

College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council – Notes (approved 12/18/12)

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

304 South Hall

Chair: Gary Sandefur

Members present: Kate Bartlett, Harry Brighthouse, John Hawks, Clark Johnson, Maria Muniagurria, Jennifer Noyes, Matt Turner

Observers: Marianne Bird-Bear, Maria Cancian, Susan Ellis-Weismer, Gery Essenmacher, Anne Gunther, Elaine Klein, Lucy Mathiak, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Sue Zaeske, Kimbrin Cornelius

Absent: Caroline Levine, Diane Gooding, Eric Wilcots, and DeVon Wilson

1. (a) GS reported that A “Notice of Intent” from UW Stout to create a BS in Environmental Sciences was circulated via the webspace prior to the meeting. If members see any reason to object, please communicate with EMK, who will forward that information to the Provost. (b) The L&S Faculty Senate meeting is 11/12/2012, council members are welcome to attend. (c) The L&S Curriculum Committee Ad Hoc Distance Education Subcommittee has convened and had its first meeting, to discuss the strategic direction L&S should take in respect to distance-delivered, blended, and technology rich courses. (d) Congratulations to Professor Don Moynihan (Poli Sci and LaFollette), who received the 2012 Distinguished Research Award from National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration and the American Society for Public Administration (e) Congratulations to the UW-Madison winners of Fulbright awards: Eight current students (four from History, and one each from Music, Sociology, Scan Studies, and German) six recent graduates, and four UW-Madison faculty, two from L&S – Jim Leary (Folklore) and Lisa Naughton (Geography) won awards.
2. Notes from October 16, 2012 meeting were approved by members present at that meeting.
3. Action Item: Request to change the administrative home for the Centers for Demography and Ecology (CDE) and for Demography, Health, and Aging (CDHA) from Sociology to L&S. MC led the discussion. Most similar population centers have already made a similar move away from a departmental home into an interdisciplinary center. CDE is behind in this regard, though it very much has an interdisciplinary spirit. The change would affect the official line of reporting, but not the actual practice; CDE has already been reporting directly to South Hall, in consultation with Sociology. This also would not affect the purpose, mission, internal governance or name. MC asked for the council’s feedback and guidance in regards to the proposal. Members had the following feedback:
 - What is the relationship between CDE and CDHA? Members noted the CDHA was briefly mentioned, but they didn’t understand how that area would be affected by the proposed plans, and wondered if the distinction between these two units should be formalized as well.
 - Members noted the proposal seemed like a good concept document, but including some additional clarification and details now would likely help the relationships between units further down the road. Details council members were most interested in included: a description of the differences between the different areas, and which areas will service which missions, an organizational chart of who does what and where staff will be assigned, and the strategy for splitting indirect funds. Members were also concerned about how faculty lines would be split, and GS clarified that DCE and CHDA are not tenure homes for any faculty, though the change will affect staff.
 - Overall, members agreed this change is necessary to keep funding, and were interested in reviewing a revised proposal that includes these additional details, so the proposal can continue on in the approval process.

4. Academic Program Matters: Charge to the Foreign Language Task Force. SZ led the discussion and distributed a draft charge document that included key questions the task force would study and provide recommendations about. Another group has been started for short-term planning in the case that Title VI funding is cut, so this task force will not be addressing that particular issue. Member feedback and discussion about the provided key questions centered around three themes:
- Should the question of ‘What do we want to accomplish and for who’ be addressed first, or if that can be accomplished while answering other questions.
 - Should, given the limited time available, the task force narrow the focus of key questions, or if these themes are too entangled to separate; and
 - Should the focus could be narrowed to less commonly taught courses, because they share many of those same issues, or if that also brackets out too many questions that are imperative to addressing foreign language issues.

Other advice offered included (1) adding an undergraduate advisor to the task force and (2), reviewing the outcomes that are intended for foreign language students, and whether they are learned through foreign language study. GS and SZ thanked council members for the feedback and advice.

5. Updates. (a) L&S APC Operating Guidelines. Following up on comments made by the APC last Spring and earlier this Fall, EMK has incorporated revisions into two of the L&S APC documents. The revised draft was circulated to members for review via the webspace. Members also agreed that notes should also be posted more publically for the broader community, in addition to the agenda. (But not agenda materials). Motion to approve as revised approved unanimously. (b) Policy on Creating, Restructuring, or Discontinuing Departments, Programs, and Department-Like Units. EMK summarized that the changes include language that departments should try to work towards consensus with decisions of this nature, rather than a simple majority. Motion to revised approved, one abstention.

6. Consultations of the Deans

- a. New Campus-level Resource Allocation Model. GS summarized the rationale for creating a new model, and reported that this work is underway.
- b. Update on Summer Sessions, Division of Continuing Studies, and Innovations. NWJ provided the update that department chairs and administrators have been sent a memo regarding development funding proposals for Distance Education and Related Initiatives through Summer Sessions/Division of Continuing Studies . These grants will be offered over the next 5 years to encourage distance/online education over the summer.
- c. University Committee and Optimal Department Size. GS noted he will review this item at the next meeting, given time constraints.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, Curriculum Administration Specialist