

MINUTES

February 14, 2018 University of Nebraska – Lincoln Academic Planning Committee

Members Present: Bender, Bloom, Farrell, Franke-Schubert, Minter, Moberly, O'Connor, Purdum, Sollars, Trainin, Tschetter, Woodman, Zeleny

Members Absent: Aune, Boehm, Clarke, DaSilva, Goddard, Plowman

Others Attending: Associate VC Judy Walker, Associate Dean Christopher Marks, Director Megan Elliott, Johnny Carson Center for Emerging Media Arts, Assistant Dean Wendy Duerfeldt Schutte

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Academic Planning Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call

Bloom called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

2.0 Subcommittee Report on Proposal to Establish Bachelor of Fine Arts with a Major in Emerging Media Arts (Farrell and Franke-Schubert)

Farrell stated that he and Franke-Schubert reviewed the proposal and felt that it was well researched and an excellent proposal, but they did have some questions which were addressed by Elliott. Franke-Schubert questioned what the term Emerging Media Arts was supposed to mean and whether it was intentionally kept vague. Elliott reported that the idea was to keep the title of the program somewhat flexible because the technology that will be used is constantly changing. She noted that there was some question regarding vibrations occurring in the building and these will be minimized with the replacement of some of the glass in the building. She stated that the initial target of students will number 25, but the goal is to have 40 students enrolled in the program each semester thereafter and continuing enrollment is anticipated.

Elliott stated that what attracted her to the program was the commitment to make it interdisciplinary with students required to take a certain number of courses from other disciplines. She noted that students will be involved with storytelling, working with the internet, and with other sources. She stated that the hope is that students who graduate will be able to start their own company and be part of the innovation of Nebraska.

Elliott noted that the Johnny Carson Endowment will help to improve faculty salaries. Farrell asked why this was not included in the budget. Duerfeldt Schutte reported that only state funding needs to be reported and the salary improvements will come from the Carson Foundation. Farrell noted that some of the salary costs will be for visiting professors. Elliott stated that industry professionals will be used which is important because the digital arts are always changing and the program will need to keep apprised of these changes.

Bloom asked where the reallocation of the faculty positions are coming from. O'Connor noted that when the \$20 million funding was made by the Johnny Carson Foundation there was a commitment to match these funds. Zeleny pointed out that when the proposal was originally submitted there was a plan for this program to be a Program of Excellence, but that new POE funds are now no longer available.

Farrell noted that the questions raised about the proposal were to address some things that were implied, but not clearly defined. He stated that otherwise it is an excellent proposal, although he felt the program was more geared towards entertainment rather than storytelling. He stated that it is important to create fact-based emerging media stories which have a market here in the state. O'Connor pointed out that Emerging Media involves more than one college, and the hope is that through interdisciplinary courses the program will have a broader perspective.

Minter noted that, in regards to the narrative storytelling, it seems like there could be a risk of duplication with some programs in Arts & Sciences. She asked how other campus leaders will be incorporated into the program. Elliot reported that each of the specialization areas in the program will have an industry and academic steering committee that will involve other campus leaders. She pointed out that she does not want to bring an artist to campus that would not be available to everyone on campus. She noted that a goal is to raise the level of digital media in the state. She reported that she has been talking with the Philosophy and Creative Writing departments in an attempt to ensure that there are no duplication of courses.

Farrell moved that the proposal be accepted. Trainin seconded the motion. Motion was approved by the APC.

3.0 Subcommittee Report on Proposal for New Graduate Certificate in Rural Economic and Community Vitality (Moberly and Trainin)

Trainin noted that the subcommittee has some questions that have not been answered yet which requires that the agenda item be tabled.

4.0 Approval of January 31, 2018 Minutes

Farrell moves for approval of the minutes. Motion seconded by Trainin and approved by the APC.

5.0 Discussion on Appropriations Committee Hearing

The APC went into Executive Session to discuss the hearing of the University's budget at the Appropriations Committee.

6.0 Reports from the Executive Vice Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for IANR, Interim Vice Chancellor for Research & Economic Development

Walker reported that next week the Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor is conducting a workshop for department chairs and EVC Fellows on academic freedom and free speech, and hopefully the Associate Deans in the colleges will help deliver the information to the departments. She stated that if faculty members are interested in participating to please let her know.

Walker stated that she is working on developing a workshop on how to have safe and civil conversations in learning spaces, but this will probably not be available this semester. She reported that a one-page tips document is being developed which she hopes to get out in the very near future.

Bloom noted that Professor Hinchman will be the APC representative on the Textiles, Merchandising, and Fashion Design APR this fall rather than serving as the internal member of the review team. Walker stated that she would like to appoint Professor Jacobs, Director of Women's Studies, to serve as the internal member of the review team, but noted that the APR Guidelines stated that the internal members should have no administrative appointment. Sollars stated that as long as Jacobs does not have any reporting authority over anyone in the department being reviewed, there should not be a problem with Jacobs serving as the internal member. She pointed out that the role of the internal person should be more clearly defined in the Guidelines. She noted that the institutional knowledge the internal member has is what is most important. Farrell stated that the gist of the language in the Guidelines referring to internal members not having an administrative appointment was to ensure that feedback from the members of a department under review was not being squelched if the feedback was detrimental.

Bloom stated that he thinks some minor adjustments to the Guidelines might be needed, particularly in regards to the role of the internal member. Sollars pointed out that you do not want to restrict who can serve as an internal member too much because you could be limiting the amount of institutional knowledge that is needed by the external review team. Bloom, Sollars, and Walker agreed to work on making proposed revisions to the APR Guidelines.

7.0 Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Woodman moved for adjournment. Motion seconded by Minter and approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m. The next meeting of the APC will be on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 3:00 in the City Campus Union, Colonial Room B. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator.