



Educational Policies Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, 15 May 2017

Ex-Officio Members present (or represented): Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Todd A. Diacon; Faculty Senate Chair Deborah C. Smith; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno, James K. Bracken, Barbara A. Broome, John R. Crawford-Spinelli, Mark S. Mistur, Eboni J. Pringle, Melody J. Tankersley; Interim Deans Mark A. Kretovics, Nathan Ritchey, Robert G. Sines Jr.; Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington; Associate Deans Janis H. Crowther (representing Dean James L. Blank), Stephen A. Mitchell, I. Richmond Nettey, Cynthia Stillings, Wendy A. Umberger; Interim Associate Dean Danielle S. Coombs; Assistant Deans Matthew M. Rollyson (representing Dean Amy L. Reynolds), Elizabeth Sinclair-Colando (representing Dean Deborah F. Spake); Interim Director Jeffrey W. Fruit; Assistant Director Susan R. Peti

Ex-officio Members not present (or represented): Interim Dean Donald F. Palmer; Associate Deans Robert D. Hisrich, William T. Willoughby; Assistant Dean Kenneth J. Burhanna

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives present (or represented): Professor Donald L. White; Assistant Professor Terrence L. Uber

Faculty Senate-Appointed Representatives not present (or represented): Professors Jay M. Jahangiri, Susan J. Roxburgh, Robin R. Selinger; Associate Professors Soumitra Basu, Farid S. Fouad, Zhiqiang M. Wang; Assistant Professors Vinay K. Cheruvu, James E. Seelye

Council Representatives present (or represented): Associate Professors Richard L. Mangrum, Robert D. Sturr, Jonathan F. Swoboda; Assistant Professors Lindsay C. Baran, Insook Kim, Mary A. Mooney, Debra S. Shelestak, David B. (Blake) Stringer

Council Representatives not present (or represented): Professors Michael W. Chunn, Richard Meindle, Jonathan B. VanGeest; Associate Professors Pamela K. Evans, Catherine E. Goodall, Jan C. Leach, Jayaram (Jay) Muthuswamy, Stacy R. Rose, Melissa D. Zullo; Assistant Professors Jonathan P. Fleming, James D. (Derek) Kingsley, Yafen Wang

Observers present: Graduate Student Senate Advocacy Chair Kathryn A. Klonowski (representing Graduate Student Senate Finance Chair Suparna M. Navale)

Observers not present: Undergraduate Student Government Director of Academic Affairs Natalia Roman

Consultants and Guests present: Susan M. Augustine, Keiran J. Dunne, Larry G. Froehlich, Julie A. Gabella, Brian K. Harvey, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Susan R. Perry, Jennifer L. Rogers, Kathleen J. Spicer, Therese E. Tillett, Aimee VanDomelen, Catherine M. Zingrone

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Todd A. Diacon called the meeting to order at 3:20 p.m., on Monday, 15 May 2017, in the Governance Chambers of the Kent Student Center.

Joint EPC Action Item 1: Approval of 17 April 2017 meeting minutes.

Senior Associate Dean Vincent J. Hetherington moved for approval of the minutes, which was seconded by Interim Director Jeffrey W. Fruit. No changes, corrections or clarifications were requested, and the item passed unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 1: Establishment of a Musical Theatre [MUT] major within the Bachelor of Fine Arts [BFA] degree. The program currently exists as a concentration within the Theatre Studies major. With the major's establishment, the Theatre Studies major within this degree will be inactivated; however the Theatre Studies major within the Bachelor of Arts degree will continue to be offered. Effective Fall 2018 pending final approval.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 2: Establishment of a Theatre Design, Technology and Production [TDTP] major within the Bachelor of Fine Arts [BFA] degree. The program currently exists as the Design/Technology concentration within the Theatre Studies major. With the major's establishment, the Theatre Studies major within this degree will be inactivated; however, the Theatre Studies major within the Bachelor of Arts degree will continue to be offered. Effective Fall 2018 pending final approval.

Associate Professor Jonathan F. Swoboda moved for the combination and approval of items one and two, and the motion was seconded by Interim Dean Mark A. Kretovics.

Dean John R. Crawford-Spinelli explained that these programs have existed for many years as concentrations within the Theatre Studies major and, over the years, they have developed a lot, causing them to no longer be compliant with the Ohio Department of Higher Education's definition of a concentration. The establishment of separate degree programs will also assist perspective students who are looking for a degree in musical theatre or theatre designs they will not be under the umbrella of Theatre Studies.

Faculty Senate Chair Deborah C. Smith advised that these items will not be presented to the full Faculty Senate for approval until September, which will cause a delay in them going to the Board of Trustees until December. Associate Dean Cynthia R. Stillings wanted to confirm the timeline with Executive Director Therese Tillett, who confirmed that if Faculty Senate approves the items in September, they will go to the Board of Trustees for approval in December. After board approval, the items will be sent to the Ohio Department of Higher Education for approval; full approval should be received late spring 2018. Associate Dean Stillings stated that would be fine as long as the programs can appear in the University Catalog for fall 2018.

Members did not have any additional questions or discussion and passed the items unanimously.

Undergraduate EPC Action Item 2: Revision of name for the Photo Illustration [PHOI] major within the Bachelor of Fine Arts [BFA] degree. The name changes to Photography [PHOT]. Effective Fall 2018.

Dean Mark S. Mistur motion for approval of the item was seconded by Dean Crawford-Spinelli.

Academic Program Director Catherine M. Zingrone explained that the term "photo illustration" is an older term in the field and is now perceived as photo manipulation. The proposed name change to "photography" will be more current in the field and better reflect the program.

Executive Director Tillett mentioned that Faculty Senate approval on this item may be delayed until September as well. Faculty Senate Chair Smith responded that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will be meeting in July, and more than likely be able to approve this, as name changes typically do not need to go to the full senate. She will notify Executive Director Tillett if the item is approved in July or if it will be held until September.

Members passed the item unanimously with no further questions or discussion.

Other Discussion

An EPC member posed a question about the Undergraduate Information Item concerning the initial inquiry to establish an Information Technology major in Regional College. The member asked if it was possible to have all units with computer-related programs involved in discussions about this program since there are so many information-related majors already offered at Kent State. Provost Diacon referred to Executive Director Tillett on what the process would be at this stage since it is just an initial inquiry. She replied that it is requested that the unit proposing a new program should meet with each program area that might offer something similar and to obtain letters of support/endorsement from those areas.

Dean Melody J. Tankersley acknowledged the member's concern that there are a lot of computer-/information-/digital-/security-type words that are important to many disciplines. She emphasized that the focus should not be on the words, but on what is happening within the disciplines, as that is where the expertise lies and what the program is preparing students to do. She added that there is currently a group of people working together to ensure things are clear to the students, and to the community, on what people can expect to achieve from a degree, and that information is well communicated in an easy to find and access way.

With no requests for additional discussion, Provost Diacon adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer L. Rogers
Administrative Secretary, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost