



Meeting Minutes
Monday, 20 March 2023
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Leadership present: Chair Edward Dauterich; Secretaries Therese E. Tillett, Jennifer S. Kellogg, Kristi M. Kamis, Joanna Liedel, Ashley N. Maher, Christa N. Ord

Administrators present: Senior Associate Provost Manfred H. van Dulmen; Deans Sonia A. Alemagno, Versie Mallard-Johnson

Faculty present: Professors Karen Gracy, Helen Piontkivska, Tiffany Taylor; Associate Professors Brian R. Barber, Doug Ellison, Michael J. Ensley, Michael R. Fisch, Dandan Liu, Denise M. McEnroe-Petitte, Mitchell J. McKenney, Abe G. Osbourne, Jonathan F. Swoboda; Assistant Professors Bethany G. Lanese, Tina Patel; Senior Lecturers Tracy A. Laux, Jennifer R. Metheney; Lecturer Kristy Jacobson; Associate Lecturer Shelley K. Marshall

Faculty not present: Associate Professors Vanessa J. Earp, Geoffrey Steinberg, D. Blake Stringer, Brett D. Tippey; Assistant Professor Maggie Stedman-Smith

Guests: Donna Alexander, Susan Augustine, Chris Dorsten, Susan Emens, James Hannon, Lynette Johnson, Mykal Leslie, Sarah Malcolm, Julie Mazzei, Stephen Mitchell, Hassan Peyravi, David Putman, Hollie Simpson, Alison Smith, Kathleen Spicer, Darlene Unger, Deirdre Warren, Cathy Zingrone

Chair Dauterich called the meeting to order at 3:20p.m., on Monday, 20 March 2023, via Microsoft Teams.

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Meeting on 20 February 2023

Professor Piontkivska made a motion to approve, and Associate Professor Barber seconded the motion.

With no questions, comments or corrections, the item was passed unanimously.

II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Graduate Policies Committee

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Associate Professor Barber stated that the subcommittee focused on two policy revisions. The first one is academic forgiveness. The committee has discussed course repeat included within the policy. The committee will be sending out a request for feedback on recommendations from

GDAC and chairs and directors. The focus is to make the course repeat section of the policy fairer and clearer for graduate students. Recommendations are to allow graduate students to repeat up to two courses with a C- or below between 50000/80000 level. There are no more than two repeat attempts allowed. The university will recalculate the student's GPA with the highest-grade attempt and credit hours associated with the grade. This would only affect the student's overall GPA at this time. The committee will be working on defining program GPA. Courses designated as repeatable for credit are exempt from the two-attempt limit. The recommendations have not been distributed, but will be within the next week for feedback. The second policy being worked on is academic standing and dismissal. This will be going to GDAC and chairs and directors for feedback. The recommended changes are removing the word "systemic," clarifying academic standards may go above the university requirement, replacing "must" with "should," replacing "below C" to "below C-" to align policies, removing dean's list and good standing from academic review since they were specific to podiatric medicine and changing probation requirements to extend 3.0 GPA requirement to the following semester to allow more time to improve. Students who are on an official leave of absence cannot be issued probation. If the student on probation does not take any graded coursework that semester will not count as their probation.

Associate Dean Mitchell, member of the Graduate Policies Council, added that there is no reference to grades in the probation section. Previously, there was reference to eight hours of B- or lower and four hours of C- or lower. This was removed due to the difference in credit hours among programs. Some programs are 60 hours, 45 hours and some are 30 hours. It was not fair to have the same expectations for all. Additionally, students who have a GPA above 3.0 within three or four courses have gotten grades of B- and are eligible for dismissal. This did not make sense, because students can graduate with a 3.0 or higher. The committee also did not want to remove a student from a GA position midway through the year when they have the opportunity to improve their GPA. The dismissal is now based on whether a student can get themselves off probation. Once the student is on probation, they have one semester during which they have to get a GPA above 3.0. If they do that, but they are still ineligible to be off probation, then they receive another semester to raise their GPA above 3.0. If the student still remains on probation, they will be dismissed. Further semesters to alleviate probation are at the discretion of the academic unit.

Senior Associate Provost van Dulmen asked if this would come to EPC again.

Associate Professor Barber said, yes, it will come for a vote in the near future.

B. International Advisory Committee

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OGE Executive Director Sarah Malcolm stated that the committee is working on identifying four awards that will be centered around internationalization. This is in response to Kent State being recognized in the 2022 Simon Award for Comprehensive Internationalization. The committee felt the next step was finding a way to recognize faculty and staff. Three of them will be faculty awards and one will be for staff. The committee is hoping to have a monetary award attached to that. The plan is during International Education Week in November, they will be awarded.

III. Structure Proposals Review

A. Action Items

College of Aeronautics and Engineering

1. Center for Advanced Air Mobility—Establish center (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Associate Professor Stringer said that the center will be a multidisciplinary community of researchers and practitioners addressing one of the most emergent and disrupted technologies in both aeronautics and engineering. The incorporation of small, autonomous aircraft into the national airspace and the global economy, with a particular emphasis on sustainability and clean energy. Advanced air mobility (AAM) refers to the integration of autonomous aircraft technology and low-level air transportation with the aim of providing safe, efficient and sustainable air transportation solutions for passengers and cargo. It comprises an ecosystem of new aircraft designs, air traffic management systems and infrastructure regulatory frameworks to enable the widespread use of passenger air vehicles. The goal of AAM is to provide faster, more convenient and cost-effective access to cities as well as remote and underserved areas, while reducing traffic congestion, emissions and the carbon footprint of urban and aviation transportation. This ecosystem is mainly being brought about by the Air Force and NASA with the FAA. Not only are there different types of aircraft and they all function from electric propulsion or some kind of hybrid, but also have to deal with the airspace that can get these into and out of the air safely without affecting what we think of as traditional. There are a unique blend of researchers and practitioners in the area. They have had significant student population growth of 30% in the last five years. The underrepresented student growth percentage has doubled in the last five years. Students are placing well in national competitions in both aeronautics and engineering. The college wants to conduct research and develop technologies for this emerging area, train a workforce that can function in this new area and engage several partners whether those partners be other universities, state officials and the population that needs to understand the benefits of this technology. Current advanced air mobility activities include programs and workforce development, facilities and labs, operations, systems and security, policies, propulsion and power, government and professional service and robotics, autonomy and human factor apps. The state of Ohio is making significant strides and significant investment. They have identified areas, manufacturers, airports and academic institutions and the ecosystem capabilities many of which are already in place in the college. In their strategic planning, the ecosystem capabilities the college is seeking to build and identify how the units within the university can fit in and partner on multidisciplinary projects, especially being an R1 institution and continuing to further this in terms of demand. The United States is behind in this technology compared to Europe and other countries such as Malaysia. The state of Ohio commissioned a report through the Ohio Department of Transportation Commission and found AAM has about a \$13 billion economic impact in the upcoming years, with an estimated 15,000 jobs. It parallels Ohio's other big high-tech pushes, the Intel plant that's coming to the Columbus area, and the transformation of the Lordstown plant into a plant building electric trucks. In terms of uniqueness and how Kent State complements what is happening in southwest Ohio. The college will also bring in partners, such as Case Western, Cleveland State, Youngstown State, Baldwin Wallace and others. The five-year plan includes year one to establish identifying an advisory board, identify a director, set up an inaugural symposium and begin to setup those processes, year two will be to implement, year three is to assess and readjust as necessary and then years four and five will be to further develop proposals, research and pursue launching an institute.

Associate Professor Stringer made a motion to approve, and Senior Lecturer Laux seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

College of Education, Health and Human Services

2. Center for Disability Inclusion—Merge the Center for Disability Studies and the Center for Innovation in Transition and Employment to form the new center (*fall 2023*)

[VIEW THE DISCUSSION](#)

Professor Unger stated that the reason for the merger is that the two former directors of each of the centers have retired and left the university. Both of the centers have very common interests and have collaborated on proposals for external funding and worked on student initiatives. The college would like to pull the resources across the two centers to provide greater resources, strength and ability to secure external funds. The mission of the center is to advance the inclusion of individuals with disabilities across all aspects of society. The work across the two centers has focused on youth and young adults with disabilities across the spectrum of physical and cognitive disabilities. The mission would be interdisciplinary research to primarily secure external funding to support research endeavors. Additionally, the mission would be to provide training and technical assistance to community providers, state agencies, families of individuals with disabilities and individuals with disabilities. The proposal offers to operate pre employment transition service program, which is a federally recognized program through the Workforce Opportunities and Innovation Act. The program is essentially a fee for service program. Kent State would be reimbursed for those services from the state agency (Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities). Another task of the center will be to initially operate a telehealth or tele support line for individuals with disabilities, families and caregivers. Often times, through experience and research findings have indicated that disability services can be complex systems for families to navigate. The center has an external advisory board, and the goal is to merge operations.

Associate Lecturer Marshall motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Fisch seconded the motion.

With no questions or comments, the item passed unanimously.

V. Program Proposals Review

A. Action Items

College of Arts and Sciences

School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities

1. Gender and Sexuality Studies – Establish program to be offered in person at the Kent Campus (*fall 2023 pending final approvals*)

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Associate Professor Mazzei said that what makes this program strong relative to other programs is having experts across the university who are either related to or tangentially related to gender and sexuality studies, which gives the program the ability to offer dimensionality and nuance and intersectionality that other programs in gender and sexuality studies cannot offer. The major is 30 hours. It involves the creation of four new courses and electives.

Professor Taylor motioned to approve, and Associate Professor Fisch seconded.

With no questions or comments, the item passed.

B. Discussion Items

College of Arts and Sciences

Department of Computer Science

1. Computer Sciences – M.C.S.—Program development plan to establish a Master of Computer Science degree (with concentrations in Cybersecurity and Data Science), to be offered online only

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Professor Peyravi stated that this program mimics the existing programs except this is a professional degree. The courses are geared towards professional experience rather than research. Students will discuss technologies used for cybersecurity.

Secretary Tillett asked how the department would restrict course registration from other programs since the new courses overlap with current courses.

Professor Peyravi explained that the department will tell the Ph.D. students that the course would not count. This will be done with advising. The department does not know whether it can be done electronically (registration restriction).

Secretary Tillett asked if a student in another program took one of the new courses, it would not be counted toward their degree.

Professor Peyravi said that is correct. Course registration will be given by permission.

An EPC member asked how this program compares to Aeronautics cybersecurity degree.

Professor Peyravi explained that they have a committee that reviews cybersecurity across campus as well as data science. Differences are discussed and distinguished.

Associate Dean Warren added that the courses are aimed at this specific population of students that are in the workforce and want to get a master's degree. The courses could be restricted in banner to students within the degree.

An EPC member asked if more faculty was going to be needed to cover the new courses.

Professor Peyravi explained that there is a plan. The department is currently hiring one full time TT faculty member and two new NTT's.

An EPC member asked what other units have been consulted and if there are letters of support attached.

Professor Peyravi said that the information was informally discussed, but the curriculum coordinator typically takes care of the letters of support. They should be attached to the proposal.

Chair Dauterich added the final proposal should include a letter or e-mail of support.

Associate Dean Warren clarified that this is the initial PDP, and more will be included in the full proposal.

With no further questions, comments or concerns on the agenda, Chair Dauterich concluded the meeting at 4:30p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christa N. Ord

Christa N. Ord
Operations and Special Projects Coordinator, Curriculum Services
Office of the Provost