

**UCC Council Meeting
November 15, 2013**

Present: Jonathan Bone, Mike Chao, Justina Ekeocha, Rebecca Fegeley-Baird, Carol Granoff, Peter Griswold, Kate Makarec, Kathy Malanga, Housen Maratouk, Brian Ó Broin, Lynne Orr, Karen Swanson, Nancy Weiner, David Weisberg, Maggie Williams and Melkamu Zeleke

Meeting called to order at 12:07pm.

1. Agenda adopted.
2. Minutes from October 18 were not available. Tabled for approval at next meeting.
3. **Chair's Report**
 - a. Malanga and Williams announced they would be meeting with the Senate Assessment Council next week to discuss UCC assessment issues and potential development of an assessment plan for the UCC. The assessment plan drafted in November 2011 will be shared with the Assessment Council.
 - b. Malanga congratulated Williams for being named as the UCC Director and she will assume the duties in January 2014. Senate Vice-Chair Susan Dinan will put out a call to fill Williams' seat on the council in the near future.
4. **Election of UCC Co-Chair to Replace Kathy Malanga**
 - a. Weiner nominated Lynne Orr to serve as co-chair; Weisburg seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. Orr accepted the nomination and was unanimously elected as co-chair. Congratulations to Orr.
 - b. It was noted that a co-chair will need to be elected in January to replace Williams. Council members were urged to consider taking on this role.
5. **Assessment**
 - a. Malanga noted that Murli Natrajan worked with Rich Varron in creating computer programs to gather data about UCC courses in relation to assessment. Due to Varron's untimely death earlier this year, reports have not been run but efforts are underway to retrieve the programs.
 - b. Council reviewed the draft (3/8/12) operational measures for the UCC which was used as a basis for discussion with Institutional Research & Assessment in terms of possible data collection. Discussion ensued and the following represent some of the notable comments pertaining to the proposed research questions:
 - c. **Question 1a/1b:** How are our students progressing through the UCC? To what extent are transfer students receiving the benefits of the UCC program?
 - Culture still needs to change since junior and seniors are often enrolled in area 1-2-3 UCC courses. What can be done? Structural/advising issue? Issues also remain with the taking an area 4 course prior to taking area 5 & 6 courses. The Registrar will be notified about this.
 - Transfer students have issues and need more choices. Transfer students are also placed in courses that may not work. Lack of communication between registrar and faculty. Suggested that representatives from the Office of Transfer Services be invited to a UCC Council meeting.

- Possibly submit a proposal to the Senate about having students take most UCC courses in their first two years.
 - The number of credits used be 13.5 per semester this is now up to 17.5.
- d. **Question 2:** The UCC proposed to provide student with more choices. To what extent is this true?
- More choices for students are still needed. More WI and TI courses needed as well.
- e. **Question 3:** The UCC is supposed to provide breadth. To what extent is this happening?
- The breadth may not be happening as anticipated and this needs to be reviewed.
- f. **Question 4:** To what extent do course syllabi for UCC designated courses reflect alignment with UCC Program and Area Outcomes?
- Suggest extending course alignment project to other colleges based on the pilot conducted by HSS.
- g. **Question 5:** How successful are students performing in the their UCC courses based on grade evidence? Are UCC courses rigorous?
- Grade distribution and academic rigor are important and there is concern that student perception is that the UCC courses are not that difficult.
 - Students also need to understand the importance of UCC courses especially since many students are not able to pass the Praxis exam.
 - There is also concern that we have a major matriculation problem with some of the students that are admitted.
- h. **Question 6:** To what extent has the UCC become integrated with the major?
- Suggestion to exam the number of double majors and minors.
 - Perhaps have students take a comprehensive exam upon completion of the UCC.
- i. **Assessment Plan:** Council briefly reviewed the November 2011 draft since much of the content was covered during the prior discussion. More to come on the topic after Malanga and Williams meet with the Assessment Council.

6. UCC Council Priorities

- a. Council briefly reviewed the draft of the UCC Implementation Plan, 2013-2015. Item 2 under Goal 2 was deleted.

7. UCC and Student Development

- a. Orr described the broad pilot initiative undertaken by Career Development and Advisement in regard to offering students the opportunity to earn Leaders in Service Badges and Professional Preparedness badges.
- b. Students will need to participate in activities and perform specific tasks in order to earn the badges. Orr also stated that this will help promote participation in activities, increase engagement and better prepare students for life after graduation. It is expected that the Leaders in Service program will connect to the community/civic engagement component of the UCC.
- c. Fegeley described another pilot program that will use engagement portfolios that will track the types and number of events that students were involved in during their studies.

This will be piloted with the College of Business in fall 2014 and Student Development expects to build relations with departments that will demonstrate how Student Development supports the UCC.

8. Course Approvals

- a. ARTS 4850 Web Design II – 18 in favor – add TI to course description.
- b. ENV Field Experience- 17 in favor-1 cause abstention – question as to why not all sections are designated Area 5.
- c. HISTA 2100 Labor History- 18 in favor.
- d. MUS 3680 Composition for Music- 16 in favor-1 cause abstention, 1 abstention.
- e. PSY 3450-Community Psychology-17 in favor with edits, 1 cause abstention.
- f. PSY 3830-Substance Abuse – 17 in favor, 1 cause abstention.
- g. RPS 3000-Global Perspectives in Sales-18 in favor.
- h. SOC 4850- Senior Seminar Sociology -18 in favor-add WI to course description.
- i. CCJ 4820-Senior Seminar in Crime & CJ-18 in favor-add WI to course description.
- j. ECON 3700-International Economics-18 in favor.
- k. KNES 3300-Kinesiology-18 in favor.

9. New Business

- a. The Council unanimously passed a Resolution thanking Kathy Malanga for her service on the council and for serving as Co-Chair for multiple terms.

10. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Nancy J. Weiner