

UNIVERSITY POLICY AND PLANNING COUNCIL

March 4, 2020 – 2:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

UNH 306

MEETING MINUTES

Present: Y-H. Chen; S. Chengalur-Smith; C. Fauchon (Recorder, non-voting); R. Gil-Garcia; H. Jeong-Hyon; Z. Lawrence; L.A. McNutt; J. Mower (Chair); K. Reinhold; K; J. Rivera-Wilson.

Guests: G. Berg, CEHC; S. Galime, Provost Office; J. Goodall, CEHC; A.M. Murray, Provost Office; C. Smith, SOE; K. Williams, Graduate Studies; K. Winchester, Undergraduate Education.

I. **Approval of the Minutes from January 22nd, 2020 and February 12th, 2020.**

- Minutes of the Wednesday January 22nd, 2020 meeting were approved without revisions, with one abstention.
- Minutes of the Wednesday February 12th, 2020 meeting were approved unanimously without revisions.

II. **Provost's Report:**

Provost Carol Kim was not present. There was no report available from the Provost Office.

III. **Chair's Report**

UPPC Chair James Mower did not have anything to report.

IV. **Sub-Committees Reports**

Due to scheduling difficulties, the University Facility Committee and the Resource Analysis and Planning Committee are now sharing their meeting time. The two committees met on February 19, 2020. The committees discussed the status of online campus maps/apps. John Giarrusso (Associate Vice President – Finance & Administration) and professionals from University Auxiliary Services (Dan Havens, Sharon Webster and Mo Schifley) were invited to provide the current status of related, on-going projects. The current map app is accessible by members of the university community but not guests. Currently, the app provides walking directions to buildings. The group brain-stormed about possible approaches to work within the current framework to improve access to useful information to locate buildings on campuses and how provide services to visitors. It is desirable to make the campus friendlier to visitors and university members. Proposed ideas were:

- a button on the UAlbany webpage that visitors can use to navigate campus through google maps
- clickable addresses on departments' and offices' webpages.

These are beyond the scope of what auxiliary services can provide but could be looked into by Communications and Marketing.

The committees were informed about efficiencies in facilities, plans for parking in downtown campus, updates for ETEC, Schuyler, and renovation plans for the Earth Science Building; plans for Advisement Services, Colonial Quad, and updates on the Lecture Center and the Campus Center, including a terrace lounge for graduate students.

V. Old Business

Discussion of Kevin Williams' Response to UPPC 2_17_2020 Document

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Kevin Williams followed up on the February 12th 2020 Council's discussion of the proposed revisions to the MS in Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity shared between the School of Business and CEHC. At the request of the members, Vice Provost Kevin Williams had prepared a report on potential cross-unit course redundancies in the proposal. The report was shared with the Council members before the meeting.

Vice Provost Williams expanded on the report. Taking the example of statistics classes, Vice Provost Williams explained that while on the surface statistics classes might all sound rather generic, each might be specifically tailored to a subject area. There is also the matter that classes are originally designed to handle a specific maximum number of students, and students cannot just be added to existing classes that are already at their maximum capacities.

One of the Council members expressed concerns regarding the level of involvement from the School of Business faculty in the MS in Digital Forensics and Cybersecurity proposal – not only in deciding which courses would overlap, but also in the conversations regarding the “umbrella pieces” such as advisement, career development and other pieces that go along with a Master's degree but beyond the curriculum. Vice Provost Williams explained how the proposal was written after many back-and-forths from both Schools. It was then shared with both Deans and with the Program Directors and key faculty. It was up to them to disseminate and go over the details with their own faculty members. Both Deans had expressed concern over admissions and enrollment count. The agreement is now that when students enter, they specify their concentration. Where that concentration resides is where the head count will count.

The Graduate Academic Council (GAC) Chair George Berg added to the discussion by assuring the Counsel that the GAC had done full diligence on the issue of this proposal.

VI. New Business

- a. Proposal: Graduate Online Advanced Certificate in Machine Learning (Math) &**
- b. Proposal: Graduate Online Advanced Certificate in Topological Analysis (Math)**

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Kevin Williams presented the two proposals on behalf of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

A motion was made and seconded to discuss the proposal. Both online certificates are very similar. In both cases the credentials are fully “stackable”. The required courses are part of the M.S. programs: Once students are done with the Certificates, they are halfway through the Master programs.

Note on the “Program Expenses Tables” (p.13 of Form 2C): the expenses are not relevant to the programs as they refer to Summer Personnel cost (Summer programs have their own funding).

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal.

Vote: Yes = 7 No = 0 Abstain = 1

c. Proposal: Graduate Advanced Online Certificate in Global Gender Advocacy (Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Kevin Williams presented the proposal. The proposal has yet to be proposed to the GAC but is being presented to the UPPC Council at this time because of resource implications. Of a similar structure to the two math proposals just presented, credits from the Graduate Online Certificate in Global Gender Advocacy courses will apply towards the existing M.A. in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

A motion was made and seconded to discuss the proposal. The Council members discussed the importance of marketing new programs. The approvals of these three programs could be an opportunity to push for marketing. Vice Provost Williams acknowledged that typically the budget allotted to market new approved programs is often inadequate and that his own office often has to chip in significantly to supplement the marketing of graduate programs. However, the Office of Communications and Marketing has a portion of their budget earmarked for the marketing of graduate programs for this next year so there are promising discussions ahead.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the proposal.

Vote: Yes = 8 No = 0 Abstain = 0

d. Proposals from the School of Education: Combined Bachelor’s / MS in Secondary Education (9):

- * **BA Atmospheric Science / MS Secondary Education Earth Science**
- * **BA Chemistry / MS Secondary Education Chemistry**
- * **BS Chemistry / MS Secondary Education Chemistry**
- * **BA English / MS Secondary Education English**
- * **BA Math / MS Secondary Education Math**
- * **BS Math / MS Secondary Education Math**
- * **BA History / MS Secondary Education History**
- * **BA Biology / MS Secondary Education Biology**
- * **BS Biology / MS Secondary Education Biology**

Christie Smith, School of Education Assistant Dean for Academics & Assessment, presented the above nine proposals from the School of Education Department of Educational Theory and Practice. The combined Bachelor / MS programs provide an accelerated pathway for majors in Math, History, English, Chemistry, Biology, and Atmospheric Science who seek to be secondary education teachers in these fields. Undergraduate students would be offered a pathway into teaching while still in their undergraduate program. This also offer undergraduate admission to say: “yes you can come here as a Freshman or a transfer for teacher preparation”.

Admissions requirements for all nine programs are the same.

The Council members agreed to discuss and vote on the nine proposals together rather than one at a time. A motion was made and seconded to discuss the proposals. One of the Council members remarked that these proposals were very effective and attractive.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the nine proposals.

Vote: Yes = 7 No = 0 Abstain = 1

- e. **Proposal – Combined BS /CAS in Human Development & School Psychology
(Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology)**
- f. **Proposal - Combined BS / MS in Human Development & Higher Education (Department of Educational & Psychology)**

Note: Member Karin Reinhold left.

Agenda items e and f were presented together by School of Education Assistant Dean for Academics & Assessment Christie Smith.

The MS in Higher Education is increasingly recognized as an important credential for those seeking administrative employment in college and universities. The curriculum is specifically designed to provide students with a strong theoretical and practical base, enabling them to effectively use research and theory in their day-to-day lives as higher education leaders and to prepare students to pursue doctoral education. A student studying on a full-time basis will normally complete this program in 5-5 1/2 years. Applicants for the combined BS/MS program must have completed 56 undergraduate credits (Junior status), must be a declared human development major with a concentration in Higher Education, must possess a GPA of 3.0 or higher overall and must have completed at least one full-time semester at UAlbany.

Applicants for the combined BS/CAS program must have completed 56 undergraduate credits (Junior status), must be a declared human development major with a concentration in Educational Psychology, must possess a GPA of 3.0 or higher overall and must have completed at least one full-time semester at UAlbany. The requirements for the BS/CAS emphasize the preparation students need to be successful in this program. A student studying on a full-time basis will normally complete this program in 7 years.

A motion was made and seconded to discuss the proposals. The discussion centered principally on the BS/CAS program. Assistant Dean Smith explained that the CAS is higher than the MS. The

program is very rigorous. It is an alternative to a PH.D. / Psy.D. for students that already know that want to work in a school as a school psychologist (as opposed to doing research or be in a private practice). A Psy.D. is not required by School Districts. Students with a CAS can work in schools as long as they have the licensing requirements.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the two proposals

Vote: Yes = 6 No = 0 Abstain = 1

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting ended at 4:50 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Corinne Fauchon

Minutes approved: April 8, 2020 (Zoom meeting)