

Minutes: A&S Council, April 22, 2009

In attendance: David Courard-Hauri, Leslie Marrs, Jeff Karnicky, Karen Leroux, Dina Smith, Tim Urness, Dan Alexander, Jim Romain, Nancy Reincke, Jennifer Harvey, Joanna Mosser, Renee Cramer, Chinh Dao, Dean Lenz

Courard-Hauri called the meeting to order.

Minutes from last meeting were approved (with caveat that a spell-check would be run for the final version).

Report from Dean Lenz:

- The strategic plan would be tabled in light of the summer Future's Conference and potential revisions in University strategic plan. The rationale being that it was undesirable to approve things that may need to be amended.
- Enrollment projections continue to be 'iffy,' and the picture changes day to day. There appears to be no discernable pattern relative to enrollment at the same time point last year;
- All searches have been completed for this academic year. There were hires in politics, religion, philosophy, Spanish, anthropology, computer science and others. All but three of these were tenure-track, the other three are visiting with possible conversion to tenure-track.
- There is a push to move away from paper and to electronic media. This can be encouraged through use of course packets, powerpoint presentations, E-reserves, and distribution of materials as much as possible through the web and Blackboard. The movement away from paper should extend to other practices in the college as well. There was a discussion about doing travel requests, PARs, and possibly other forms using online resources. Jennifer Harvey affirmed the movement towards a more environmentally friendly approach but also raised the possibilities that: 1) possibly some pedagogical approaches don't lend themselves very well to an all-electronic format, and 2) this approach may increase the information technology needs on campus. Dean Lenz commented that that he understand the desire for print and suggested that the campus do what they could where possible and use paper and print only as needed.
- Dean Lenz thanked council members for their service to The University and thanked David Courard-Hauri for his leadership.

Discussion concerning DULAP

- Changes were requested in the language acquisition program 098 course (LAP 098). The revision requested a change from 1 to 2 credit hours. The rationale behind the proposed change was that students entering the language acquisition program are

currently taking 2 courses that are each 1 credit hour classes. The proposed change would make LAP 098 a combination of the two. The course name Language Learning Strategies I would be changed to Language Learning Strategies. In this class, students would utilize web-based technologies as learning and language resources. Students would explore strategies for learning additional languages and examine cultures in context. Students would also develop a portfolio in this class and be asked to provide reflections on their learning within their portfolios. Assessment would be based on reflective writing (40%), quizzes (40%), and participation (20%).

- Moved by Dina Smith, seconded by Renee Cramer, motion carried unanimously.
- There was a proposal made by the DULAP program to offer a certificate of competence in language and culture. Council expressed a concern over the culture designation of the certification. Part of the concern was over whether the students would have mainly observational experiences or whether they would gain experience analyzing and comparing cultures.
- Dina Smith expressed concerns over how culture was defined by the program and the spectrum of its definition.
- Nancy Reincke expressed a concern over having one or a very limited number of faculty define culture or cultural competency. Does completing the requirements for the certificate rise to the level of possessing cultural competency?
- Jeff Karnicky commented that the culture aspect was the important and possibly contentious focus.
- David Courard-Hauri commented that the DULAP program felt that the culture designation was important and would set this program apart from language programs and certifications offered by other institutions. It would also highlight the cultural aspects of the program. Moreover, DULAP would like to make the certification available for the fall of 2009.
- Dina Smith asked if the certification could be changed to reflect only proficiency in language and avoid the term culture.
- Dan Alexander had questions about the study abroad experience and what that entailed.
- Dean Lenz and David Courard-Hauri contacted Marc Cadd and requested his presence at council. The issue was repositioned in the queue until Dr. Cadd arrived.

### Course Proposals

- Changes to Art 175 and Art 176 were proposed. Art 183 and Art 184 would be removed and the content and material from those courses would be rearranged and merged into Art 175 and Art 176. Moved by Nancy Reincke, seconded by Renee Cramer, and motion carried unanimously.
- A name change for POLS 186 was proposed. This course name would change from 'Politics and Society' to 'Law, Politics, and Society'. Moved by Dina Smith, seconded by Nancy Reincke, motion carried unanimously.

- A proposal for a new course, Math 127 'Game Theory', was considered. Council members showed much general interest in the new class. Moved by Dina Smith, seconded by Nancy Reincke, and motion carried unanimously.
- A proposal for a new course, Music 160 'Music of the Movies', was considered. Moved by Dan Alexander, seconded by Tim Urness, and motion carried unanimously.
- A proposal for a new course, POLS 136 'The Arab-Israeli Conflict', was considered. Moved by Dan Alexander, seconded by Tim Urness, and motion carried unanimously.
- A proposal for a new course, POLS 137 'Comparative Law and Politics', was considered. Moved by Renee Cramer, seconded by Karen Leroux, and motion carried unanimously.
- A proposal for a new course, ENG 199 'Internship in Writing', was considered. Moved by Dan Alexander, seconded by Renee Cramer, and motion carried unanimously.
- Revisions to the upper level studio art curriculum were considered. Art 125, Art 126, Art 163, Art 164, Art 139, Art 140, Art 179, Art 180, Art 165, Art 166, Art 177, Art 178, Art 147, Art 148, Art 149, Art 157, Art 158, Art 159, Art 160, Art 162 which all have 6 contact hours with students per week were currently worth 3 credit hours each. The proposal was to increase all to 4 credit hours. Moved by Dan Alexander, seconded by Renee Cramer, and motion carried unanimously.
- A proposal for a new course, ART 191 'Design Practicum', was considered. This class would help to prepare students as professional graphic designers. Project would require students to spend somewhere in the range of \$50 to \$500, and this sum of money would be dependent on the quality of products that students wanted to generate. Moved by Renee Cramer, seconded by Leslie Marrs, and motion carried unanimously.

### Neuroscience Program

- Cancellation of the major was withdrawn because significant support among students and faculty has been expressed for the program. It was decided that canceling the major would not be a good idea if at a later date the program would be restarted. The psychology department would like to put the neuroscience program on hold and make it unavailable to students until sufficient resources can be made available. Possible new faculty lines would help address the resource needs. This was dependent on future resources available at Drake.
- In a discussion Dean Lenz had with Provost Renner, it was decided that a better idea was to keep the program suspended instead of formally canceling it. The program could be revisited in two or three years at which point in time resources could be re-evaluated.
- David Courard-Hauri commented that the program was popular among students and required significant resources in terms of not only staffing the required courses but also advising for students within the major.
- Brian Sanders expressed a concern over understaffing of the program and a lack of resources, but also a possible interest in the return of the program if resources could be made available.
- Motion to suspend withdrawal of the neuroscience major moved by Chinh Dao, seconded by Dina Smith, and was carried unanimously.

### Selection of Council Chair

- Council chair would have the responsibility of serving on faculty senate. There was a discussion of not burdening new faculty with those responsibilities.
- Next year's faculty council would consist of: Karen Leroux, Dan Alexander, Melissa Klimaszewski, Brian Sanders, Darcy Vandegrift, Leslie Marrs, Chinh Dao, Joanna Mosser, Megan Brown, Michael Haedicke, Jeff Karnicky, Sarah Plum, William Klipec, and David Courard-Hauri.
- Dean Lenz and Dina Smith suggested that council nominate a tenured faculty member. Among the list of 2009-2010 council members, David, Dan, Darcy, Bill, and Brian are tenured faculty. The nominee could then be requested to serve in this capacity.
- Nancy Reincke nominated Darcy Vandegrift. Renee Cramer seconded the nomination.
- Dan Alexander nominated Brian Sanders. David Courard-Hauri would send email messages to the candidates to ask if they would be willing to serve in the capacity of council chair or serve in curriculum committee for the next academic year.

### Certification of Competence in Language and Culture

- Marc Cadd arrived to council meeting at 4:45 and the session is opened for general questions. Dr. Cadd very generously delivers thoughtful answers to faculty council questions about the DULAP program and the proposed certification.
- Renee Cramer asks questions about the study abroad experience and asks how the program addresses different cultural experiences given that a single language may be utilized in multiple countries and disparate geographical locations. Marc answers by saying that the instruction includes cultural experience that is not limited to where the instructor is from and students are exposed to multiple people from differing geographical locales.
- Dan Alexander expresses the concern that the proposal is written in broad terms and makes suggestions on how the language of the proposal could be improved. Specifically, Dan mentions item #3 on the proposal.
- Renee poses questions about the use of the term 'culture' in the certification.
- Marc explains that the program begins with a strategies course where a heavy component of that course is looking at cultures other than your own. Coursework emphasizes ideas in cultural relativism and builds an awareness that language helps determine the reality that is perceived. Each language course has a culture blog associated with it. Higher level thinking skills are targeted in the coursework. Program has sets of cultural goals and one of these is to help prepare students for a study abroad experience and culture shock that might be experienced. Students are asked to blog about their cultural experiences while in their country of choice. The program relies on the international office and they try to get students to go to affiliate or exchange universities. Intercultural communications is a required course in the program. It utilizes a standard intercultural communication textbook. Complex ideas such as values orientation, masculinity, power distance, proximities are discussed in the context of the study of language.

- Why not a certificate in language studies? Marc: This certification would distinguish this program from others. We want students to leave Drake showing what they can do in terms of the culture and language. We do not feel it is appropriate to separate language from culture and for a long time, these ideas have been kept separate. Keeping culture in the title will distinguish the certificate.
- Students will be taught about culture in English and not in the language. Does that suggest they do not have competence in the language? Marc: The emphasis is on critical thinking. Students have plenty of opportunities to write and demonstrate their language competency.
- Nancy asked how many credits will be required to attain the certificate Marc: It all depends on where they currently are in their program. Twenty-four hours for the true beginner, but 9 hours above the intermediate level.
- Dina commented that literature, film, history are all examples of important components in culture. How do students connect culture with French as it is used in Mali versus how it is used in Paris? Marc: Emphasis is more on an awareness that use of a language is based on culture. Emphasis is placed on process and thinking when approaching a language.
- Dan Alexander asked if the culture component could be strengthened if students take courses outside the DULAP program. Marc: Idea has been discussed and both he and Jan are open to and want to entertain these ideas. Marc expressed a desire to have the program in place for the fall semester. The certification provides recognition for students in their language studies. Certification is appropriate because the climate is not right for a major or minor. Students in their evaluations have expressed that they want recognition for their language studies.
- Dan Alexander remarked that he liked the idea but suggested that it wait until the fall for a vote. Students could still graduate with the certificate if the motion passed in the fall. It was requested that the proposal be more deliberate and specific. A list of classes was requested and it was asked that the study abroad experience be clarified.
- Marc commented that student admissions was promoting this.
- Dina commented that it was the culture component that was complicating the issue. Marc: We are looking at culture in a very different way. We are not looking at it devoid of language and this was a major shift in thinking.
- Dan Alexander moved to table the proposal until the fall, Nancy Reincke seconded, and the motion passed. Proposal was tabled.
- Dan: Study abroad program is being re-written. Wanted proposal in final form before it came up for a vote so that expectations were clear. Post-poning for the fall was not going to hurt the program. Idea is a great one, but needs work.
- Nancy asked how many students were involved in DULAP. Marc: 120 to 130 and it is at capacity. The expectation is that demand will increase several fold. Nancy Reincke also expressed a hesitancy to move ahead. Nancy questioned how 4 or 5 faculty are able to serve so many students.
- Dean Lenz acknowledged the importance of the work.

Dean Lenz and David Courard-Hauri closed the meeting by again thanking council members for their work this year.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Harvey and Chinh Dao