

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
University Committee on Undergraduate Education
DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, March 14, 2019

10:15 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.

Board Room, 4th Floor Administration Building

Attending: Rich Bellon (Lyman Briggs), Andrew Corner (Comm Arts), Jan Eberle (Music), Kathy Forrest (Nursing), Mark Largent (interim APUE), Gina Leininger (Natural Science), Helen Mayer (Vet Med), Norbert Mueller (Engineering), Steve Shablin (Registrar's Office), Emily Tabuteau (Social Science), Antoinette Tessmer (Business), Colleen Tremonte (James Madison), Elizabeth Webster (Library), Scot Yoder (RCAH), Matt Zierler (Honors College)

Absent: Stephanie Cohen (Human Medicine), Deb Dotterer, Katie Gray (ASMUS), China Gross (ASMSU), Sheng-Mei Ma (Arts & Letters), Salim Nuhu (COGS), Katie Ruger (Osteopath Medicine), Dan McCole (for Robert Richardson) (Ag and Natural Resources)

The agenda was approved.

The minutes were approved for February 21, 2019.

Comments from the Chairperson

Chairperson Bellon thanked Scot Yoder and Antoinette Tessmer for volunteering to be on the subcommittee with him that was created the search procedure document for the position of Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. UCUE members approved the document with 13 yes notes, 0 no votes, and 1 abstention. The final document was forwarded to Terry Curry, Associate Provost for Academic Human Resources.

A Steering Committee meeting was held on March 12 and the academic calendar was discussed. Chairperson Bellon reported on the contents of UCUE's discussion from the February 21 UCUE meeting regarding possible changes to the academic calendar that could include a Fall break, increasing Thanksgiving break, and the addition of a J-Term. He indicated other University committees had some of the same concerns as UCUE, with the J-Term generating the least amount of enthusiasm. Provost Youatt stated she would review the recommendations and report back to the University committees with how the academic calendar would be affected if any changes were implemented.

Comments from the Interim Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

Interim Associate Provost Largent stated that the University has chosen a SIS implementation partner. Although an official contract had not yet been signed, the announcement would be made to the campus community soon and implementation for the new SIS will move quickly.

Interim Associate Provost Largent stated that a significant number of policy items will be coming through UCUE during the next academic year. The new Drop/Add policy will come back to UCUE in the fall for formal approval.

Request to Require a Grade of 2.0 in the Experiential Learning Experience for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology

Walter Hawthorne, Associate Dean, College of Social Science (Action Item)

The committee granted voice to Associate Dean Hawthorne.

Associate Dean Hawthorne stated that in the Fall of 2017, the College of Social Science implemented a new curriculum with three specific requirements: 1) a requirement for experiential learning, 2) a requirement for STEM courses in the Arts & Humanities, and 3) a requirement for an interdisciplinary minor.

Associate Dean Hawthorne indicated that the three to four credit experiential learning requirement has been built into the curriculum and applies to all students. The College's Curriculum Committee has determined a series of courses that students must receive at least a 2.0 grade in order to fulfill the experiential learning requirement. A list of courses is shown on the program's website.

Voice was removed from Associate Dean Hawthorne.

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the Request to Require a Grade of 2.0 in the Experiential Learning Experience for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology.

Request to Change the Admission Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Hospitality Business (Action Item)

Kathy Petroni, Associate Dean, Eli Broad College of Business

The committee granted voice to Associate Dean Petroni.

Associate Dean Petroni stated the request is to change the requirement from CSE 101 (Computing Concepts and Competencies), which is no longer being offered, to CSE 102 (Algorithmic Thinking and Programming).

A brief discussion followed regarding equivalent courses and the usage of waivers for certain classes. It was indicated that CSE 101 was problematic for student success and had large opportunity gaps associated with it.

Voice was removed from Associate Dean Petroni.

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request to Change the Admission requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Hospitality Business.

Request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Premedical Program (Action Item)

Richard Schwartz, Associate Dean, College of Natural Science

The committee granted voice to Associate Dean Schwartz.

It was agreed that the next three requests from Natural Science will be discussed and voted on together.

Associate Dean Schwartz indicated the reason for these requests is because students do better and have higher completion rates when they are in an exploratory major opposed to a premajor such as premedical, pre dental, and pre optometry. Eliminating the premajors will help to avoid confusion for the students and help students become part of an academic community at an earlier stage. It was noted that the pre

professional majors were more frequently chosen by first generation and Pell eligible students due to the fact that they have more narrow conceptions about pathways to different careers.

Discussion centered on the fact that students in pre majors often put off deciding on a major to pursue and many, by default, end up choosing Human Biology without exploring other options. Students in exploratory majors have more contact with advisors therefore receiving more exposure to academic options. It was noted that the sooner students choose a major, the more contact they have from faculty and the better their opportunity to complete their degree.

It was noted that “exploratory” now replaces the term “no preference” when students have yet to choose a major.

Voice was removed from Associate Dean Schwartz.

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Premedical Program.

Request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Pre dental Program (Action Item)

Richard Schwartz, Associate Dean, College of Natural Science

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Pre dental Program.

Request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Preoptometry Program (Action Item)

Richard Schwartz, Associate Dean, College of Natural Science

The following motion passed unanimously.

The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Preoptometry Program.

Roundtable

Chairperson Bellon reported that during the last Steering Committee meeting, faculty indicated their frustrations with starting Fall semester on a Wednesday instead of a Monday. The reason for this was to avoid starting the after a weekend for the health and safety of MSU’s students. Past history showed that when the semester started on Monday, the previous weekend saw high incidents of risky behavior, especially involving alcohol. The weekend also attracted large numbers of non-MSU young adults to East Lansing for partying. The number of hospital admissions for alcohol-related emergencies have plummeted after the start of Fall semester was moved to Wednesday.

Respectfully submitted by Lynne Frechen.