~ Minutes ~

Members Present: Ricardo Alfaro, Darryl Baird (Chair), Connie Creech, Gerard Voland and Tom Wrobel

Absent: Aviva Dorfman, Chris Douglas, Nakshidil Sadien, and Diamond Wilder

Chair Baird called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Review of Proposed BBA in Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management ► Darryl explained that the proposal involves changing a minor to a major, but also keeping the minor. It was clarified that the proposal did not include new faculty and the compensation rate would remain at 60%.

Action: The consensus of the Committee was to approve the BBA in Entrepreneurship and Innovation Management.

Much discussion took place regarding the process of approving new undergraduate programs versus graduate programs. Thoughts that arose from the conversation included:

- The Committee discussed the individuals and groups that are involved in approving new programs.
- Noticeable lags in the approval times based on signatures.
- If AAAC denies a recommendation, can the Provost overturn their recommendation and sign the form. Gerard indicated that the Provost should respect the Committee’s recommendation.
- Would like to see the graduate programs template and process utilized for proposals of new undergraduate programs. Right now the New Program Request form is the process.
- Gerard provided an explanation of the process that Presidents Council goes through to review and/or act on program recommendations.
- New programs should align with unit and University missions.

Action: AAAC decided to invite Associate Provost Chris Waters to a meeting so that she can explain what the current program review process entails.
Discussion also took place regarding closing programs. There is no formal process in place on our campus for doing so and the times that we have ever closed a program were very rare. Gerard indicated that shutting down any program has to be a faculty responsibility.

**MA in Communication**  
Darryl reminded the Committee that after reviewing the MA in Communication at our last meeting, four questions emerged that were sent to Senior Vice Provost Lotfi for his response. Darryl reviewed each of the responses from Vahid; the Committee found three of them acceptable.

The one answer that was not acceptable involved the recommendation of offering scholarships to fund online fees for some of the students. Vahid indicated that that was a recruiting tool because there were limited resources for scholarships. Much discussion took place. Some members felt that it was not necessary and it would be offered at the expense of other students especially since there was no indication that the program would have difficulty growing.

**Action:** AAAC approved the MA in Communication only with the stipulation that the provision of offering scholarships to fund online fees for some students would be removed.

**Faculty Council Report**  
Darryl indicated that he, Lois Alexander (Chair of Faculty Council), and Adam Lutzker (Chair of CAC/BSP), met to discuss a coordinated approach to take regarding budget discussions.

Tom reported that Faculty Council had their regular meeting but also met with the Chancellor in a separate meeting. He noted the following:

- Chris Pearson reviewed the newly proposed MA in Communication with Faculty Council.
- The Chancellor has hosted informational lunches at the Ross House with Faculty Council members. Faculty Council can recommend topics at these meetings and discussion would remain confidential. The Chancellor indicated that from these meetings, she would craft informational emails to faculty. One of the items raised was a concern regarding deans serving as Chairs of the CAS and SHPS Dean Search Committees.
- Future Title IX Workshops are being scheduled as a take-off from the Title IX presentation at the most recent Governing Faculty Meeting.
- Faculty Council received a report from the Technology Committee that they supported/endorsed Curriculog. Lois received a notice from the Technology Fee Committee that they felt that they should be the ones approving/endorising any new software for the University.
- Faculty Council discussed the process that is currently used for recommending someone for an Honorary Degree on our campus which lacks a formal process. Dearborn has an Honorary Degree Committee. They did not feel that a committee was necessary but asked that AAAC be the appropriate group for reviewing such recommendations and providing a stamp of approval. Tom currently serves on the Ann Arbor Honorary Degree Committee and Faculty Council thought that having somewhat of a formal approval process would strengthen our recommendations to Ann Arbor regarding future nominations.
Action: AAAC agreed to review all future recommendations for Honorary Degrees on behalf of the Flint campus but they would like to receive a copy of the guidelines that Dearborn’s Honorary Committee uses.

Faculty Council discussed the MTA implementation process at their meeting.

There was much discussion regarding the Chancellor hosting special luncheon meetings for Faculty Council members and how those could be viewed.

Pertaining to the dean searches, Gerard announced that at their request, he met with CAS Executive Committee wherein they requested to add four more faculty names to the Search Committee roster. He reviewed the details of the members and said that adding four more would bring the total faculty representation to eight on the Committee.

Review of November 14 Minutes ► The AAAC Minutes of November 14 were approved as written.

Discussion ensued regarding the meeting scheduled for Winter. From the members present, the second and fourth Fridays are fine, but with holding the meetings at 10:00 a.m. rather than 11:00 a.m.

Action: Darryl will email the remainder of the Committee to make sure that the proposed meeting schedule for Winter would work for them.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.