

Academic Senate Curriculum & Instruction Committee

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, December 15, 2021

Meeting started around 1:05 pm.

In attendance: Jenny Lewis (chair), Stephanie Chastain, Kelly Dormer, Darin Ellis, Andrew Fribley, Jeff Grynawiski, Pramod Khosla, Manoj Kulchania, David Moss, and Richard Pineau.

Jeff Grynawiski agreed to take notes.

In matters arising, new federal regulations about ethics raised by the faculty Senate and CLAS's Faculty Council were discussed. After some discussion, it was clarified that these appear to be regulations about business ethics rather than academic integrity. After further discussion, CIC agreed that separate consideration of academic conduct and business ethics may be warranted, perhaps especially after ongoing dialogue between the Senate Policy Committee and the Office of General Counsel are concluded.

Time was allotted for individuals to annotate the Strategic Plan. Committee members chose to highlight the following comments in subsequent discussion.

Taking the document as a whole, the committee reported:

- Appreciation for the opportunity to review an early draft of the document and was sympathetic to the need to be patient about updates to grammar and style once final changes are made.
- Many of the bullet-points in the Strategic Plan were thought to be generic, boilerplate, overly bureaucratic, or business-like. "Reads like an infomercial." That is, it presents lofty goals that lack specificity, and that are often dependent on factors out of Wayne State's control.
- Discuss the key goals of the last Strategic Plan and how those aligned with outcomes.
 - It was noted that it is difficult to measure the effect of initiatives responding to a Strategic Plan, highlighting the success of reforming Gen Ed without clear metrics to assess the consequences of those reforms, in particular, on overall student outcomes.

More narrowly, the committee reported:

- The plan should specifically address the dire needs for routine building maintenance, like custodial services, to make campus a more prideful and welcoming place to learn and work.
- Academic advising and peer mentors are not the same thing, although they both facilitate student success. There should be a clear vision for the role of each distinctly outlined in the Strategic Plan.
- The plan is quite vague about the call for a "new" School of Medicine, especially given the presence of a current SOM.
- The section on DEI didn't mention LGBTQ issues.
- The call for greater K-12 recruitment is welcome. More effort should explicitly be made to recruit black, Latinx, and LGBTQ students.

- Developments on campus, especially the shift away from an emphasis internally on PhD to MA students, reduces possibilities for international collaboration.
- Tension between the goals of expanding the Office of Multicultural Student Engagement to celebrate all races and the creation of a Black Student Cultural Center.

Kelly Dormer has left her previous position and is now Associate Director, Strategic Academic Initiatives, Office of the Provost and she participated in her new role in Darin Ellis' office.

The committee reviewed the CIC document on *The Future of Higher Education*. Little discussion ensued.

Jenny Lewis conveyed Linda Beale's suggestion that CIC receive student presenters to address issues like, disability, student identity, and the recruitment process.

It was noted that there should be a student rep on CIC, who has not attended our meetings thus far, if one has been appointed at all. Several members expressed concern about the representativeness of those who serve on these committees and that we don't "cherry-pick" someone to make the work of the committee or university look good.

Next meeting is January 26. The committee will discuss the possibility of a hybrid meeting for that date once public health conditions in the region become clearer.

In the meantime, please review the Strategic Plan, consider helping with student sessions, and consider providing some anonymous comments through the link below:

https://waynestate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5bD3SPgNSPnng9E