

Faculty Senate Meeting 12/4/2008

Call to Order 3:40 PM

Approval of Minutes from 11/19

Motion to Approve, Seconded, Motion carries unanimously.

President's Report

NEASC is going forward, each of the self-study committee chairs have been asked to convene their committees. Dick Panofsky is organizing the study materials for the groups. This provides a good opportunity for a campus wide conversation.

The Inter Campus Faculty Council upcoming meeting. The Mass Transfer policy has now been reviewed by the campuses and many of the issues are similar to those raised by SFAAC. There is an effort to get the BOT Rep. Francesca Purcell to come and hear the concerns of the various campuses faculties. UMass Dartmouth might not be immediately impacted because of the low number of students with AA transferring to UMD but there maybe more long term consequences.

Provost Garro, will delay update on strategic plan until a later meeting. Plan for a campus wide update in February on implementation of the strategic plan.

The periodic review of centers process will be re-established and a new schedule for review of centers will be generated so the process could begin again.

Introduction of Doug Roscoe as Gen Ed Director. He will report to M. Carrera. The Director will provide comprehensive leadership on the general education program and work with the Gen Ed committee. Doug Roscoe will begin by implementing the assessment of Gen Ed as recommended by the TSLAGE group. Focusing on developing assessment measures and plans for the Gen Ed program.

BOT Committee Updates

Paige Gibbs will be attending the next BOT meeting on Dec 11. The various committees meet about two weeks prior to the BOT meeting. UMD was singled out to report to the Science and Technology committee because the growth in the level of funded research on campus has outpaced the growth of other campuses. We have created Centers of Excellence and done focused faculty hire.

Worcester has put up \$1M for a Life Sciences Moment fund. You must partner with a Worcester faculty member in order to apply. There will be at least 4 letters of intent that will be submitted from campus.

The Donahue institute conducted a Life Sciences study to identify the kinds of training available and how to assist the biotech community. One area is the development of masters certificate programs based around the industry needs, etc.

From the Life Sciences initiative Woods Hole Marine Biological Laboratories was granted \$10 Million and then leveraged into another \$15 Million from the Hughes foundation. Part of the state funding was that they were to work with UMD. A meeting was recently held between the director of Woods Hole and UMD faculty and administrators.

AQOD PMYR report was primarily an educational process for the Board. Show how AQOD has been used in strategic planning on the campuses. The Board has some issues understanding the PMYR process in understanding that this is not a punitive process.

### **General Education Committee Report – Patty White**

TGSLAGE review asked Gen Ed to examine some issues and that was their agenda for this year. Recertification of courses and a review of the catalog descriptions to fit with the certified area. Looking for support to update the website for Gen Ed, many of the items are out of date.

The Gen Ed committee has also examined the Mass Transfer agreement. The transferability of low grades is an issue since it conflicts with the existing policy that students can only transfer grades of C or better. The incentive of a 3.0 transfer get a tuition break is problematic since it is not available to “native” students. The distribution of required courses does not match the current UMD listing. The committee would like to have some feedback about how to proceed.

The transfer block would be allowed to transfer the courses as a block regardless of the grade in class as long as overall they have a 2.0 GPA. NEASC has a requirement of 40 credits Gen Ed and this block is 34 credits so there are 6 credits that can be added. The question is what is to be done with the 6 credits?

Doug Roscoe – Whether or not these courses match the goals from UMD Gen Ed equivalent course is a concern.

Jim Griffith – Concerned with statements made by politicians that maybe implied as a policy discussion. To what extent are we lying to the students in Community College since there is no direct correlation between two courses with the same titles. How do we get to the baseline policy discussion embedded in this discussion? The discussion about educating people in public higher education in the Commonwealth.

Gerard Koot – I try to get every Provost to take Gen Ed seriously since I don’t think the current system is worth much. I think we need to fundamentally revisit the program and ensure it has intellectual coherence. This program has some coherence and in ways is better than our existing program.

Patty White – There is an issue of fundamental fairness since the students who transfer these Gen Ed credits in will not have them count in their GPA. Our students must live with their grades from the first two years. The other issue is the price reduction that is provided to these students that is not available to our students.

### **Ethical Standards Committee Report – Patty White**

Patty White is still the University point person for questions related to the academic integrity policy.

The committee will be conducting a survey to better understand faculties knowledge about and use of the academic integrity policy. The web page is also in need of updating and we are seeking help with that.

We would like to meet with Chairs and ultimately with faculty about the student academic integrity policy.

Motion to accept the Ethical Standards committee report, moved, seconded, motion carries.

### **Admissions Committee – John Fobanjong**

Don Honeman came in as Enrollment Manager. Carnell Jones moved from Registrar's office to head Admissions. Steve Briggs left the Admissions office.

For the 2008/2009 admissions target 1500 students out of the 8000 students applied, 4500 admitted. A survey has been sent out to those admitted but not enrolled, the results will be reported when they come in.

2009/2010 the initial target of 1600 was revised down to 1510 and 490 transfers. Applications are up by at least 200 students.

Spring 09 semester applications are down by 30 but 18 freshman have been admitted.

Residency hall occupancy rate 98%

The university is hoping to double graduate population to 2000 students. Goal to enroll 250 doctoral students to allow for annual graduation rate of 20 – 25 students. New programs in Mechanical Engineering and Mathematics Education. There are approximately 20 PhD students in each of the two most popular PhD programs.

Three full time staff are devoted to graduate admissions. Two main areas of focus recruitment and retention. Also to improve the quality of campus life for grad students.

The Committee is concerned about the goal of growing graduate fees. The tuition and fee structure may put the university at a competitive disadvantage regarding recruitment and

admissions. Most other Universities waive both tuition and fees. We will have to revisit this to grow graduate admissions.

The committee also observes that the support for graduate admissions is not even across campus. The colleges may not have same standards for graduate admissions. There is no campus wide graduate student association.

Provost Garro – There is a substantial amount of academic fee waivers for grad students. It amounts to almost \$2.2 Million. These grants need to be written to include these fees so the University can afford fee waivers. The Assoc. Provost for Grad Programs will be asked to give a report on graduate fees to clarify confusion about fee structure.

Don Boereth - The graduate students are often offered the in-state fee structure.

### **Student-Athlete/Faculty Relations – Ian Day, Athletic Director**

Jim Griffith is the NCAA representative and reports on student athletes. Ian Day wants to dispel a couple of myths about student athletes. At UMD there are no benefits to being a student athlete. The other myth is that athletes are not very smart. Here at UMD their retention and graduation rates are higher than campus, currently graduation rates is at 80%. The coaches work hard to ensure that the students are recruited and matriculate. The goal is for the kids to succeed.

There are some courses that are only being offered once during the year and often during practice times which forces athletes out of programs. If there are any alternatives to these courses that will allow students to participate.

### **Academic Sanctions Summary – Don Honeman, Enrollment Manager**

Issues a proposal to streamline the policy for academic sanctions. The first element was to change the policy related to dismissal. The current policy is a rather complex policy and the new policy reduces the complexity to a three tier academic sanction policy.

Students will receive an academic warning at the end of any semester where they have achieved less than a 2.0 or 3 or more grades of I or W in a single semester. Tier 2: any student who has two consecutive semesters of less than a 2.0 or received an academic warning in 2 consecutive semesters will be put on probation. Tier 3: After two semesters after academic probation or the accumulation of 24 credits of W they will be dismissed from the University. The current policy allows students to linger on and are not dismissed.

The current language of this draft policy needs to be reworked to avoid inconsistent messages.

Is it possible for someone to be dismissed from a college but remained enrolled in the University? The answer is yes.

Academic Probation and Dismissal appear on transcripts.

Motion to direct Don Honeman to correct the language issues and report back. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.