Senate

College of Liberal Arts

December 19, 2016

**CC 3540**

2:30-4:00

**AGENDA**

1. Approval of Agenda

* The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm
* The agenda was approved unanimously at 2:30 pm.

1. Approval of the minutes from November 21, 2016

* The November 2016 minutes were approved unanimously at 2:30 pm.

*The Dean arrived at the meeting at 2:30, which is when the Dean’s report began. The Moderator’s Report was conducted after the Dean’s Report.*

1. Moderator’s Report

* The 2-2 Accountability Proposal was discussed beginning at 2:54 pm.
* Due to the expected implementation in Spring 2017, there is insufficient time for the proposal to be sent back to departments for further review.
* Since Large Enrollment (LE) courses are central to the functioning of 2-2, the issue of not meeting the 70-student cutoff was discussed with some possible solutions.
* With regard to being revenue neutral, it was suggested that the number of students taught should be compared to that number under 3-3. Specifically, under 2-2 if a faculty member is already teaching 100+ students, that individual cannot be moved to a 3-3 teaching load.
* Departments are unable to set caps just above the 70-student cutoff due to enrollment pressures.
* Senators also raised other issues related to this:
* Do faculty receive a full CLR for teaching a course with 140 students or above, or is the only benefit the receipt of a full TA?
* There is a lot of variability in how departments handle 4-credit courses. Is it possible to standardize this across the CLA? Could this also depend on TA assignments?
* Some departments have 6-credit internship/seminar/independent study courses. How are such courses handled under 2-2? In a particular department, this course is not counted as part of one’s teaching load. Therefore, some faculty are falling into 3-3 by default.
* Moderator’s report was completed at 3:15 pm.

*The Dean arrived at the meeting at 2:30, which is when the Dean’s report began. The Moderator’s Report was conducted after the Dean’s Report.*

1. Dean’s Report

* Report regarding budget began at 2:30 pm.
  + Budget allocation to the colleges has been partially misallocated: CAPS was under funded; and, CLA was over funded. To correct this, Chairs have been advised that all revenue sharing from CAPS will probably not be received.
  + Departments may find that their GOF will be smaller than what they had last year: definitely 10-15%, maybe 20%.
  + The Dean has pushed for the graduate school to receive TA allocations to match what was received last year.
  + TT hires for FY 2018: any ongoing searches will continue. TT hires for the following year is undecided at this time.
* Dean’s Report shifted to discussing the 2-2 accountability proposal
  + Dean is awaiting reply from the FSU.
  + Moderator recapped the key differences in the versions sent to Senators: inclusion of the appeals process, and maintaining department discretion in determining faculty meeting the 2-2 requirements.

Question/Comment from a Senator (QS): Since faculty are given the option to volunteer for 2:3 or 3:3, how will this impact the merit processes?

DEAN: This is a substantive issue that should be discussed and handled by departments.

QS: How does the CLA budget relate to CAPS?

DEAN: A&F Committee determined how much was spent last year, and set that as the base budget, then A&F allocated each college 80% of that base. However, we spend money beyond our base budget; some of which comes from CAPS. There was a particular mistake in how the CAPS revenue sharing was counted in our base budget, and CAPS will not be sharing that money again.

QS: For Performing Arts, CAPS will run out of money if they still revenue share, and if we do not transfer money back to them. CAPS will run through their budget before the summer, and will have to remove the summer program.

QS: What is the current view of the function that CAPS serves? The original idea was to keep that revenue on campus, but that is no longer relevant with the new tuition retention policy.

DEAN: Yes, this is correct, and will be looking at this at A&F. CAPS was supposed to be focused on being nimble and attracting internationals, which is not happening. Will consider bringing back the online courses to the CLA.

QS: Will CLA have their own online programs?

DEAN: Yes, this will be the point.

QS: Does CAPS have anything that the CLA really needs and don’t have?

DEAN: Maybe something related to the online tech.

QS: What about the Dean’s travel fund, which was cut because of the budget cuts? This has a disproportionate impact on junior faculty. Dean’s office should have a fund focused on junior faculty.

DEAN: Cannot use the research fund for travel to conferences, but can use it for research endeavors that require travel. Can’t also use the discretionary fund for travel to conferences. This will not be reinstituted in the Spring. Hopefully, this is a one year thing.

QS: What about the library budget cuts?

DEAN: Go through the email from the library carefully, and write back, cc the Dean, if there is something that the CLA needs but is getting cut, especially if this is not available in the consortium.

QS: Could we initiate a faculty survey on this?

DEAN: Should push for a careful evaluation of the cuts, and there may be room to reinstate many of these cuts before the stated end date. The Dean of libraries is merely picking collections that are set to expire soon, without any view to usage of these collections.

QS: Majority of these collections seem to be in the humanities, disproportionately affecting the CLA.

QS: Also, humanities are more affected by the paywall, since the sciences are able to publish open access.

QS: The absence of a participatory process in picking the databases is troubling.

DEAN: There is a Deans committee that is exploring this, but the library went ahead with these cuts before waiting for the input from the committee.

1. Motions from the Academic Affairs Committee to approve the following NEW courses:

* RELSTY 111
* This course fills a need at the introductory-level that is a western counterpart of an existing course. This course is vital for the program.
* Course approved unanimously at 3:16 pm.
* WGS 201
* This course is part of the sexuality minor.
* Course approved unanimously at 3:17 pm.

1. Motions from the Academic Affairs Committee to approve the following CHANGES to courses:

* GREEK 101
* GREEK 102
* GREEK 151
* LATIN 101
* LATIN 102
* LATIN 115
* All of these courses are being increased to 4 credits, from 3 credits; simply matching other language courses.
* Motion presented to approve the GREEK & LATIN courses as a block.
* Motion to approve the courses as a block passed unanimously
* Course approved unanimously at 3:19 pm.

1. Motions from the Majors, Honors and Special Programs Committee to approve:

* Independent Major Proposals
* Stemming from the initial review from last year. At that time it was identified that students with low GPAs were populating the major.
* The Senate already approved substantive changes last year. CSM wanted small changes to those doing BS degrees.
* Now, the major articulates more details on GPA: raised the GPA, and request frequent informal reviews. 2.5 increased to 3.3 GPA, which matches the requirement for good standing in honors, which applies to both colleges.
* CSM students need to have an appropriate number of courses, which differs from CLA.

Senators raised some other issues

* Are students just pulling together courses to graduate, irrespective of some underlying focus?
* The change to the application procedure should remove any wayward students.
* Concern about NTT faculty as an advisor since the individual may not remain with UMass Boston. And, could we add in a requirement that the major advisor include a statement about their qualifications to be major advisor?
* Possibly have a primary advisor, and a backup advisor; someone who can fill the role of any administrative needs when the primary advisor is not available?
* MHSP didn’t want to add in more work for faculty by requiring a co-advisor.
* MHSP will already be working on this since they are the ones approving the majors, so we wouldn’t need someone else to fill this role.
* Changes to the Independent Major approved unanimously at 3:30 pm.
* SEC will convey the discussions to the MHSP.
* Approval for Portuguese Studies Minor
* The Latin American and Iberian Studies Department has pushed for a greater coverage of the languages, literatures, and histories of Portugal. The department has expanded hiring in this area, which has provided the necessary faculty to support this minor. 300-level courses are already available, and these courses have been grouped together for the minor.
* Has included a section of substituting courses to meet the requirements of the minor.
* Portuguese Studies Minor approved unanimously at 3:34 pm.
* Approval for WGS name change
* Changing department name to Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies to match similar departments across the country.
* Change to department name approved unanimously at 3:35 pm.
* Approval for changes to Spanish Language Minor
* The Minor has removed courses that are no longer offered.
* Changes to the Spanish Language Minor approved unanimously at 3:37 pm.
* Approval for changes to M.S. in Transnational Cultural and Community Studies
* The program would remove the GRE as a required means of evaluating applications. It may still be used for this purpose, but it will no longer be a requirement.
* Part of the motivation for this change is that the program is attracting international students who bring in a different skill set that may not be well represented in the GRE scores.
* However, concerns were raised that removing the GRE could also be driven by enrollment pressures.
* Change to the M.S. TCCS approved unanimously at 3:43 pm.

1. Revised statement from the Budget Review Committee

* The following issues were raised in this regard:
* The statement should emphasize the financial burden of the new administrative positions
* May include a statement that there is a new Library Committee that is too be constituted at the Faculty Council.
* It should also be noted that the presence of faculty on many committees is not seen to translate to having an impact on the recommendations from these committees.
* After checking with the Dean, the statement should be simultaneously sent to the Faculty Council, Provost, Chancellor. A&F Committee.

1. New Business

* All departments must respond to the library cuts to collections.

Meeting adjourned 4:03 pm.