

SEC Meeting Minutes // October 3, 2023 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM // Zoom

In Attendance: Robyn Miller (FS Senate Chair), Allen Rogel (Vice Chair), Emily Gerome (USG), Ken Borland, Montana Miller (FS Secretary), Walter Ryley, Christopher Witulski, Chris Fluckinger, Jenn Stucker, David Fisher (GSS), Chris Kluse

1. CALL TO ORDER // 2:30 // Chair Robyn Miller

Minutes from September 19, 2023: Jenn Stucker moves to approve, Walter Ryley seconds. Approved with no objections.

2. CHAIR REPORT: Robyn Miller

CAA meeting tomorrow at 9

Strongly suggest taking the training for Curriculog, especially for Senators.

Jenn Stucker: Are we at a full team with CAA?

Robyn Miller: I know they appointed the first-four-year faculty but don't know if there are openings still.

Allen Rogel: There are still 3 openings on CAA and other members of ComCom were tasked with reaching out to people within Firelands, College of Musical Arts and Technology to fill those seats. Still need rep from HHS for SEC, and also ComCom itself is short three people, which is an SEC task to try to fill those seats. Membership should be five faculty Senators. If we contact all sitting current Senators, we could mention that it could be a one-year appointment.

Robyn Miller: EdD to PhD issue passed with 42 votes, other policy changes went through as well, at full Senate meeting.

Invited Guest: President Rodney Rogers

[Invites SEC members to contact him with feedback evaluating the Provost for his 5-year review]

3. OLD BUSINESS:

Definition of Broad Impact

Still in progress/discussion in committee

Certificate Process

Allen Rogel: Thought is that it would be good to have undergraduate council working to define clearly what an undergraduate certificate actually IS and how it shows up in the transcript, and then bring it up on the floor of Senate, attached but separate to that would be the statement that at present we're planning to review them the same way we review undergraduate minors. So that is getting tossed to undergraduate council to look at, I will follow up with her to make sure.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

Criminal Justice program moving 100 percent online:

2_Criminal Justice-100% Online.pdf

David Fisher moves to approve, Walt Ryley seconds

Discussion:

Robyn Miller: It's a way of staying competitive with other programs, bringing in students who don't live in Ohio.

Allen Rogel: Many other universities in the area all have 100 percent online programs so we are a bit behind the curve, but BGSU is regarded as one of the top programs in the state, so I assume they're not worried about being duplicate programs.

Robyn Miller: This could also reach people out of state who wouldn't consider coming to BGSU if it weren't online. 7 percent growth in these jobs. High demand degree.

Jenn Stucker: Are these things coming forward with comments from CAA, are we another check and balance in this process? Are continual questions coming up and being addressed?

Robyn Miller: I can show you the CAA minutes, they have only had one meeting that I'm aware of, there's another one tomorrow that I'm going to. The minutes are fairly detailed...

Jenn Stucker: Just wondering if the notes are documenting process and how we can be more fluid and efficient.

Robyn Miller: This document and the minutes are all I received. If there's nothing specific written in here... there are emails of support.

Allen Rogel: We could suggest that CAA send us a short summary of questions they raised and answers they got.

Robyn Miller: [shows minutes]

Chris Witulski: Interesting that it says they have a lot of students and high demand, but they're capping the online program at 25 people. There's a comment in there that they anticipate requesting future hires. I'd like to know how that gets handled. Also where does the \$3000 for the program director come from? I know that's not a lot. And it says some of these courses are not regularly offered...

Allen Rogel: I would tend to aware that if the dean is aware of the money then they must have OK'd that, and know where it is coming from.

Ken Borland: I find it hard to prepare for the conversation when the material is emailed to me a day before the meeting. When the agenda was sent out with the link, I didn't have enough time.... I have questions including: Is there faculty development associated with this move to online? A lot of substantive questions that might not be technically obligatory but I think they are important, and I don't feel ready to vote on this ... and this could be a pattern...

Allen Rogel: In their minutes they don't actually record the vote.

Robyn Miller: I did clarify that all of these did pass.

Allen Rogel: There is specific charter language on three options that CAA can send on any given issue: full support, full oppose, and mixed. It would be useful to get a report on that. That should include documentation of the range of opinions.

Montana Miller: [agreement with Ken; especially on whether existing faculty who are willing to teach the online courses that have never been taught online before are already trained and accustomed to teaching online, or will need help and training, and whether the reference to adjuncts being able to cover the demand if existing faculty can't is a big red flag; also, will quality of a very esteemed program decline if professors who are not adept at teaching online now have to teach that way?]

Jenn Stucker: I also wonder if some of those classes will be available to the majors also? How many students who are in person would opt to switch to online for convenience—I'd be concerned about the capacity to teach all of that.

Robyn Miller: There is a statement from a professor in the Criminal Justice program—this is what we have.

Allen Rogel: I'm hearing some questions and desire for more time to dig into this. Shall we delay till next meeting and bring in the proposer, to ask some questions directly?

Ken Borland: I'm not going to argue against what Allen suggests, but if we had a series of questions we could pass along today to the people we would like to visit with, that would facilitate answers. Can they complete the entire degree from soup to nuts online, or is this just the major? Questions about various angles it would be worth assembling a list before asking someone to come in.

Allen Rogel: I was just thinking to give people more time to look over the proposal in detail, maybe email Robyn their questions by Friday, she can ask someone to come and tell them they will get a list of questions before our next meeting.

[Allen Rogel moves to table this till next meeting... David Fisher seconds]

[Motion passes with no objections; tabled till next meeting]

AAB in Computer Science Technology

1_AAB Computer Networking and Cybersecurity.pdf

Walt Ryley: Same issue with needing more time to look this over?

Robyn Miller: Want to move to table this then?

Allen Rogel moves to table; Jenn Stucker seconds. No opposition; motion tabled.

Curriculum Committee Graduate College

Allen Rogel: I'm honestly drawing a blank over what specifically that was in reference to. Was this about graduate concentrations? What is the point and what is the benefit to the student, if it doesn't show up on their transcript, an employer might never see it? How does it differ from a certification and from that we can start to figure out what kind of review would be necessary. So I think this one is also deferred from us discussing it. This is now getting kicked to Graduate College to do more definition work and give us some specifics about what these terms mean before we figure out how they should be reviewed.

Jenn Stucker: Do you know of any models or what the impetus for these concentrations are, I'm worried about more administrative responsibilities, more curriculum structures, where is the value and where is it coming from?

Allen: That's my question as well. Apparently business does it with some regularity. It's not unlike the undergraduate certificates—not a new thing, but what is the benefit and what is the point, and do we have a structure in place that needs to be modified into a specialization instead of this untranscripted certificate?

Ken Borland: I heard that graduate program that confessed they used concentrations as a marketing tool and it's really nothing. It doesn't exist in any registrar or records sort of solar system, but it's in the marketing realm. It might have more to do with advising than it does with formally transcripting anything.

Allen Rogel: If it is being used for marketing then we should have some oversight/assurance that that is what they're doing. There's going to be a lot of things that kicked back and forth like this, as part of the conversation.

5. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Ken: What's the timeline on the feedback requested on the Provost? Is there a certain advantage in terms of accuracy and fidelity to what has been our observation, if we could put together a statement from an informal conversation as SEC to point out what we have observed collectively as opposed to individual recollections, it might be advantageous to make sure none of us is running amok or thinking too divergently without a check and balance.

[Other SEC members agree this is a good idea; this discussion will happen after meeting is adjourned so it can be off the record]

Montana Miller: [Raises concerns about confusion about Covid vaccine and insurance]

Allen Rogel: [gives story of having to pay copay at Meijer]; there are still problems. And apparently they are not in network for the flu vaccine. There are still bugs in the system.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Allen Rogel moves to adjourn, Jenn Stucker seconds, meeting adjourned 3:32 pm