UPPC Minutes, 2/12/2020

Present: James Mower (Chair), Louise-Anne McNutt, Yu-Hui Chen, Shobha Chengalur-Smith, J. Ramon Gil-Garcia, Karin Reinhold, Jeong Hwang, Jerry Rivera-Wilson, R. Karl Rethemeyer, Todd Foreman (ex officio, non-voting).

Guest: Karen Chico Hurst, Brandon Behlendorf, Michael Leczinsky, George Berg.

Items

1. Approval of minutes from January 12, 2020. Tabled until March meeting.

2. Provost’s report. The Provost did not attend and did not submit a report.


4. Committee reports:
   a. RAPC. Chair Karin Reinhold reported that RAPC and UFC will combine meetings for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year. She reported that neither RAPC nor UFC has met since the February 12 UPPC meeting. John Giarrusso, Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration will make a presentation at the February meeting. Mike McKeon, Director of Admissions, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, will present at the April meeting. Marketing will present at a date to be determined.
   b. UFC. Chair Louise-Anne McNutt noted that John Giarrusso will speak to RAPC/UFC on the impacts of the budget shortfall on University facilities.

5. New business
   a. Update on the new Academic Calendar. Registrar Karen Chico Hurst was invited to present on the current state of the Academic Calendar and planning for future years. She reported that no major problems have arisen with the new academic calendar (endorsed by the University Senate and other campus stakeholders last year). The current number of declared University snow days have remained low and the calendar remains well balanced.

   The Registrar was asked to speak briefly about recent changes to the schedule of classes and noted that an unexpectedly low number of faculty have moved their Tuesday-Thursday classes to the new Monday-Wednesday/Wednesday-Friday time zones, created in an attempt to reduce course conflicts and over-scheduling on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In response to a question from a member on the dissemination of information concerning the new time zones, the Registrar stated that her office met with the Dean’s Council, the Provost, each individual Dean or designee, and each and every academic department to inform them of the new schedule and assist them with implementation and phase in. Continued feedback is welcome and can be directed to the Registrar.
   b. New Informatics BS concentration in Game Design and Development. Brandon
Behlendorf and Michael Leczinsky from College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity (CEHC) presented on the proposal and answered numerous questions from the members on the intent of the program, its expected enrollments, and employment opportunities. Several members expressed concerns that the University would provide technological resources for the program as enrollments continue to grow. Vice President of Finance and Administration Todd Foreman stated that Administration will support the growth of this program. Assistant Dean, Office of Undergraduate Education Kathie Winchester stated that she did not expect growth to be explosive, given the existence of competing concentrations. The members approved the program, voting as follows:

YES: 8
NO: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Revisions to the MS in Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity. Professor George Berg (CEHC) presented on the proposed revisions to the MS in Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity, shared between the School of Business (SoB) and CEHC. Professor Berg noted that the revisions are meant to continue the reduction of confusion regarding cybersecurity offerings across campus. Some members were concerned that some cross-unit redundant course offerings remain. Chair Mower asked the Council to vote on a motion that would

i. Request that Kevin Williams, Dean of the Graduate School, to prepare a short report on potential cross-unit course redundancies that he had identified or dismissed as part of his work with faculty from both CEHC and SOB and to include any conclusions he may have reached on shared resource solutions,

ii. Require Chair Mower to disseminate the report to UPPC members by email, and

iii. Request that UPPC members vote by email to approve or not approve the new proposal once they had considered Dean Williams’s report.

The Council passed the motion as follows:

YES: 8
NO: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Minutes approved: 3/4/2020