

SEC/VPAA JOINT CONFERENCE MINUTES

October 8, 2013
2:30 – 4:30 pm

Senate Conference
140 McFall Center

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amelia Sangenetta Carr; John W Folkins; Martha Schaffer (for Lingxiao Ge); Rachelle Marie Kristof Hippler; Kathryn S Hoff; Joel O'Doriso; Paul Andrew Johnson; Andrew John Pelletier; Sarah Anne Rainey; Rodney Rogers; Alex Dominic Solis; Sheri Beth Wells-Jensen; Elizabeth Jean Wood.

GUESTS: David Border, CAA

PRESIDER: Vice Chair, Joel O'Doriso

OLD BUSINESS:

Update from Amendments & Bylaws Committee: None

Office Support Update:

- Faculty Senate officers have met twice with the Provost and Pat Pauken, past FS Chair and past V.P for Faculty Affairs, about what kind of clerical support is needed. R. Ferguson is in the process of articulating what portion of Alice Cook's total workload is available for Senate support.
- Alice will work in the 204 University Hall Office and keep it open on Tuesdays, except during the Senate meetings, and Fridays. FS is entitled to some student support as well. After a student has been hired to work in the FS Office for part of the day on Wednesdays, FS will announce 1) open hours for the office and 2) what services committees and others can expect, given the reduction from the previous clerical support.

PROVOST'S REPORT:

Undergraduate Education The Provost cited progress achieved in undergraduate education commending Senate's having endorsed changes in the general education curriculum in Spring of 2013 and noted that the work of refreshing general education continues. The BG Perspectives Committee's current focus is on 1) analyzing alignment between gen ed and degree requirements 2) the assessment component of general education courses and 3) planning for Fall 2014 implementation of the first year seminars with linked courses. The intent for the seminars is to tailor them to the discipline and let faculty drive what their content is.

Graduate Education Dr. Rogers explained that V.P. Ogawa, together with the Graduate Council, is analyzing data that quantifies progress toward graduate enrollment goals. The purpose is to make decisions about waiver and stipend allocations. This process, including a meeting with Graduate Student Senate, is being made as transparent as possible. Another strategy to improve recruitment of graduate students is the reallocation of a position to create a Director of Graduate Recruiting, who will work closely with graduate coordinators.

Advising Model: Rodney Rogers Provost Rogers reviewed changes in the higher education landscape giving impetus to strategies for improvements in BGSU's advising, particularly changes in the State Share of Instruction (SSI) formula weighting the number of degrees awarded and courses completed more heavily than before. Additional challenges include our relatively small freshman class and the smaller-than-hoped-for gains in retention. Tuition being about 72% of our budget, these factors are critical to improving the financial condition of the University.

In this context, the provost listed 5 recommendations regarding the improvement of advising as the cornerstone of student success and retention:

- 1) Implementing a centralized staff position (Director of Academic Advising) to coordinate among colleges, establishing standard procedures and identifying sources of funding. When hired, this advising coordinator will report to Vice Provost, Sue Houston.
- 2) Establishing standard operating procedures and a measure of accountability in advising. Once the new structure is in place, senior advisors in each college will dual report to the Director of Academic Advising as well as to their respective college deans. All other advisors in the colleges will continue to report to their senior advisor. The Senior Advisor for Undecided and UPAS students (since they don't have a college, per se) will direct report to the Director of Academic Advising.
- 3) Clarifying the roles of professional advisors and faculty advisors at points in the path toward degree completion.
- 4) Using administrative staff and graduate staff in advising as appropriate.
- 5) Re-deploying faculty as mentors at all stages and especially after the initial two years of the undergraduate's academic experience.

In addition FACE's (Falcon Advising Career Engagement) technology is a new tool for identifying a clear path to graduation and focusing the interaction of students with advisors. It will utilize 5 years of data from successful degree recipients to optimizing schedules of current students. FACES will also trigger notification to advisors of any event indicating that intervention appears to be needed. This will facilitate mitigation of potential obstacles to degree completion or explanation of the impact of scheduling choices.

Enrollment Management Council This body continues to look at strategies to address problems that have been identified, resulting in the following recommendations for change:

- Providing enough sections of the right classes to facilitate timely graduation.
- Moving away from strictly need-based scholarships to “success scholarships” to be awarded based on achievements predictive of student success and retention.
- Analyzing the yield of programs by geographic area and planning outreach to areas like Toledo where our yield is low.
- Analyzing the yield of programs by academic discipline and planning outreach where it is likely to increase yield.
- Implementing new programs in high-demand academic areas such as Forensic Science and Aviation.
- Intensifying efforts to attract potential new student populations in high-growth disciplinary areas. An example is doing a better job of identifying a coherent pathway to degree completion for adult students and guarantying availability of specific courses for two consecutive years.

Agreement with Owens Community College This agreement is targeted at 75 to 150 members of the student population who aspire to enrollment at BGSU but did not qualify for admission.

- While enrolled in classes at Owens, they would live in our residence halls and sample the college experience.
- They will not have access to BGSU advising or similar services and must comply with the Code of Student Conduct.
- Providing that they raise their GPA sufficiently, they are eligible to re-apply to BGSU and be admitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Applied MS in Geospatial Science: David Border Border explained concerns that came up in the CAA review of the proposal. Border and Rogers entertained questions from SEC about the proposal and supporting materials. Hoff moved and Folkins seconded that SEC should bring this proposal to Senate. The vote was positive with no negative votes and no abstentions.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

Q: Firelands transfers to BGSU: Is there a cohort or bridge for these students who currently are not tracked once they transfer out of Firelands and who do not all transfer at the same time in the AY?

A: This warrants consideration.

Q: What is the impact of the faculty sick leave policy being drafted? A: Faculty will have input to this policy.

Q: What progress is being made regarding articulation of the faculty workload policies?

A: The University Administration (V.P. Balzer or his designee) will meet with the Faculty Association and the Senate Ad Hoc Workload Committee soon to explore pertinent issues and concerns.

Q: What progress has been made on revising/updating/aligning BGSU's Academic Honesty policy and procedures? A: At its Tuesday Oct. 22 meeting, Amendments and Bylaws Committee will discuss and revise as necessary a draft of the proposed *Charter* amendment addressing the Academic Honesty Policy. A & B plans to submit their recommendation to Senate Executive Committee and other relevant bodies (if any) soon.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM

Respectfully submitted Elizabeth J. Wood, Faculty Senate Secretary