

Faculty Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2012
2066 Weimer Hall
10:40 a.m.

In Attendance:

Spiro Kiouisis (Department Chair), Linda Hon, Deanna Pelfrey, Mary Ann Ferguson, Sora Kim, Moon Lee, Kathleen Kelly & Ann Christiano.

Absent: Juan Carlos Molleda

Meeting Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Welcome Back
3. Graduate Program Update
4. Development Update
5. Academic Assessment Plans/Rubrics
6. Planning for Department Visioning Process
7. Undergraduate Curriculum Taskforce Report
8. Interdisciplinary Distance Undergraduate Program
9. Protocol for Faculty Transcripts (SACS)
10. Internships
11. Old Business
12. New Business

Welcome

Dr. Kiouisis thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Agenda Items:

1. Dr. Kiouisis asked if we could approve the minutes from the last meeting. Prof. Pelfrey made a motion to approve the minutes and Dr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken with the faculty present and all were in favor. No one was opposed.
2. Dr. Kiouisis welcomed everyone back.
3. Dr. Ferguson gave a hand out of statistics for the faculty to review. There was some discussion on the challenges with the language barrier for some of the students admitted to the program. Dr. Ferguson asked for feedback from the faculty on the types of challenges they are experiencing and she mentioned that there has been discussion on raising the TOFEL scores so as to alleviate this problem in the future. Dr. Kelly mentioned that maybe we could explore the idea of setting up a committee to review applications for next year's search. Dr. Ferguson mentioned that learning outcomes may need

- to be set-up for the graduate program and asked Dr. Kiouis if any decision had been made on this. There was some discussion and Dr. Kiouis said he would follow up with Debbie Treise to ask about this topic and get an idea of what the timeline on this would be. Dr. Ferguson asked for faculty to volunteer to participate on a committee to make a decision on the Capstone experience in this program and to discuss the handling of the project or thesis. The question was raised of monetary resources being made available to the group from this program. It was said that because we have such a large group of graduate students who were admitted maybe we could have more resources available to our department to fund support of this program. Dr. Ferguson mentioned that she will need to have help from the group on advising this large group of students and Dr. Kiouis mentioned that he would look into the issue of resources. Dr. Kiouis also mentioned that he has spoken to Debbie Treise already about putting some language in the offers next year to only allow the first 15 respondents to be admitted. He also spoke of the quality of students who are doing the online program and said that he has been impressed with this group of students and that they seem to be very motivated. He said the quality of their work has been very good up until this point and that feedback has been positive.
4. Dr. Kiouis informed the group that the department received a gift of \$15,000 from Wells Fargo and a second gift of \$20,000 to the college was made by Amy Gravina and family. He asked that we make it a point to thank them when they come to the Advisory Council Meeting in a couple of months. He mentioned that these are the types of gifts which help support travel for faculty in our department. Dr. Hon asked what we could do with the AHA money and if the department could help make a decision or contribute to decision process of how these funds could be applied. It was suggested to have a speaker series for the faculty here on campus and there was some discussion on this topic. Dr. Kiouis asked to have the group think of some ideas and make a small proposal for him to present to the Dean's office. Prof. Pelfrey asked if we could schedule some time from the Advisory Council Meeting to speak with the members and get some feedback from them on the kind of projects which they are currently working on.
 5. Dr. Kiouis thanked everyone for their work in developing the rubrics. He reminded everyone that the rubrics would be implemented this semester for some class which we are teaching. He said that it is going to the college teaching committee for approval and we are going to use the data from this semester. Prof. Christiano shared her experience from having implemented the rubric over the summer in her Campaigns class. She mentioned that she learned that it should be done early in the semester not later in the semester as she had done it. Dr. Kiouis also mentioned that in VisCom class it is going to be done over the first couple of exams and in the Writing class it will be done at the end of the semester. Dr. Kelly mentioned that ideally it should be done twice to really be able to compare the data.
 6. Dr. Kiouis said he needed feedback from the faculty on how they would like to proceed with the departmental vision process. He asked if they wanted a facilitator to be involved. He also asked for feedback on when would be best time to do it. At the end of fall or beginning of spring? Prof. Pelfrey asked for some information on what it is we would like to accomplish as a group from this meeting. Some discussion took place and Dr. Kiouis said to send him an email about this subject.
 7. Prof. Pelfrey presented a hand out to the group and mentioned that the report has not changed since its original distribution at the end of the spring semester. She gave a brief overview of what is in the material and Dr. Kiouis mentioned that a meeting regarding this report and the committee's recommendations will take place late this semester.

8. Dr. Kiouis mentioned that Mike Weigold is working on the PRSSA National Conference initiative and said that the idea behind this is to keep revenue with the college and department for students who are off book and taking courses off campus. The target audience is for students who are not already in our college/program. Dr. Ferguson said that there is conversation about possibly changing the guidelines for off book courses in the Florida Board which may affect this revenue stream. Dr. Hon asked if these students would be isolated into a different section for each course. Dr. Kiouis said yes and asked for a motion to go forward in concept but to come back to it later with more details. Dr. Kelly moved to push forward with the concept however to table the discussion until more details are provided. Dr. Ferguson seconded the motion. A vote was taken with present faculty and all were in favor.
9. Dr. Kiouis asked that all faculty members order official transcripts from the organizations where they received their highest degrees and please give him the transcript to keep on file.
10. Dr. Kelly gave information on how we could maybe change the guideline regarding the number of internship credits we offer. She explained that the new AEJMC standards allow up to 6 internship credits instead of just 3 and she wanted to discuss this at the special faculty meeting on undergraduate curriculum.
11. No old business.
12. Prof. Pelfrey announced that the 2012/2013 Bateman Team has been selected and told the group that the campaign this year is Anti-bullying. She disclosed the names of the members which were selected and said that they are already working together as a group.

Dr. Kiouis mentioned that he is thinking of implementing a committee service group to give support to adjunct instructors by having lead members of the faculty for each course who could help guide them. He mentioned that he has been thinking about this for some time and it has been brought to his attention by some the instructors that it would be helpful. He will provide more information when the details have been sorted out.

Prof. Christiano wanted to remind everyone about the FRANK meeting coming up which will be taking place in 2 weeks and told the group who would be attending.

In closing Dr. Kiouis thanked the faculty for all their hard work and individually thanked each person and acknowledged the committees they participate in and the work they do for the department and college.

Dr. Kiouis asked for a motion to adjourn. Prof. Pelfrey moved that the meeting be adjourned. A vote was taken and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Martha R. Collada

Approved at the Department Faculty meeting held on October 12, 2012