

Academic Senate
Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Meeting Minutes March 31, 2021

Members Present: Ewa Golebiowska (Chair), Tom Fischer, Manoj Kulchania, Brad Roth, Darin Ellis, Jennifer Lewis, Kelly Dormer, Sandra Oliver-McNeil, Rajan Varmon, Clay Walker. Stella Resko

Members absent: Juliann Binienda, Ali Salamey, Richard Pineau

Meeting Called to order: 1:36pm

Approval of Minutes: Motion Tom Fisher, second by Kelly Dormer

Approval of Agenda: Note taker Sandra Oliver-McNeil

Discussion of Policy Committee's charge regarding post-pandemic future of higher education:

- Academic Senate Policy Committee President Linda Beale sent a Memo ask that the committees of the Academic Senate start to plan for the future of Higher Education after the Pandemic. The focus of Higher Education is shifting to STEM disciplines, prepare students for careers, and address the affordability of education.
- Recommend that AS Committees break up into small groups over the summer to prepare a report that would be due in October to the AS Policy Committee so formal recommendations could be presented.

Robust conversation occurred:

- Investigate how education has been delivered during the pandemic by faculty. What does faculty think about the success of what they implemented? What did the students think of the experience? What platforms were used to deliver instruction?
- What did online look like? Synchronized, asynchronous, Zoom, flipped classrooms.
- College of Education has information on the different platforms and had a consultant come in to teach how to increase engagement when teaching online. CIT has been working on the usage of each of the different platforms.
- Everyone agreed that it is difficult to evaluate what we have doing while we are in the middle of the semester.
- Darin Ellis: Consider Policy development that focuses on dealing with issues that allows for flexibility. How do we pause for two weeks when it could affect the schedule of other semesters? Suggestion that Academic Calendar be built to allow more time between semesters, especially between Winter and Spring/Summer. Need to think about how to prepare for a crisis/emergency. Definition of Hybrid is needed. Need to consider the Campus experience for students while keeping maintenance cost

down. We need a vibrant campus experience. Use technology to support students that inclusive and address disabilities and accessibility. Better policies around when hybrid and what does hybrid mean? Students need to know what they are “getting into”. Need transparency around scheduling around the class.

- Tom Fischer: Need to think about impact Balance of portfolios. Is there a demand for online vs face to face? Who is making decisions? What are we basing decisions on? Degrees and degree structure and badges need to be discussed.
- Jennifer Lewis: Principles need to be developed around course needs addressing the needs of the students.
- Sandra Oliver-McNeil: Faculty are working remotely, and some are not in the Detroit area. Impact on faculty moving from online to face to face again some faculty will need to make decisions.
- Tom Fisher: Departments need to think what is best for their students and what works for the department courses to meet the needs of the students.
- Kelly Dormer: We need to recognize that we will not be able to meet all students' needs. We need to define faculty engagement, including timely answering emails. When students are registering for a class they need to be informed about how students will be able to not come face to face due to health issues.
- Brad Roth: Reminder that students have constraints on their time with work times conflicting with classes.
- Darin Ellis: Principle-Faculty trying to find a way to help students, we need to have mechanisms to accommodate students i.e. recording lectures, distance access to class in rooms where there is not Echo access.
- Jennifer Lewis: Principle to establish student relationship with faculty with online instruction. Nature of learning experience either online or face to face. To form relationships, College of Education hired an expert to teach graduate students to establish relationships by using breakout rooms, prompts and 'small envelopes'.
- Stella Resko: If principles are developed, will they be used?
- Kelly Dormer: need to start working on what we will look like for fall to accommodate students who do not want to be on campus.
- Darin Ellis: Opening in Fall is still in progress. Need to address availability to students who cannot be on campus. If we need to pause for two weeks in the middle of the semester, we need to be flexible and have a plan in place. What support needs to be in place? Not all lecture halls have Capture capability.
- Ewe Golebiowska: We should think about specifics about the future of Higher Education. Plan to break up the CIC committee into small groups and suggest they meet before April CIC meeting with recommendations. Brad Roth has requested a copy of the meeting minutes of 3.31.2021.

Meeting adjourned 3:02 pm