

Fairmont State University Faculty
Special Senate Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2021

Members in Attendance: Chuck Shields (President), Donna Long (Vice President, Humanities), Jason Noland (Secretary, Education), Tom Cuchta (Webmaster, Comp. Sci & Math), Todd Clark (Ex. Comm., Social Sciences), Paul Reneau (Ex. Comm., HHP), Jim Davis (Ex. Comm., Business), Janet Floyd (Business), Josh Smallridge (Soc. Scie), Molly Barra (Library), Musat Crihalmeanu (Engineering Tech.), Nathan Myers (Humanities), Nina Slota (Behavioral Sciences), Robert Niichel (Comp Sci. & Math), Steven Roof (Academic Affairs), Tabitha Lafferre (Engineering Tech), Troy Snyder (Performing Arts), Tim Oxley (Academic Affairs), Zachary Taylor (Student Government), Rachel Cook (Natural Sciences), Stephen Rice (Natural Sciences), Jennifer Satterfield (Nursing), Denice Kirchoff (Nursing), Gina Fantasia (BoG),

Guests: Janie Leary, Keisha Kibler, Sharon Smith, Amanda Metcalf, Rick Harvey, Laura Clayton,

Called to order at 3:01pm

I. Unfinished Business

Major Items

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-03 (second reading)

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-04 (second reading)

Motion to consider on second reading as a package. Niichel/Cuchta.

Q: will Core Curriculum be 3 hours or is it a 6 hour course?

R: it is a 3 hour course. With revision of Core Curriculum where taking two Literature classes was dropped. Most do not take 6 hours. So, this gives them an opportunity to have a broader understanding across genres.

Motion to approve 20-21-03 and 20-21-04 on second reading Reneau/Barra. Passed.

Comment: Concern about the polling. Senators should be on the record and be held accountable for votes.

The process for calling roll call votes was presented in chat.

II. New Business

Major Items

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-07 (first reading)

Motion to pass for first reading. Barra/Niichel. Passed (19yea/11 no answer)

Motion to waive the time period. Barra/Niichel. Passed. (18 yea/1nay/11 no answer)

Motion to approve on second reading with minor revisions. (17 yea/13 no answer)

Comment: Proposal number on page 2 should be 20-21-07 (typo).

Comment: Page 2: qualitative assessment was suggested to be edited during the last review.

Response: Shared screen is not the edited version. Latest update was sent to Dr. Ross.

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-08 (first reading)*

Motion to pass 20-21-08 for first reading. Long/Niichel. Passed. (18 yea)

Motion to waive the time period.

Question: Is there a reason?

Response: There is no revisions, and the proposal needs to be implemented by WVDE for fall.

Response: Susan sent an email that it does not need to go to WVDE.

Comment: Right now, we would like to move forward but does not need sent to WVDE yet. But, we would like the courses in place for scheduling.

Question: What is the intention of having two readings of these things?

Response: Assumption is that we don't receive these until the day before Senate, as often happens, I wouldn't expect Senators to read a 35 page proposal along with everything else. Second reading is often an opportunity for discussion and reading it more carefully since we don't get them far ahead of time.

Comment: I would have to speak against the motion, to allow people time to dwell on these things. I don't like doing things slowly, but the protocol should allow for more time for consideration.

Comment: This Curriculum proposal is coming out of a mandate from the state, so I don't know how much leeway we have, but, it does also impact pretty much every school, ultimately. This one is for elementary. I am with Bob, the expectation is a more careful consideration instead of a rubber stamp.

Comment: I have always been one to read it the first time It came out, and it came out on Friday. So, it would be nice if we had these discussions ahead of time. It doesn't impact anyone but us, Art and Music and those conversations have happened. It would have been nice for it to be stated ahead of time.

Question: What did you want to know ahead of time?

Response: If you are not going to waive the rights for all proposals, instead of just when this came up, because it has been waived from before.

Comment: Those were very short, and digestible. I don't think there is an issue of fairness here.

Comment: That is also the nature of deliberative bodies. We can't know ahead of time if

someone will object to it.

Comment: I just wanted to state my opinion on the matter. There also weren't strong objections on anything.

Motion to waive the time period. Passed 13 yea/3 nay

Motion to approve 20-21-08 for second reading. Barra/Reneau. Passed (19 yea)

Comment: Minor typo on page 15.

Comment: Page 29 The catalog description pronouns s/he is outdated. As an institution, we should have a policy on this sort of language. I would like to see the description updated to either avoid pronouns, or use inclusive pronouns.

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-09 (first reading)

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-10 (first reading)

Motion to consider 20-21-09 and 20-21-10 together for first reading. Niichel/Barra. Passed (18 yea)

Question: Why did we skip 08?

Response: They had an asterisk, and it seemed we might need to consider those together. They also seemed shorter.

Comment: This program is already understaffed, Janie is the only full time faculty, otherwise it relies on adjunct. That is problematic that we have problems that rely exclusively on adjunct faculty.

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-15 (first reading)*

Motion to approve 20-21-15 on first reading. Cuchta/Niichel. Passed (17 yea)

Comment: Error on page 14. Math 1350 should be 1550 under support courses. Other places it is correct.

Comment: My copy does not look like the one shared on the screen.

Comment: This one does need external approval.

Comment: How will the preparer know about our comments?

Response: Jennifer Satterfield will take it back.

Motion to waive the time period for 20-21-15 Long/Niichel. Passed (20 yea)

Motion to approve on second reading. Cuchta.Barra. Passed. (18 yea)

Comment: I spoke against the last one, in this case there is need to continue moving this on to the state. That is why I decided to second the motion.

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-16 (first reading)*

Motion to approve 20-21-16 for first reading. Niichel/Cuchta Passed (17 yea)

Motion to approve the time period. Reneau/Niichel. Passed (16 yea)

Motion to approve for secong reading. Cuchta/Niichel. Passed (18 yea)

Curriculum Proposal 20-21-19 (first reading)*

Motion to pass 20-21-19 for first reading Niichel/Cuchta.

Question: What was the outcome of discussion from Curriculum whether non-degree could earn certificates?

Comment: It is my understanding that non-degree students can receive a certificate. That is essentially what we do with them.

Question: Rick Harvey can you weigh in? It doesn't make sense to me. They aren't students but they are earning some sort of certification.

Comment: I would echo what Chuck said. That is the process, there is no other status. There aren't degree seeking, so they would be non0degree seeking. They proceed to earn enough hours for the certificate and earn the certificate. I'm failing to see what is bothering you.

Comment: Something seems odd about it, they aren't really Fairmont sate, but aren't Fairmont state.

Response: They are admitted to FSU, but their classification is non-degree seeking. They are a FSU student, just non degree seeking

Question: Can you speak to where they will be doing their 12 hour internship?

Response: The police academy. Physical location not specifically determined that I know of yet. There may be others that have more information. There has been discussion about Pence Hall, but is not an absolute.

Question: They would do their internship with our campus police?

Response: No, the internship credit would be the police academy. It would be whoever the instructors are of that academy. It could be some of our campus police, most likely Jack Clayton, maybe some of our Criminal Justice faculty. That is a different curriculum. Entrance into the academy is different from the FSU curriculum. The academy is based on man hours, as opposed to academic credit hours. The way we structured this is to give them the internship credit. They have to do everything in addition to what they do in the academy, they have to do the same thing any student would do for internship, a major paper and other criteria to successfully complete the

class. Regular contact with the faculty member running the internship, daily journal with their thoughts, reactions, etc.

Question: Thoughts and reactions to what?

Response: What they have done on a daily basis.

Comment: We are talking about 12 hours of internship, but we don't know what they will be doing.

Response: We do, they will be going to the police academy. There is a curriculum for the Police Academy.

Comment: That's what I am asking.

Response: I don't have that in front of me.

Question: Is the police academy a state defined thing, or something we are developing?

Response: It is a state defined thing, particular requirements for the police academy. FSU is the only institution that will be allowed to offer a police academy unless the legislature changes the law- as a result from the WV Supreme court. Originally the statute was written, was not interpreted by the law enforcement training committee to allow institutions of higher education to offer the training, it was interpreted that only the Charleston police institution could. We went through the process of applying to the committee, turned it down, circuit court in Marion county was appealed to and agreed with FSU, committee appealed to it to the WV Supreme court which agreed to let FSU offer the academy. There is state criteria for the academy.

Question: So, the 12 credits is specific things or courses? A fixed thing every student does?

Response: Yes, it's a specific course, Criminal Justice 4411. There is an academy curriculum. I don't have that curriculum in front of me.

Question: Is what they are doing at the Police Academy in those 12 credits, that itself, defined by the state?

Response: Yes.

Question: Those 12 credits means they are going through a bunch of hoops for the state?

Response: Yes, if I am understanding your question correctly. It is not something that FSU made up. That's how they get their certificate. Once they complete the academy, they will have all the criteria they need to receive their certification to be a police officer in WV. That is based on particular training that is required for every police officer in the state.

Question: Would you say it's sort of like army boot camp?

Response: That is a rough comparison, yes.

Todd: Chuck and I have a student going through state police academy, starting at an usual time. Where he is going through 18 weeks 7 days a week without a break. That's not indicative of the way it's normally run, but does show you the level of intensity. After the 18 weeks, that cadet trooper goes out to detachments around the state to see how each detachment does it's work, and returns to the academy for a week and have a graduation ceremony. It's intensive work. I got the impression from your note that HEPC moved the goal post a bit? Could you explain what that was? It seemed, to me, to be last minute to FSU.

Comment: My understanding is that HLC is now requiring that any concentration be reviewed by HLC, this particular proposal also requires WVDE approval as well.

Question: When were we informed of this?

Response: I knew about this last week, Susan knew about it about the same time she told me.

Question: My understanding is we narrowed down the whole concept of Police Academy many moons ago and submitted it, and were under the understanding that we were moving forward, as of Dec. 2020. And now this comes to light?

Comment: No, I don't think you're missing anything. It's not just for this proposal, its for any proposal that creates a new concentration, this proposal does that within the Criminal Justice program. It wasn't specific to this proposal or the Police Academy

Question: Can you explain the timeline going forward pending Senate approval as far as how the Academy is going to evolve? I don't want to short change other programs impacted by this as well. Police Academy is new and very special for FSU, we have special permission to do this, how critical is timing?

Response: Critical. The plan going forward is to begin the police academy in the fall. So, this needs to be passed by that, however there is some discussion depending on the situation and return to normalcy of actually starting in the summer of having a first class in the summer. So, that is why it's necessary for us to give this some serious consideration and move it forward because of the need for that. I think that the external approval will add weeks, if not months, to the process for approval. I just don't know how long it will take for HLC or BOE to review and approve.

Question: Outside police academy, how many other programs at FSU are impacted by this need to approve at the other levels?

Response: Don't have the answers, other than the ones with an asterisk on the agenda.

Comment: We talked about this in Curriculum today. Susan thinks if it's a concentration that doesn't require new courses or faculty that it will not be required to be approved by the state. We have a passel of concentrations coming out of Healthcare management, but they aren't new classes or faculty, just a reconfiguration of the program. As Susan understands, those wouldn't need the additional level so it's not as intrusive as it might sound.

Comment: Donna is basically correct, one other element is a 50% rule. If 50% or more of the certificate or concentration is new courses, then HLC has to look at it. If it's 50% or less then they will say they already approved it, just notify us that you have now shaped it into some type

of certificate or concentration.

Comment: That was not how it was initially relayed to me.

Comment: Right, when I received that communication I tried to correct it but never got a response from my correction.

Question: Curious why you chose to use the term Police Academy. To differentiate from other concentrations?

Response: Yea, I think that was the consensus. I'm not sure that I particularly like that, but it seemed to be a way to distinguish it from other concentrations we have.

Motion to pass on first reading. Passed (18 yea)

Motion to waive the time period. Niichel/Cuchta (18 yea)

Motion to pass on second reading. Niichel/Reneau (18 yea)

III. Open Forum

Motion to adjourn 4:48 Niichel.