School of Education & Professional Studies Council Meeting

April 23, 2008
113 Satterlee Hall
3-4:30 p.m.

Present: W. Amoriell, A. Betrus, P. Brouwer, S. Chadwick, L. Chambers, J. Holmes, M. McCarthy, A. Misra, E. Portugal, E. Raymond

I. 175 Years

Next year will mark 175 years of teacher education. Several ideas were discussed for celebrating and recognizing this milestone including a special letterhead, slogan and a guest speaker. The School of Education Alumni Board plans to be involved in some way.

II. Chair Course Release Formula

A draft worksheet for chair course releases is being developed by the dean. Currently, within the school, all chairs receive a two course release, one course per semester. No chair would receive less than a one course release per semester. With the new formula, some chairs would receive more. The School of Arts & Sciences uses a similar formula with some chairs having a 2 and 2 course release. Variables currently being considered for the draft formula are: number of tenured/untenured faculty, number of faculty, number of adjuncts, number of majors, number of minors, number of credit hours generated by department, and number of programs in department. Other possible variables were discussed including service courses and program coordinators. A service course is one offered solely for another department. Variables must be objective and quantifiable. It was agreed to deal with summer factors separately. A draft formula will be sent electronically in the near future.

III. Infrastructure Support

Problems and concerns of new department chairs were shared and discussed. Possible solutions would be assignment of a mentor and development of documentation/timeline for incoming chairs. Problems with lack of needed data were discussed. Degree Works is expected to help with this.

IV. Department Highlights to Share

Business Administration and Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Five Business Administration students competed against several teams and won first place in a competition at St. Mary’s College in Maryland.
ICT (graduate leadership program) and Business Administration (undergraduate) students attended a business competition at St. Michael’s College in Vermont. Both undergraduate and graduate teams won at the competition with the ICT graduate team winning a $1,000 prize. Approximately 21 students, most from the Chinese Initiative, attended a conference at Cornell University. Edd Schneider is bringing three students to a UN international leadership conference.

Community Health

The Masters in Public Health passed through Faculty Senate and will continue through the remainder of the process. A review of the Bachelor of Science is being done.

Curriculum & Instruction

Curriculum & Instruction will share a social studies line with secondary social studies; most searches have failed. This is the last year Wadhams Hall will be used for the part-time Canadian program. The department will have a new chair next year, most likely a full-time chair with no assistant to the chair.

Graduate Studies

Numbers are comparable to last year and applications are continuing to come in very well. The outlook for the Ottawa program is very good with 25 students accepted into the program.

ICT

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Secondary Education

Peter Brouwer will be on sabbatical next year; Bob Vadas will be chair. Lucille Waterson is retiring and Donna Kennedy is returning for another year. The Social Studies search has a strong applicant.

Special Education

The Special Education Department currently has a search going on. Several Special Education students attended a UDL conference at SUNY Plattsburgh and indicated they were further ahead in their program and already knew material presented at the
Several Special Education students are involved in the Very Special Arts Festival on April 25. John Marson is retiring at the end of the semester.

Teacher Education Undergraduate Advising

Lisa Stewart and Laura Chambers have developed an on-line tutorial for new students admitted to education programs. This will take the place of the Teacher Education meeting admissions meeting. Students must take the tutorial and pass an on-line quiz. Once passed, it takes them to the online declaration form. The on-line tutorial will be available May 1, 2008. Laura Chambers is retiring at the end of the semester.

Associate Dean

An email was received from the Vice-President of NCATE stating the unit has approved accreditation renewal. A formal letter will arrive in a few weeks and will include accreditation renewal as well as areas in need of improvement. Student transcripts now include NCATE certification and it is hoped to include program recognition as well.

Eileen has volunteered to be a program reviewer for CEC and encourages people to consider being a program reviewer. It is a very simple process and will help with the SPA process in five years.

Ideas for NCATE recognition were discussed such as door stickers, banners for tables and plaques for doors.

Meeting adjourned 4:20 p.m.