

Washburn University  
Faculty Senate Minutes  
February 19, 2024

Present: Altus, Camarda, Cook, Cook-Cunningham, Dahl, DeSota, Friesen, Grant, Hakenewerth  
Hansen, Harnowo, Heusi, Holt, Kay, Kendall-Morwick (J.), Kendall-Morwick (K.), Lolley, McGuire,  
McHenry, Moddelmog, Ricklefs, Rivera Scofield, Sneed, Steffen, Toerber-Clark, Wagner

Absent: Barraclough, Hartman Kowalska, Miller, Porta

Guests: Asamoah, Ball, Broxterman, Frank, Fritch, Grospitch Hutchinson, Lanning, Mullican  
O'Neill, Schnoebelen, Stephenson, Wade, White

I. Call to Order

II. Minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting of Faculty Senate were approved.

III. President's Opening Remarks

- Ball: general education clarification from the last meeting.
  - Lanning helped with general education documentation. The reality is if a student has completed the KBOR package anywhere – we take it all as general education. If they do not finish elsewhere, then they can be asked to take the needed courses.
  - Programs can also require courses as prerequisites that are also general education related.
  - Cook asked if credit as C or better also counts – yes.
- Ricklefs noted that it has all been a learning process. We should continue to give one another grace as we complete decision making on the package.

IV. VPAA/Provost Update

- All faculty present introduced themselves to Fritch.
- Fritch introductions
  - Was in communication studies in the humanities at Northern Iowa
  - Was a debate coach at SW Missouri state.
  - Appreciates the values of the university.
  - Excited to be at a top ranked regional university.
  - Appreciate the passion and commitment to access for First generation students.
  - Loves the story of Ichabod.

- Stephenson will continue to help with the strategic plan, improvement of compensation benefits, and survey for Great Colleges. NESSI will also be distributed this year.
  - This is Stephenson's last semiofficial meeting, round of applause.
- V. Faculty Senate Committee Reports
- Minutes of the November 6, 2023, meeting of the Graduate Council were approved.
  - Minutes of the January 29, 2024, meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee were approved.
- VI. University Committee Reports
- Minutes of the December 12, 2023, meeting of the ADIC were received.
  - Minutes of the November 13, 2023, meeting of the General Education Committee were received.
  - Minutes of the November 10, 2023, meeting of the Board of Student Media were received.
- VII. Old business
- 24-19 Significant Program Edits – Religious Studies, BA
    - Approved.
  - 24-20 New Program Proposal – Mathematics Secondary Education: Core Mathematics 6-12
    - Details from Cook: there are new licensure requirements from the state coming down the pike to be able to teach in high schools. This is a combo of middle and lower high school math.
    - Steffen: there is a licensure committee; having this ready now will ensure we are ready to go when it passes.
    - Approved.
  - 24-21 New Program Proposal – Graduate Certificate in Communication and Leadership
    - Altus asked about the new graduate council responsibilities; academic programs and changes will now go from graduate council to senate rather than going through academic affairs.
    - Schnoebelen with details: it is an offshoot of the Master of Art in communication and leadership. Can be completed in one year and be in addition to an existing graduate degree or as a stand-alone.

- Steffen asked whether learners could move on to the graduate program without any issue. They can, as this is their first year of classes; they can branch off after the first year or any time. The admissions process is the same as the full MA program.
- Altus was surprised there were not hard data in the details of the item. Her experience is that it has been required with notes of support. Schnoebelen indicated that there was not as much veracity with the inclusion of those details (i.e. did not include official data in the pro forma) as they were not seeking additional resources. Steffen suggested more standardized requirements - if one department must do it, all must do it.
- Wagner asked how they will determine success of the certificate. Perhaps this is something to discuss for assessment purposes.
- Lolley voiced support for the certificate; something employers want to see.
- Approved.
- 24-22 Significant Program Edits – Forensic Biology, BS
  - Changing details to ensure people do not take MA112 (Mullican). Adding 301; other courses are getting new names and numbers. Capstone language is being replaced with a research course. All changes are meant to make things more flexible for students. accreditation standards change all the time, always a moving target.
  - Auditors will adjust if other courses are taken for math (Cook)
  - Lolley noted that CJ410 was being removed as those materials are covered in other courses outside of CJ. Wagner corrected that not all CJ410 is taught in those other courses, just what is necessary for the degree.
  - Confusion about the materials based on color coding. Broxterman is working to standardize the color coding and all details in Course Leaf.
  - Approved
- 24-23 Significant Program Edits – Creative Writing, BA
  - Approved without discussion.
- 24-24 Significant Program Edits – Engineering-Physics, AS
  - Approved without discussion.
- 24-25 Significant Program Edits – Communication, BA

- Schnoebelen with details: a minor certificate for those with a dual major; if CN151 becomes a degree requirement for your department, please let him know.
- Approved.
- Items approved together:
  - 24-26 Significant Program Edits – Computer Information Science with Data Science Concentration, BS
  - 24-27 Significant Program Edits – Computer Information Science with Digital Forensics Concentration, BA
  - 24-28 Significant Program Edits – Computer Information Science, AA
  - 24-29 Significant Program Edits – Computer Information Science, BS
  - Kendall-Morwick (J) with details: the updates are to correlated courses to adjust for general education changes.

#### VIII. Information items

- 24-30 Decrease the Natural Sciences concentration requirement for Bachelor of Science degrees from 20 hours in one department to 15 hours.
  - The course descriptions are inconsistent. Some places indicate 150 minutes, others three clock hours. Minutes and hours are both used in different locations (Altus). They are trying to change the timing to be more consistent. If courses are online, the plan is to indicate 150 minutes a week for lecture materials (or equivalent), to ensure new faculty are aware of the expectations (Mullican).
  - Lolley asked how this is presented online; it is mostly videos.
  - Altus encouraged people to send reps on these items to academic affairs to ensure questions are answered prior to senate meetings.

#### IX. Announcements

- Wednesday at 5:30 Chris Hooten in Rita Blitt. Open to all; cosponsored by Topeka pride (Kendall-Morwick, K.)
  - Thursday at 8:30 Henderson 100 Hooten will also hold a workshop on neurodiversity with breakfast. There is a workshop at noon with students; there is free pizza. It will take place at the union underground.
- On Wednesday, Ricklefs and Enos will have a session regarding active assailants on campus. This will be in Henderson and is open to faculty and staff. There will not be a recording; there will be another in March or April.

- Encourage first and last year students to take the NESSI. They get ten dollars in bod bucks.

X. Adjournment 3:52