

Council of Chairs and Program Directors

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2019

Present: Oana Armeanu, Christy Baker, Brody Broshears, Shelly Blunt, Andy Buck, Jeri Burger, Amy Chan-Hilton, Manfen Chen, Belle Cowden, Cindy Deloney-Marino, Wes Durham, William Elliott, Abbas Foroughi, Renee Frimming, Julia Galbus Kiesel, Sukanya Gupta, Jason Hardgrave, Leigh Anne Howard, Rick Hudson, Paul Kuban, Melanie Lee, Julie McCullough, Sudesh Mujumdar, Kimberly Parsons, Kenneth Purcell, Jill Raisor, Todd Schroer, Jeffery Seyler, Jack Smothers, Sarah Stevens, Sally Vogl-Bauer, Elliot Wasserman, and Ken Walsh.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Elliott.

Approval of minutes from February 27, 2019: Approved without objection.

Announcements: Provost Khayum discussed ways to showcase successes on campus illustrating with recent prizes and honors in the theater and choir programs. Another notable highlight has been online programs that have attracted students from different parts of the globe, including China and Latin America. Especially notable as well has been undergraduate students participating in a high-profile national project associated with NASA, the UNITE CubeSAT. Provost Khayum also shared information from the recent “Explore & Share Events” focusing on student retention and success. Over 220 people showed up in the various forums and the information generated from the events is being processed. In the next phase, one idea is to anchor the findings to questions of student finance. Provost Khayum fielded questions from chairs and directors about highlighting successes at university-wide meetings.

Selecting and Implementing an Online Exam Proctoring Solution: Executive Director Belle Cowden from Online Learning discussed issues surrounding academic integrity in online class environments. One particular problem concerns cheating during online exams. Executive Director Cowden discussed options to have automated proctoring of exams from private vendors. These software packages have advantages over current practices of monitoring online exams, but come at a cost and may not be relevant to writing intensive courses. Executive Director Cowden answered questions from chairs and directors concerning some of the technical requirements for adopting the software.

Mathematics Curriculum Updates: Dr. Hudson provided information regarding changes to the pathways for math requirements in CORE39 which, for some students, has been a stumbling block towards graduation. New MATH courses have replaced GENS courses for students not placing into MATH111 or MATH114. Face-to-face courses with lectures and labs are scheduled for the Fall 2019. Dr. Hudson responded to faculty concerns about completion rates, provisions for AP calculus, and whether current students need to change to new requirements.

Honors Program: Director Stevens discussed making external and internal awards, scholarships, and fellowships more widely advertised on campus for high-achieving and deserving students. These opportunities are dispersed throughout the country and on campus that could be collated and presented on a unified website for students and faculty to search.

Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning: Director Chan Hilton announced an upcoming workshop in June open to all faculty concerning program reviews and the Academic Leadership Retreat in August.

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Buck, Secretary