program
 - State initiative (Techcred.ohio.gov)
 - helps Ohioans learn new skills and helps employers build a stronger workforce with the skills needed in a tech-infused economy.
 - Potential to pair with companies and give employees a chance to earn special certificates/ credentials for tech training
 - Looking for things that would take less than a year/less than 30 hours to complete
- **Stop out and ?**
 - Program that identifies students with >90 credit hours that stopped out between 2018 and 2019; find out why they did not finish the degree
 - Goal was to reach out to them and recruit them back in fall of 2019
 - 12 students they contacted reenrolled; 6 students had full credits and were able to earn a degree
 - DK relayed stories of students who are close, but have not finished. Contacted success coaches to see if the reason could be determined
 - **Degrees when due**
 - Large program that involves institutions in 7 different states, UT is now a part of it.
 - Of the students that had completed the hours for a degree but had not applied for graduation received their degree in the college they were enrolled in
- **Visit by the NSF department of Undergraduate Education**
 - Many grant opportunities surrounding UG education
 - Everyone is encouraged to look at those

4.1.3 Presentation by VP of Enrollment Jim Anderson

- Gave us the numbers for the incoming freshman class: Avg. GPA of 3.48; Avg. ACT score of 23.03
- Using the common application exclusively hurt application numbers
- Saw a decrease in our market share in Lucas County
- Reason: the app asks more questions and requires more time to fill out
- Going to use both the common application and the UT specific application now
- Supposedly, the common app is not commonly used by students in Michigan (I don't agree)
- Questions that were asked: how many CCP students become UT students?
- Also saw a decrease in initial inquiries for fall 2019 (still trying to figure out why)
- Planning an hosting recruiting events in cities like Pittsburgh, PA, Indiana, New York and other markets to try and increase applicants from these areas.

4.1.4 Update on new Curriculum Tracking System:

- System has been launched
- Old system is still there with some courses and program modifications still waiting for approval

- 2 buttons now available, one for programs and one for courses; same button for modifications and proposals
- Ongoing CIM training sessions (next round of trainings start 10/21)

4.1.5 Constitution update: constitution updates will be going up for a vote soon

4.2. Graduate Council (Brian Ashburner)

- There have been two meetings (Sept 27 and today, Oct. 15)
- Sept 27 – President and Provost were there. Talked about enrollment and budget deficits the whole time. No business.
- Discussed moving the day and time – parking issues. Vote to move today, but the vote failed. Will remain the same. Staying on Tuesdays, 12:30 till 2:00.
- Voted on and passed in today’s meeting - No longer a university requirement for GRE scores. Up to individual departments to decide, but would require a program modification if GRE is still desired as a requirement.
- We could come to an agreement on a College level if we wished, but decisions will mostly likely need to be at the program level. If your dept currently has a requirement for GRE, departments should look at that, decide if you want to modify or keep it place. If you want to get rid of it and it is currently required a modification will need to be made.
- Was discussion about possible impacts on the catalog.
- Amanda asked: Do we want to have intercession courses for grad students? The Council thought we were not a good match for us.

5. College reports and proposals (Qin Shao/Brian Ashburner)

- NSM Chairs meetings in October
 - State of Ohio has tech credit for short-term training for employees of companies (same item relayed previously by Sally)
 - Cost break for on-line programs for out-of-state students. Programs must be fully on-line (students do not step foot on campus). If we had one, out of state students could take courses in the program at a cost that would be only \$25 per credit hour greater than the in-state cost. Council’s understanding is that NSM does not currently have any programs like this.
 - DD - Any drive for developing fully on line programs? BA – not much funding for new program development.
 - BA - PSMs would be great to offer in this way. MH - haven’t even adjusted PSM program offerings to be available in the evening – bigger step to go fully on-line.
 - Holiday celebrations have a max budget of \$75/person if using Foundation money.

6. Council committee reports

- **Curriculum committee (John Bellizzi)**
 - New course proposal for 6440/8440 Carbohydrate Chemistry. Intended for MS and PhD students. Was unanimously approved by both the Curriculum Committee and by Council.
- **Elections committee (Sibylle Weck-Schwarz)**
 - Nothing to report.

7. New/Unfinished Business

- Revision of curriculum requirement for Bachelor of Science in General Study

- CC will look at requirements for Gen Studies degree, to move that program from 124 to 120 credits. JB - new system is up and running, so it shouldn't be hard to do.
- Election of Council Committee on Constitution and Rules / Revision of NSM Council Bylaws
 - As decided last month, Exec Comm will serve as Comm on Constitution and Rules.
 - Council looked at in Bylaws where language was ambiguous and unclear. QS thought authority was unclear in some places – I.E. Does the Dean have the authority to call Council, or should the Dean ask for a meeting?
 - Section 5 needs revision. No definition of departmental action. Take out reference to lecturer representative. Other items need to be looked at. QS scrolled through document and highlighted issues that may need to be changed.
 - The ExCo will meet to discuss, generate redline, make recommendations.
- Revision of Bylaws of The College Committee on Academic Personnel for NSM (CCAP)
 - Discussion on Section 3, and 4.
 - ExCo will do more research to clarify the wording in the CBA
 - Some ambiguities - Who and who cannot participate in CCAP?
 - Non-bargain unit faculty, directors?
 - Need to go to union to get reading on CBA.
 - Issue re members with a big or little M.
- Workload guidelines
 - QS from the Dean, “document intended to protect the faculty”.
 - Council previously voted (in April) to table until new from Dean and Provost. No new info has been received.
 - Why is this needed relative to what is in the CBA?
 - It is tabled. Council has decided to leave it tabled, since no new information has been presented.
- JB – new issue. Academic grievance committee membership – are the correct members up there, on the web?
 - Allison, Jillian, Debra biology, John B has the list.
 - Vote to add new NSM council students (Ammar and Dani) to academic grievance committee was approved.

8. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm