



May 4, 2017

TO: Members of the ACADEMIC PLANNING COUNCIL  
FROM: Diana Hess, Dean  
SUBJECT: Minutes for meeting on May 3, 2017

Academic Planning Council Minutes

Announcement by Nancy Kendall for those drafting agreements with international universities, the process is now centralized. See Nancy for details.

**Approval of May Agenda**

Moved Jin-Wen, seconded by Adam Nelson. Approved.

**Approval of April Minutes**

Moved by Ann Halbach, seconded by Adam Smith. Approved.

**Proposed Suspension of Theatre and Drama MFA Program**

Department chair Ann Archbold and Professor Dan Lisowki presented the proposal. The Theatre and Drama Department proposes to suspend their MFA program. The request follows the ten year reviews of the Theatre and Drama graduate and undergraduate programs. The program has been understaffed because two core faculty members have been serving in campus appointments; one of these faculty members is now leaving the University. As a result, students have not had a full selection of course options, and the department decided not to admit students for the fall semester. In addition, the program has not offered enough graduate stipends to make it competitive with other institutions. The department is working on revising the undergraduate core curriculum and then will turn to re-envision the graduate program model. The suspension request is for up to three years.

Motion to approve: Bill Hoyt, seconded by Dan Lisowski. Motion passed.

**Proposed Suspension of Doctoral Minor in Theatre and Drama**

Department chair Ann Archbold and Professor Dan Lisowki presented the proposal. The Department of Theatre and Drama proposes to suspend the doctoral minor in Theatre and Drama. The minor moved over to the School of Education when Theatre and Drama joined the School. Most instruction for the doctoral minor is happening in Integrated Theater Studies (ITS), not in Theatre and Drama. As agreed in the move, ITS will soon propose its own doctoral minor. The College of Letters and Sciences requested to create a new doctoral minor rather than moving the current minor back from Theatre and Drama. The proposal impacts 5 or 6 students.

Motion to approve: Dan Liskowski, seconded by Jin-Wen. Motion passed.

Discussion of the Strengths and Challenges of the changes made to APC this year:

- There was more discussion than rubber stamping, previously it was not clear who was a voting APC member. I didn't used to feel I had a voice.
- Both as a participant and a proposer, the committee's feedback was helpful to be able to bring feedback back to department.
- As a new member it feels efficient.
- I struggle with what the role is of the APC. Feedback is useful, but am I expected to think of big picture questions?
- A lot of the issues are fully baked by the time they come here.
- Not clear about the role of the committee member.
- Not clear business items vs. advisory items.

- Our review of APC indicated we were doing things that were not required, which may free up time to do other things.
- It would be good to take up a topic for deliberation, not just advisory or decision. Could we take one issue to deliberate on per semester, for example? Maybe areas of friction.
- Example of a big question: How big should we be? What is our goal? Growth over what period of time? What changes would need to happen and what changes would result?
- Other appropriate issues?
- Let's look at the strategic initiatives and how they get operationalized, so each department does not interpret individually.
- Best use of our time is to look at which of those areas touch all departments
- What value do I have as a non-department chair? What is my role as far as taking it back to the department? Everything seems to devolve back into the departments, e.g. qualitative research. It is challenging to see how members can have influence that way.
- Why are most members chairs? Departments decided. Hoping for distributed leadership.
- Some departments don't have enough people.
- Are members serving in a representative role, or as themselves?
- Most other schools' APC, members not expected to have a role, you bring individuals perspectives as a whole.
- Wouldn't that obviate collaboration? Then it would have to happen through chairs meetings. No brokering deals.
- In L&S, APC is a deliberative body that provides advice to the dean, not representing departments.
- Another content issue is wondering where we stand as a school on non-traditional curricula. Other schools have started 131 programs. Campus has an interest in this area. Attracting new people to campus. What do we want to focus on?
- A topic I am interested in is instruction outside of two semesters, timetable, nine-months and new ways that teaching looks, which will naturally attract new people and opportunities. How flexible can we be? How long will it take for the system to catch up? We are already doing these things?
- There were good ideas presented at the summer (showcase) that we could explore.
- Agenda items need clear delineation as to decision, deliberation, advisory.

Meeting adjourned 10:57a.m.