UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

AAAC
Academic Affairs Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 27, 2016
1:00 p.m. – Grad Programs Conference Room

~ Minutes ~

Members Present: Ricardo Alfaro, Aviva Dorfman, Jan Furman, Dan Lair, Greg Laurence (Chair), Tamim Reza, and Jie Song

Absent: Douglas Knerr and Marilyn McFarland

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Greg Laurence.

Approval of Minutes – October 6, 2016 ► A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of October 6, 2016, as amended. Motion carried.

2018-19 Academic Calendar (Continued) ► Discussion continued regarding review of the proposed 2018-19 Academic Calendar, specifically in regard to Commencement dates and Spring and Summer terms. The following decisions were made:

Commencements ~

- Winter Commencement would remain the same as Ann Arbor’s – December 16, 2018.
- Spring Commencement would be scheduled on Sunday, April 28, 2019, so that it does not fall in between final exams.

Spring Term ~

- First Day of Class – Wednesday, May 1
- Last Day of Class – Tuesday, June 18
- Study Day – Wednesday, June 19
- Final Exams – Thursday and Friday, June 20 and 21
- Total Instructional Days = 34

Summer Term ~

- First Day of Class – Wednesday, June 26
- Last Day of Class – Tuesday, August 13
- Study Day – Wednesday, August 14
- Final Exams – Thursday and Friday, August 15 and 16
- Total Instructional Days = 34

A request was also made to HR to see if future Fall Semesters could begin prior to September 1, with the thought that no additional instructional days would be expected of lecturers. If two or three days were scheduled prior to September 1 then they would be eliminated at the end of the Fall Semester. A change to the beginning of the academic year would ensure that classes and final exams would not occur so close to Christmas and would help the Registrar’s Office in recording grades. Director Beth Manning indicated that she would discuss the possibility with General Counsel.
B.S. in Respiratory Therapy Program Proposal ► Much discussion took place regarding the proposed B.S. in Respiratory Therapy Program specifically regarding the budget and the curriculum. Several questions were generated from the discussion. A decision was made to send the questions to AAAC members for their review and/or addition of other ones and that Chair Laurence would contact SHPS on Monday, providing them with the questions and inviting a representative(s) to attend next week’s meeting to address them. The initial list of questions was as follows:

- Please clarify the list of General Education courses in the proposal if the proposed program is designed to only accept those students with Associate Degrees.
- By including the list of General Education courses in the proposal, is that the curriculum plan for new Freshmen to gain entrance into the program? And, since we do not award Associate Degrees, how can current students enter the program?
- We noted that prerequisites are not mentioned in the proposal; however, most of the Respiratory Courses are 300 level. Does that mean there are no prerequisites for those courses?
- From the budget in the proposal, it appears that the “break-even” year is Year 9; is that what you anticipate? This seems like a long period of time; is there any explanation?
- Again from the budget in the proposal, why is there a deficit in 2016-17 when the program is anticipated to begin in Fall 2017?

Faculty Council Report ► Jan Furman reported the following:

- Faculty Council received a request from the Flint AAUP Representatives seeking support by Faculty Council to hold a site visit of the University sometime in December by representatives from the National organization regarding faculty governance, with an expected report being available by March 2017. The support that they were requesting was in the way of promoting the site visit to governing faculty. The Flint AAUP Representatives indicated that the Provost was in agreement with the request and offered to provide logistical support for the committee.

- Jan indicated that Code changes would be proposed in the coming months for two purposes: to clarify and/or improve the verbiage of the Code; and to accommodate the addition of the School of Nursing. Decisions will have to be made in terms of whether to increase the number of representatives on each standing committee or to eliminate future positions of “members at large” so that the additional SON representative positions could be added.

- The relationship and authority of the standing committees in relation to AAAC was discussed. This was prompted by the recent moratorium of General Education courses and FTE’s that the General Education Curriculum Committee (GECC) tried to impose. Continued discussion will take place.

- Faculty Council Chair Chris Douglas, Ricardo Alfaro, and Suzanne Selig are planning to meet with the Chancellor as a preview to the Governing Faculty Meeting scheduled on November 11.

The remaining agenda items were tabled until the next meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

BACK ON OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE – NEXT MEETING

Thursday, November 3 – 1:00 p.m.
Graduate Programs Conference Room (215 Thompson)