

Advisors' Council
March 15, 2017
UC Signal Mountain Room

Members in Attendance: Sarah Alsobrooks, Debbie Bell, Vikki Bernotski, Bradley Bond, Nicole Brown, Sue Culpepper, Julie David, Rebecca Dragoo, Lindsey Felix, Yancy Freeman, Diana Fryar, Avalon Gourlay, Stacie Grisham, Squoia Holmes, Chris Horne, Elizabeth Johnson, Sherrell Jordan, Emily Martin, Kayla McAuliffe, Joseph McCauley, Gary McDonald, Deandra McGee, Amber Noblit, Jessica Pierce, Chasity Prince, Mary Beth Rayner, Daeja Robinson, Carrie Sherbesman, Samantha Skidmore, Lisa Tarr, Brian Tucker, Marjorie Whiteside, Cindy Williamson, Sarah Wright, Sandy Zitkus

Others in Attendance: Lane Wilkinson (Representative of General Education Steering Committee)

Call to Order: Elizabeth Johnson at 8:51 am

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by Vikki Bernotski; the motion was seconded by Avalon Gourlay.

Announcements

Elizabeth Johnson announced that the NACADA state drive-in will be held in Murfreesboro in May, and the cost is approximately \$40. Vikki followed-up stating that they are looking for presentation submissions, and the submissions are due the end of this week.

Elizabeth also reminded the council that the NACADA regional conference is held in Raleigh, NC from April 19th through April 21st; the early bird registration deadline is Friday, March 17th.

Discuss/Vote Bylaw Change Proposals

Elizabeth Johnson reviewed the proposed bylaw changes, and counted the vote after reviewing each proposal:

- 1st Bylaw Change Proposal - Update Membership of Organizations (Article III: Membership)
 - 29 – Yes Votes
 - 0 – No Votes
 - 4 – Abstained from Voting (Note: The number of votes for this bylaw change are one less than the other votes, because a member arrived late to the meeting.)
- 2nd Bylaw Change Proposal - Remove Transfer Advising Liaison from Leadership (Article V: Leadership Team)
 - 29 - Yes Votes
 - 0 – No Votes
 - 5 – Abstained from Voting
- 3rd Bylaw Change Proposal: Remove stipulation that one member of Leadership must be from the Center for Advisement (Article V: Leadership Team)
 - 30 - Yes Votes
 - 0 – No Votes
 - 4 – Abstained from Voting
- 4th & 5th Bylaw Change Proposals: Add Academic College Representation (refer to recommendations below); Add Faculty Recommendation

-Recommendation 1: Once the positions are filled, then add a representative from any college that does not have someone filling one of the elected or appointment position.

-Recommendation 2: Create a College Committee comprised of one professional advisor from each College and elect a Chair for the College Committee. Add the College Committee Chair as an elected representative for the Leadership Team.

-Recommendation 3: Create an ad hoc committee comprised of one professional advisor from each College, elect a Chair for the committee or have the Secretary oversee the committee. Would not amend the bylaws until role and duties of responsibility are determined.

-Recommendation 1 (for faculty representation): As an ad hoc committee – not yet to amend the bylaws until responsibilities are determined.

- Chris Horne asked what currently serves the function of academic college representation on Advisors' Council? Elizabeth Johnson responded that she thought the Advisors' Council served this function.
- Marjorie Whiteside elaborated on her interpretation of the reasoning for this bylaw proposal. She said that the academic representatives would serve as a liaison between their academic colleges and the leadership team; information could be shared more quickly between colleges from what is discussed in the leadership meetings.
 - Avalon asked if Yancy currently serves as the liaison between Advisors' Council and the Deans? Yancy responded that he is; he elaborated that he is not opposed to these bylaw revisions.
- Elizabeth Johnson reminded the council that there are only approximately 34 professional advisors, and over 300 faculty advisors.
- Marjorie Whiteside asked if we could combine the recommendation for the faculty representation with the academic representatives? Lindsey Felix responded that the council has tried getting faculty representation in the past.
 - Chris Horne commented, from the faculty advisor perspective, that it was never communicated to him why he was asked to serve on Advisors' Council. He suggested that maybe deans/department heads aren't communicating it well with faculty advisors.
- Yancy stated that having this committee might raise the profile of what we are asking the representatives to do based on this structure.
- Sue Culpepper stated that having the academic representatives is a great way to communicate because everyone advises differently, and we could share best practices.
- Marjorie Whiteside made a motion for Recommendation 3, and to make a revision that the academic representatives could be faculty or professional advisors from the appropriate colleges. Jessica Pierce seconded the motion.
 - 29 – Yes Votes
 - 0 – No Votes
 - 5 – Abstained from Voting

New Advisors' Council Member Introduction:

Julie David is the new Director of the Center for Student Success in the College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Nominations for New Leadership Positions:

- Chair
 - Marjorie Whiteside Nominated Mary Beth Rayner (accepted)
- Secretary
 - Elizabeth Johnson nominated Vikki Bernotski (accepted) and Sarah Alsobrooks (denied)
 - Mary Beth Rayner nominated Amber Noblit (denied) and Chasity Prince (denied)
- Assessment Committee Chair
 - Avalon Gourlay nominated Elizabeth Johnson (accepted)
- Training Committee Chair:
 - Lisa Tarr nominated Chasity Prince, but this nomination is invalid because Chasity has not served as a member of the training committee
 - Jessica Pierce nominated Lindsey Felix to continue as chair (declined)
 - Amber Noblit nominated Marjorie Whiteside (accepted)

General Education Discussion with General Education Steering Committee:

Sandy Zitkus and Lane Wilkinson were charged to head the General Education Steering Committee. As part of their responsibilities, they are meeting with people across the university to identify/discuss the positive and negative issues with the general education program; after having these meetings, the steering committee will develop recommendations for change (if needed).

- Proposed Question: What are the issues with the current general education requirements?
 - Jessica Pierce stated the issue she has in HHP is when students switch from Nursing to HHP, they have different science general education requirements.
 - Yancy Freeman asked if degree mapping would solve this issue?
 - Chris Horne stated that the requirements might be an external accreditation issue.
 - Vikki Bernotski stated that students are confused that courses are listed in multiple general education categories and are overwhelmed by the choices.
 - Lisa Tarr said that there is not a common syllabus for the same course, so there is no consistency from one instructor to another. Another issue she encounters is the timing of topics in lectures. For example, in Geology, there isn't a common timeline so this makes tutoring challenging in athletics.
 - Zane responded by explaining the process of the faculty senate general education committee.
- Proposed Question: Some general education courses require pre- or co-requisites or differently fees. Pre- or co-requisites can hinder timely advancement toward graduation.
 - Vikki Bernotski stated that math prerequisites can be an issue for students taking the science courses.
 - Joseph McCauley responded that he can override the prerequisite for Biology (and maybe Environmental Science) if the student has passed Step Ahead and is concurrently enrolled in MATH1130.
 - Mary Beth Rayner stated that she sees an issue with courses that have a corequisite with English. Students that need to drop English can't because they also have to drop the coreq course, which would put them below full-time status.
 - Stacie Grisham said that there is also an issue with the prereq/coreq of English for students that place out of English 1010 (the system is not recognizing the ACT score that places them into ENGL1020).
 - Lisa Tarr said that she sees a problem with the literature courses not have a prerequisite of English. She questioned if this was just a ClearPath issue.

- Avalon Gourlay asked if the steering committee is looking at the date of who is changing majors and when? Sandy responded stating that they are looking at data, and there isn't a specific major students are switching to/from.
- Lindsey Felix stated that there are too many attribute options in the course search. Sandy responded it's because of the numerous active general education curriculums.
- Lisa Tarr stated that another problem she sees is the time courses are offered. Sandy responded that this concern needs to be addressed by the departments, not the steering committee.
- Marjorie Whiteside said that she sees a problem with some AP/CLEP credit that doesn't satisfy a gen ed (ex. American Literature). Sandy responded that departments choose which courses are certified as general education courses.
- Gary McDonald stated that isn't fair that UTC students don't have the same options of general education courses that our transfer students have.
- Amber Noblit asked what will happen for departments that have specific gen ed requirements if we move towards a more standard gen ed curriculum? Sandy stated that we don't have these answers yet. Lane expanded on this by stating the committee is just trying to find out what the current issues are; the committee is having Town Hall meetings in April in which faculty and staff are invited to.

Advising Model Review Committee:

Yancy Freeman explained that he is looking for volunteers to serve on a committee that will look at themes from other universities in regards to their advising policies. Anyone that would like to volunteer should email him, and copy Elizabeth Johnson and Mary Beth Rayner. He hopes to have a volunteer from every college

Questions/Concerns/Updates:

Elizabeth Johnson reminded everyone that there will not be an Advisors' Council meeting in April due to Priority Registration and the NACADA regional conference; therefore, the next meeting will be in May.

Yancy Freeman shared that moving from Pins to Holds didn't happen this semester due to the fact that many advisors already started having their advising meetings, and it would have caused more work on advisors to have to go back and remove holds at this point. Therefore, it has been delayed to start at the start of a semester, rather in the middle of this semester.

Mary Beth Rayner asked when the MyMocsDegree Planner is supposed to go live. Sandy Zitkus explained that since it can only be used in Chrome, the IT department was working on making a "pop-up notification" that would alert users about the need to use Chrome. Yancy said that this has been completed, and they hope to have the Planner go live on Monday, March 20th. Sandy also explained that if advisors want specific templates we would need to contact Melanie. Marjorie Whiteside asked that if the planner is what is causing the "What-ifs" to be processed so slowly. Yancy said that we should email these issues directly to the Banner team because they might know we are experiencing such delays.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned by Elizabeth Johnson at 10:03am