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2024-02-09 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee

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MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, February 9, 2024
12:30-2pm – SM 113B

President: Erin O'Mara Kunz
Vice President: Allison Kinney
Secretary: Jon Fulkerson
Members: Jackie Arnold, Ali Carr-Chellman, Garrett Conti, Jen Dalton, Wiebke Diestelkamp, Jon Fulkerson, Tim Gabrielli, Kayla Harris, Lexie Kemble, Allison Kinney, Erin O'Mara Kunz, Joel Pruce (Faculty Board), Andrea Seielstad, Darlene Weaver

Present: Jackie Arnold, Ali Carr-Chellman, Garrett Conti, Jen Dalton, Wiebke Diestelkamp, Jon Fulkerson, Tim Gabrielli, Kayla Harris, Allison Kinney, Erin O'Mara Kunz, Darlene Weaver

Absent: Lexie Kemble, Andrea Seielstad, Joel Pruce

Guests: Meghan Henning (Assistant Provost, CAP), David Ashley (interim VP, Office of Academic Research)

Opening

- Call to Order 12:33 (E. Kunz)
- Opening prayer/meditation (Garrett Conti) [Prayer/meditation sign up here]
- **VOTE:** approval of minutes from the February 2, 2024 meeting
  - o Approved by unanimous consent.

Announcements

- Office of Equity and Compliance town halls in Torch Lounge on February 13 and 14
  - o Will include an update on DEI strategic plan and the campus climate survey
- February 16, 2024: Academic Senate Meeting, 3:30-5:50pm, KU Ballroom
- February 26, 2024: ELC meeting, 10:30-12pm, President's Suite, KU
- March 1: President Eric Spina and EVP Andy Horner will be attending ECAS
- March 8, 2024: Joint Faculty/Academic Senate meeting (moved from February 2), 12-2, KU Ballroom
- Updates from Provost Weaver:
  - o Hoping to announce the new library dean soon.
  - o Law library dean process has started.
  - o VP Academic Research search process has started.

Agenda Items

- **DISCUSSION AND VOTE:** Program/Certificate approvals
  - ○ MBA with Business Analytics Concentration
    - ■ J. Fulkerson: These are not real changes to the degree. There was a clerical error in the catalog whereby this concentration has not appeared for many years. Recommends we approve it so the correction can go through without further delay.
    - ■ *Motion to support the correction of this degree* (J. Fulkerson, A. Kinney second)
      - ● Vote: 9 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstain.
      - ● *Motion approved.*
  - ○ Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology (change), see email with Michelle Strunks

- ■ E. Kunz: Changes are purely clerical.
- ■ *Motion to support the correction of this degree* (A. Carr-Chellman, J. Fulkerson second)
  - ● Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain.
  - ● *Motion approved.*
- ○ Certificate in Geographic Systems (change)
  - ■ Minor, technical corrections only.
  - ■ *Motion to support the changes to the certificate* (J. Fulkerson, A. Carr-Chellman second)
    - ● Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain.
    - ● *Motion approved.*
- ○ Certificate in Autism (deactivation)
  - ■ E. Kunz: This was described as catalog clean-up. It hasn't been offered in several years. Supported by the department and unit.
  - ■ *Motion to support the deactivation of the certificate* (A. Carr-Chellman, J. Fulkerson second)
    - ● Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain.
    - ● *Motion approved.*
- ○ MSEd in College student personnel (discontinuation), see email from Brad Duncan
  - ■ A. Carr-Chellman: The degree hasn't been offered and has been superseded by another program. Discontinuation is supported by the department and unit.
  - ■ *Motion to support the deactivation of the degree* (A. Carr-Chellman, J. Arnold second)
    - ● Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain.
    - ● *Motion approved.*
- ● **DISCUSSION:** SAPC seeks input regarding minimum course size policy (T. Gabrielli)
  - ○ SAPC wants clarification on the degree to which the Academic Senate has the authority to set this policy.
    - ■ Are we confident the Academic Senate has the authority? Concerned this is on the line between management and academic policy.
    - ■ Also had questions regarding enforcement. Is the intent for it to be guidelines? Can units be different?
    - ■ Would like feedback regarding if this policy will be followed.
  - ○ E. Kunz: The constitution lays out our legislative authority. Agrees this doesn't fit squarely with any particular aspect of legislative authority, but also it isn't clear that it ISN'T under the purview of the senate.
  - ○ T. Gabrielli: Committee discussion suggested that deans wanted the Senate to act.
  - ○ Support for the idea that units may have policies that are consistent with the university policy, but different according to their needs.
    - ■ Possible that the output would be a recommendation or guidelines rather than a policy.
  - ○ Academic Senate is in a better position to set policy because it affects all units:
    - ■ Equity across units.
    - ■ Has an impact on curriculum.
    - ■ It is good that faculty (through Senate) have influence on the policy.
  - ○ Comment: Viewed the policy as setting a floor from which units can create their own policy that customizes for their needs.
  - ○ D. Weaver: The policy is being considered because of pragmatic reasons:
    - ■ Too many courses being run that do not generate enough revenue to offset the costs.
    - ■ Would like a shared understanding for when a cancellation occurs, timelines, etc.
    - ■ Deans provided feedback in provost council that department chairs want support for minimum course sizes.
    - ■ Often the decision to continue a small class is neither pedagogical nor related to student success, but instead related to interpersonal issues.
    - ■ The policy still needs to allow for exceptions, but not overcomplicate the decision or be over prescriptive.
    - ■ We need to get undersubscribed courses under control.
    - ■ Without setting minimums, this will become a bigger problem in the future. Current state is unsustainable and this is necessary to avoid hard decisions.

- ○ Comment: Faculty are anxious about this because the chair may lose discretion. Also, chairs need cooperation from their faculty and policy would provide support. Finally, faculty are concerned about the specific numbers.
  - ○ Concern from some faculty that this is a threat to small programs.
    - ■ D. Weaver: By being better stewards of our resources, this should make it easier for us to support small programs. Definitely not intended to target small programs.
  - ○ Draft of SBA policy may have put a frame around conversation that makes people nervous. The numbers are guidelines, but need to push primarily towards best practices rather than specific numbers.
  - ○ Iterative consultation may be valuable.
  - ○ Discussion concluded with an agreement that we want this to be Senate policy rather than a guideline.
- ● **DISCUSSION AND VOTE:** Social Science CAP Requirement [Daylighted courses,](#) AY 24-25
  - ○ "Daylighting" refers to providing temporary, emergency curriculum approval with a definite end ("sunset").
  - ○ The proposed list of courses that would also satisfy the Social Science CAP component for Academic Year 2024-25 are: PSY 101, POL 201, POL 202, POL 214, ECO 203, ECO 204.
    - ■ SSC 200 will continue to be offered and still fulfills the component.
    - ■ Expecting additional coursework coming from Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work in the next week or so to add to the daylighted course list for next academic year.
  - ○ E. Kunz estimates we need 90 sections of SSC 200 to satisfy everyone who needs it next year.
    - ■ Capacity exists elsewhere as long as it is diffused across multiple classes.
    - ■ Including AP and transfer credit will also reduce demand.
    - ■ Expect after next year, even more classes will satisfy the requirement.
  - ○ Q: Should we wait to vote on all daylit courses or can we vote on the ones proposed so far?
    - ■ Comment: Would prefer to wait for complete list.
    - ■ M. Henning: Can't state impact on SSC 200 needs without getting approval from ECAS to make the changes. The registrar would make the change and than run the degree audits to see how many current students still need to satisfy it.
    - ■ Comment: Advisors will want any information on this as soon as possible.
    - ■ Comment: May be most helpful to approve today.
  - ○ M. Henning: Any additions to CAP courses will be retroactive five years. So an approval today would affect all current students and the incoming students.
  - ○ *Motion to give emergency authorization of PSY 101, POL 201, POL 202, POL 214, ECO 203, and ECO 204 to satisfy the Social Science CAP component for Academic Year 2024-25* (T. Gabrielli, J. Arnold seconded)
    - ■ Vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain.
    - ■ *Motion approved.*
- ● **DISCUSSION:** Office of Academic Research [updates](#) (David Ashley)
  - ○ David is providing us an update on OAR's activities.
  - ○ Working on transitioning away from Crosspoint as our research management and grant system.
    - ■ Working closely with IT. Expecting a 12-18 month process.
  - ○ Research Council seed grant awards went out this week.
    - ■ Q: Will we get a report on awards?
      - ● A: Not sure if we will be sharing in detail.
    - ■ Comment: Would like information on awards by college and composition of Research Council. Some concern was raised by faculty about process.
    - ■ David provided the following details:
      - ● There were 38 proposals (32 prior year).
      - ● There were 23 awards (21 prior year). Each received full stipend and grant.
      - ● There was an Increase in both the number of awards and stipends.
      - ● The process was blinded by unit. Each proposal was reviewed by three members of the council separated by STEM and social science categories. Each proposal was rated on four categories (top priority, award if availability, partial award, denied). OAR funded the first two groups.

- - - Clarified that reviewers did not look at the origin of the proposal.
      - Each proposer will get full comments on their application whether they were awarded or denied. Expect these will be constructive.
      - Would have liked to have had additional resources for an award competition, but didn't have resources.
      - Q: Reviewed by members of Research Council? A: Yes, a list of the members is available on the website and each proposal had three reviewers.
      - D. Weaver: Would like to know if awards were previously announced?
        - Discussion concluded that this hasn't been done historically.
      - Comment: It would be valuable to send some information out to deans and chairs similar to above.
  - By next year, expect we will have a place on campus for the office of academic research with staffing to support pre-award processes.
  - Search in progress for new vice president of academic research.
    - D. Weaver: Committee has been formed and a search firm has been hired. The person needs to have grant administration experience and a vision aligned with BlueSky. Important to manage expectations for candidates given the separation of UDRI from this role (i.e., that this role is not directly related to the grants in UDRI). One unique attribute is the expectation for supporting student academic research.
    - D. Ashley: Different kind of position than usual for grants. We really expect more interaction with ECAS and faculty, and more with student academic research.
  - Research policy revisions being considered:
    - Indirect costs: Considering issues with cost sharing, modified rate approval, distribution, fringe benefits, and overruns.
      - Fringe benefit calculations create issues with support. There is a mismatch between what we charge and what we pay for benefits and UD has to make up the difference. This difference is absorbed by the provost office.
    - Conflict of interest and conflict of commitment.
      - Reevaluating the policies to be consistent across campus.
      - Senate officers are meeting with stakeholders to discuss this next week.
    - Intellectual property (IP)
      - The current policy is difficult for faculty to evaluate and implement.
      - Want to add a policy on royalty sharing.
  - Policy considerations for Fall 2024 for incoming VP for Academic Research:
    - Firm-fixed-price contracts
    - Extra compensation
    - Outside employment and additional services.
    - Course buyout. Multiple, inconsistent policies on campus.
    - Gifts vs sponsored projects. Need more detailed policies.
  - Q: Any update on student worker issues with UDRI?
    - Background: A student employed at UDRI is not allowed to work on campus. It has been said it was because of the accounting system. Decision was made to move all UDRI hourly employees to bi-monthly pay periods starting in January, but then the decision was changed.
    - David believes this is purely a payroll system issue. HR is still working on a solution, no timeline.
  - ECAS thanks David for attending our meeting.

The following items were tabled until the next meeting of ECAS:
- **DISCUSSION:** APC Draft Proposal, CAP Course Review Workshop Model
  - E. Kunz opened the floor for general discussion of the proposed model of CAP course periodic review.

Motion to adjourn (J. Fulkerson, T. Gabrielli second).

Respectfully submitted by Jon Fulkerson, Secretary of the Academic Senate.