Academic Planning Council Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Members present: Lyn Bouck, Carol Sue Butts, C.R. Cornett, Christina Curras, Mike Dalecki, Bernie Harris, Mark Meyers, Adam Stanley, Jason Thrun, Kay Young

Guests present: Liz Goodfellow, Tom Hunt, Terry Liska, Mittie Nimocks, Barbara Parsons, Mike Sharkey, Rich Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Announcements
Provost Butts announced that Governor Doyle will be on campus on Dec. 13 for the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Engineering Building and to speak at commencement.

Provost Butts announced the creation of the Dr. PB Poorman Award for contributions to LGBTQ communities within the UW System. Nominations for the UWP campus will go through the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Approval of Minutes
No action was taken on the Nov. 12 minutes. Dalecki will re-send the minutes to Meyers.

New Business
Economics Program Review
Liska spoke on behalf of the Economics program. He discussed the program’s struggles to offer the major given staffing and funding issues. The program graduates only a few majors each year, and they must take several independent study courses in order to fulfill major requirements, since the faculty are able to offer mainly service courses. Given that situation, even supporting the minor at this point is not really feasible. Liska concurred with the Dean’s proposal to “shelve” the major as the most advisable option at this time.

Ensuing discussion involved the implications of shelving the major for future faculty lines in the program. Liska and Dean Nimocks emphasized the need for adequate staff to cover current levels of Economics course offerings in support of general education as well as other majors that require Economics courses. Liska advocated replacing any retiring Economics faculty in the future with tenure-line faculty. Cornett questioned the likelihood of luring strong candidates for a tenure-line position in the absence of an active major, and with Economics faculty teaching service courses almost exclusively.

Dalecki highlighted the importance of only shelving the major rather than officially eliminating it, noting the virtual impossibility of restoring the major if the latter were to occur. Cornett asked about the method of “unshelving” a major; citing Tech Ed as an example, Provost Butts responded that a program would simply need to return to APC.

Motion to shelve the Economics major made by Curras. Seconded by Dalecki. Motion carried, with Cornett dissenting.
**Proposed Social and Environmental Justice Review**

Questions arose over the fact that, while SEJ representatives had submitted paperwork to APC regarding the nature of the proposed program, there was not a formal proposal based on the “Guidelines for APC Submajor Proposal” distributed by Provost Butts. Points 6 & 7 from the APC proposal guidelines were not directly addressed in the SEJ-provided materials, and student learning outcomes for assessment should be devised as well (this was done for individual SEJ courses, but not the program as a whole).

Concerns were raised about the extent of external funding for the SEJ program. Hunt explained that the donation given to UWP to start the program will cover the program’s costs for at least three years, thus leaving time to secure further funding. Goodfellow distributed a list of possible funding sources for SEJ, including individual donors, foundations, and federal agencies that may supply financial support. However, such support will be virtually impossible to acquire without the program being officially in place. There was discussion of a “sunset” provision in the event that no further external funding is secured by the time that the original donation has been exhausted.

Cornett expressed concern that the SEJ program could lead to faculty giving up part of their usual load to support SEJ courses, causing existing departmental courses not to be offered. Parsons and Waugh pointed out that most courses counting toward the SEJ minor are already part of the course offerings in various departments; only the Intro to SEJ and Capstone courses would be new. The Intro class counts for Humanities general education credit, and the Capstone course will be taught as an independent study, at least for now.

Motion by Curras to approve SEJ materials on a first reading. Seconded by Dalecki. Motion carried. SEJ representatives will return to APC with a formal proposal in spring semester 2009.

**Old Business**

**Philosophy Program Review**

Meyers distributed the report regarding the Philosophy program review. Suggested revisions: calling for a rubric for oral presentation; and striking the final 1.5 lines of the report, thus ending it with the recommendation to continue the program.

Motion by Cornett to approve the report with changes. Seconded by Thrun. Motion carried.

**Individually Contracted Major Review**

Meyers will write the report for the individually contracted major.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Stanley