

APC Brief Notes / approved 10/15/2013

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2013
Meeting Time: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Location: 101 South Hall (Dean's Conference Room)

ATTENDANCE:

Chair: Karl Scholz

Members present: Harry Brighthouse, Jan Edwards, Anna Gemrich, Diane Gooding, Betty Harwood, John Hawks, Clark Johnson, Jennifer Noyes, Matthew Turner, Thomas Broman, Jennifer Noyes

Observers: Marianne Bird-Bear, Kimbrin Cornelius, Gery Essenmacher, Ann Gunther, Elaine Klein, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Eric Wilcots, Devon Wilson, Sue Zaeske,

Absent: Maria Cancian, Jennifer Noyes, Susan Ellis-Weismer.

Guests: Ron Troxel, Chair, Hebrew and Semitic Studies, Laura McClure, Chair, Classics

1. Announcements. Announcements were deferred to end of meeting. KS introduced new member Betty Harwood.
2. May 7, 2013 and September 5, 2013 notes were approved by members present at the meetings.
3. Department Restructuring. Materials regarding policies and procedures for department restructuring were circulated to members before the meeting. KS reviewed the general process, per FP&P. Programs inform the dean and APC they want to restructure; if approved, the formal planning process can start. Planning is a thoughtful, deliberative process that must take at least 6 months. The proposal coming out of that must be approved by the department(s), APC, UAPC, and the Chancellor. SZ provided context for restructuring. Last year, the college engaged in an initiative to encourage small departments (departments with Executive Committees, for example, that have 2-5 people) to restructure. Restructuring can create new ways to help with deliberations around hiring and tenure, making decisions, mentoring new faculty, and managing increasingly complex administrative tasks (budget reports, hiring, etc). Hebrew & Semitic Studies and Classics are leaders in this initiative. Professors Ron Troxel and Laura McClure provided an overview. One conclusion of Hebrew & Semitic Studies' recent program review was they could not continue independently, and should join with another department. Classics has overlap with Hebrew and ancient Egyptian, philosophy and archaeology, and many other institutions have close partnership between these two programs. Classics is a relatively healthy program, 8 FTE (soon to be 9), and has strong affiliations with History. Classics and Hebrew & Semitic Studies faculty believe restructuring will strengthen both departments and are excited about potential for new collaborations. RT and LM noted the proposal only concerns the graduate program. The undergraduate program in Biblical Hebrew has not been admitting students. Modern Hebrew language will seek a home in Jewish Studies- it very different from biblical Hebrew. Members asked about potential staff issues. RT and LM reported there was no need for a staff increase, and, a department administrator has announced her retirement. If the Biblical Hebrew undergraduate program is not being offered, EMK suggested the council may want to take action of formally closing the program. Members asked about the professor moving to Jewish Studies – are her research interests consistent with that department? SZ said yes, she studies the Holocaust. Some donors are not happy about the move. However, given modern Hebrew is an area of studies the university would like to continue offering for many years to come, this move seems like the most sustainable option. Members approved the request to plan department restructuring of Hebrew and Semitic Studies and Classics, with a date commencing on May 15, 2013. The members requested a report back from the departments regarding plans for admission into the graduate Biblical Hebrew language and literature program.

Members also requested the department to formally close the track in Ancient Biblical studies and to announce it to the *Undergraduate Catalog*.

4. Information items. (a) KS reviewed the Notices of Intent circulated Summer 2013, if there were responses from departments, they were forwarded. i.) MPA, UW-Green Bay –*no objections/advice*. ii.) MA – Africology, UW-Milwaukee – *no objective or advice* iii.) MS – Applied Statistics, UW-Milwaukee – *advice forwarded from Statistics*. (b) Academic Program Action: ESL Subject Listing – *technical correction requested*. KS noted a technical correction needed to implement an approved change to English’s renumbering of their course array was approved.

5. Academic Program Actions. (a) Comm Arts Deletion of MFA. Historically the Speech department included theater. Theatre & Drama split off to its own department, and Speech became Comm Arts. This is a residual program from that split; the degree has not been issued for decades. Members approved the request to delete the MFA – Communication Arts.

6. Consultations of the Dean: future topics and discussions. (a)KS announced that a proposal is circulating for the creation of a Wisconsin Arts Institute; discussion of the proposal will be at a future meeting. (b) Reviewing reports concerning the Division of International Studies and Ad-Hoc Committee on Title VI-funded International Languages is scheduled for a November meeting. (c) Next week will be the first of several joint L&S and CALS APC meetings (curriculum committees will meet jointly once a semester as well), and will address questions about program changes to joint programs. Discussion at meetings will be held together, but actions will be taken separately (consistent with FP&P).

7. Reports. (a) Annual Report on Academic Program Review. KS led discussion. 15 program reviews are in process, and 14 will be convened this year. Certificate reviews are now also required; several of those have been convened as well. We’re working hard on streamlining program reviews. EMK noted an example of reviewing all Ethnic Studies certificates concurrently, so faculty can think about how their programs work together and new collaborations. Botany and Zoology are splitting their program review- - undergraduate in year one, and graduate in year two. Many departments are taking the opportunity to closely focus on undergraduate programs. A member asked if anything will be missed when departments separate program reviews like that. KS mentioned reviews are now focused on the *program* instead of the *department*. He noted it will be a challenge to carve out time for the program reviews on APC agendas.

(b) Climate Committee Report. Mary Czysak-Lyne, Honors, and Nazan Gille, Zoology from the Climate Committee were visitors to discuss the report. MCL provided an overview. Because the climate committee and classified issues committee have common ground, the groups met for a retreat and developed a working group to create the report. It included three faculty, three academic staff, and three classified staff. The group held listening sessions, and the framework of the report is based on the issues that were most frequently brought up in sessions. NG noted the group also identified which issues could not easily be resolved at the L&S level (salary, for example). Two major recommendations are (1) L&S should define what a respectful, positive working space is in L&S, and (2) L&S should develop a transparent and consistent protocol that employees can follow if they encounter climate issues. Committee members commended the group on their work, and in supported the recommendations. In discussion, members were hesitant about requiring chairs/directors to submit a report. They may not be the best source of information, and could even be contributing to climate issues. Perhaps another individual could be identified in the department to do this. This work could be integrated with the campus group working on civility in the workplace; KS asked the campus group to invite the L&S Climate committee to discuss their work. Action on the report was tabled to the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 2:32.