LA Chairs Meeting Minutes

3 April 2018

Present: O. Armeanu, J. Beeby, K. Benedict, A. Buck, V. DeCoster, J. deJong, M. Dixon, J. Hardgrave, D. Hitchcock, A. McKibban, S. Rode, T. Schroer, M.L. Stoll for R. Gennaro, S. Vogl-Bauer, E. Wasserman

Guests: Sukanya Gupta, Sakina Hughes

Absent: J. Galbus, R. Gennaro, K. Oeth, R. Rowland

Meeting began at approximately 9:00 a.m.

I. Curriculum Petitions

- International Studies Program Modification (S. Gupta)
 - E. Wasserman moved to approve the modifications, V. DeCoster seconded, and all members voted in favor.

III. One College One Community Initiative (S. Hughes)

S. Hughes outlined her concept for the One College One Community initiative. She plans to first use a questionnaire to look at power relationships and diversity in the college amongst faculty, students, and staff, and then implement programming (symposia, workshops, etc.) based on participants' responses. J. Beeby noted that diversity is part of the college's signature initiative and asked faculty for feedback. A discussion ensued about the program's goals and consistency of the language used in defining "diversity." M. Dixon brought up a diversity survey last administered by the University around 2014, which could be used as a baseline for perceptions of diversity and assessing the efficacy of the initiative. S. Vogl-Bauer suggested that a memo about the initiative (from either the Dean's office or the Faculty Senate) precede the distribution of the survey and asked if the college had its own diversity committee. J. Beeby agreed and proposed the idea as a topic of discussion at the next meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes

27 February 2018

T. Schroer moved to approve the minutes, all members voted in favor.

IV. Assessment Day Discussion

J. Beeby asked chairs for feedback on last month's Assessment Day Retreat. V. DeCoster commented that the day feels too rushed to yield any meaningful discussion. S. Vogl-Bauer appreciated the experience as a newer faculty member but noted that reorganizing the timeline would make it more impactful. She found it confusing that presentations preceded reports and thought discussion would be more thoughtful if reports were due in May after the end of the semester. V. DeCoster and A. McKibban encouraged a more interactive format, perhaps with breakout groups for similar departments.

V. Honors Day Discussion

In anticipation of a University-wide Honors Day post-evaluation meeting on Thursday, J. Beeby solicited feedback on the college's convocation. J. deJong commented that the ceremony was hard to follow and that the names read aloud should follow the program. S. Vogl-Bauer suggested that the program include and overview page and list which department issues each award or scholarship. M. Dixon noted that there was a lot of repetition in the reading of names; in some cases, students were already standing when their names were announced. A. Armeanu commented on the low donor turnout. A. McKibban

liked the brevity of the ceremony but found it to be somewhat anticlimactic. She suggested that having the reception with food afterward might encourage greater mingling and conversation. J. deJong explained that a later start time (4:30 pm or later) would be better for both art faculty and students.

VI. Announcements

J. Beeby announced several upcoming dates and deadlines including the due dates of Chair FARS (20 April), assessment reports (17 April), and the last open house of the semester (7 April). On behalf of R. Rowland, he noted that priority registration is underway and commented that some departments have sent upperclassmen to the Advising Center to create four-year plans, rather than having these students meet with their academic advisors. M. Dixon attended a recent commencement meeting and shared the faculty are to gather in the fitness center (room 126) to put on regalia and then proceed outside and into the PAC.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.