

UNIVERSITY FORUM

Tuesday, April 24, 2024

3:30 p.m. in LL 205

Cella called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

The following Forum members were present: Victor Acheson Jr., Joseph Beck, Niel Brasher, Turi Braun, Matthew Cella, Lorie Davis Sheetz, Aaron Dobbs, Trever Famulare (for Robin McCann), Matthew Fetzer (for Dara Bourassa), Nicole Hill, Shari Horner, Grant Innerst, Megan Luft, Kate McGivney, Carlos Rojas, Manny Ruiz, Ali Sina Sharifi, Jolinda Wilson

Not Present: Harun Pacavar

Guests: Allison Carey, Thomas Feeney, Robert Neidigh

Approval of the Past Minutes

On a Dobbs/Sharifi motion, the minutes of the March 26, 2024, meeting were approved.

Review of Chairperson's Correspondence with the President of the University

The February and March correspondence memos are still awaiting President Patterson's review and signature.

Review of President's Cabinet Minutes

Cella stated that there were no notes available yet from the last President's Cabinet meeting. There will be one additional meeting this academic year to be held on Monday, April 29, 2024, at 9:30am, in the CUB MPR. Meeting notes from President's Cabinet are available at <https://www.ship.edu/about/leadership/president/cabinet/>

University Curriculum Committee Report

Innerst brought the following to Forum for review and approval or as information items.

- The following UCC items were presented as information items.
 - 23-1158 ENGR - 110 - Modeling and Simulation
 - 23-1014 EDU - 434 - Teaching of Mathematics in the Secondary Schools I
 - 23-1103 BIO - 475 - Natural History of Costa Rica
 - 23-1156 ESC - 495 – Internship
 - 23-1157 ESC - 453 - Research Design and Statistics
 - 23-1155 ESC - 395 – Internship
 - 23-1154 RDG - 527 - Inquiry Approaches to Literacy
 - 23-1153 RDG - 520 - Literacy and the Secondary Student
 - 23-1148 SOC - 3xx - Globalization and Health
 - 23-1144 TBD* - 100 - Introduction to Public Health
 - 23-1150 TBD* - 400 - Internship in Public Health
 - 23-1143 TBD* - 301 - Fundamentals of Epidemiology

- 23-1149 SOC - 440 - Global Leadership for Global Society
 - 23-1133 PSY - 105 - Research Design and Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences I
 - 23-1134 PSY - 205 - Research Design and Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences II
- The following proposals were passed by UCC and were presented to Forum for approval. Innerst motioned to approve UCC proposal(s):
 - 23-1163 Mathematics Pedagogy Certificate – Innerst stated that this certificate was brought forward just last spring because there was specific interest from one school district in getting a group of teachers this certification, but once it was approved, that interest fizzled out. The department looked to find teachers from other districts for the program but couldn't, so it decided it would be better to place it into moratorium. Proposal 23-1163 was approved.
 - 23-1082 Supply Chain Analytics, M.S. – Neidigh stated that in this the second year of the program, the students took an assessment of the program, and one of the major findings to come out of it was that the students requested more flexibility with the courses. Initially the program had eight required courses and two electives; this would change it to six required and four electives. Proposal 23-1082 was approved.
 - 23-1139 Geoenvironmental Science & Sustainability, M.S. – Feeney said there are currently about 25 people in the program, the admission numbers are dropping, and the number of faculty in the department with the expertise to teach in the program is also diminishing. The department has asked to put this into moratorium with the goal of retooling it and resurrecting this in a couple of years. Proposal 23-1139 was approved.
 - 23-1136 Public Health, BA – Carey spoke to this. This would be an interdisciplinary major housed in the Sociology department with a liberal arts focus similar to what the University of Pennsylvania has. It would also be different than what is currently available in PASSHE where the public health degrees have a science focus. As the core is rooted in sociology, the department's faculty already have much of knowledge necessary to successfully offer the degree. Hill asked about opportunities for program sharing at other PASSHE institutions. Carey said there would be plenty of opportunities for this and reminded the Forum that this would be a BA and the other public health programs in PASSHE are all BS degrees. Proposal 23-1136 was approved.
 - 23-1145 Public Health, Undergraduate Minor – Carey stated that the minor would pair nicely with many of the science majors as well as some in the social sciences. Hill asked if it would work the other way around, if we were to get the minor approved and built first and then the major, what would happen. Carey wondered how we would be able to fill the classes with just a minor. Hill said the processes with the OOC are different for minors versus majors, and it would be much easier

for the university to get the minor through right now. Hill asked whether some of the new courses could be cross-listed or if there could be some other efficiencies found, given our current budgetary environment. Carey said there might be pockets where it could happen. Proposal 23-1145 was approved.

- Innerst also reported that the UCC has completed its work on the initial iteration of class size recommendation process outlined in UCC proposal 19-188, and he noted that this is intended to be the start of the conversation between faculty and management on class size. Hill reiterated that class sizes are determined by management. Hill asked how was the formula determined? Innerst said the data came from 2016-2020, when Drs. Adam Powell and Sean Cornell were officers in UCC. Hill asked how revisions would be made to the document. Innerst answered that whenever a department makes a course revision, they can make a revision to class size. Dobbs said in the first 200 lines, there were only 5 courses where the formula was above the recommendation. Innerst reiterated that this chart was just actualizing what Policy 19-188 required, and that there was no need for a motion.

Planning and Budget Council

Hill reported that the Planning and Budget Council met on April 3, 2024, and at the meeting, the new CPP process was disseminated. For 2024-2025, the university needs to be making progress toward a 19:1 student to faculty ratio, a 40% reserve ratio, and have a balanced budget. The council also discussed the impact of the contract settlements and a possible management salary increase on this year's budget, and how the university needs to attempt to limit end-of-year purchasing. They also reviewed a draft of the Program Planning and Budget Guidelines. The PBC's next meeting is April 30. Another Presidents Cabinet meeting has been scheduled for next week where the budget will be discussed, and all members of the University Forum who are not also on Cabinet are encouraged to attend.

Student Affairs Committee

Please see the attached Student Affairs Report to Forum, provided to Forum in advance of the meeting. Sheetz reported that at the beginning of the academic year, she asked the fraternities and sororities to do better, and many of them have, which is reflected in the report. SGA voted to increase the Student Activities Fee by \$1 and there will no longer be a cap on credit hours, which will amount to an additional \$200,000 for student groups next year. The Student Life Awards were held last week and were well-received.

Report from Student Association

Ali Sina Sharifi Sina reported that the pedestrian speed bump initiative has been moving forward and there have been a number of meetings on the issue. Before the end of the semester, there will be one more meeting for a transition ceremony, new officers, and awards for service.

Report from Graduate Student Association – Acheson stated there would be one last event for all graduating graduate students prior to Commencement. The GSA will be hosting events over

the summer and there was a meeting tonight to begin fall planning.

New Business

Cella reminded members of the last meeting on May 7, 2024, when the University Forum will be voting on the last of the UCC proposals for the year, welcoming next year's members to Forum, and electing new officers.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 PM

Minutes prepared by Brian Johnson, recording secretary, 4/24/2024.