MSU
Academic Affairs Council
March 10, 2010
Report

Members: Brent Askvig, Libby Claerbout, Linda Cresap, Conrad Davidson, Dale Gehring, Rod Hair, Kevin Harmon, Sarah Henderson, JoAnn Linrud, Teresa Loftesness, Neil Nordquist, Beth Odahlen, Cari Olson, Gary Rabe, Lynne Rumney, Jennifer Sick, Kris Warmoth.

Old Business

Approval of February Report as written

New Program Announcements: No new request submitted.

Approvals:

Stage 1: NDUS AAC on 2/2/10 approved the Graduate Certificates for DHH, SPED, Specific Learning and Early Childhood

Stage 2: NDUS AAC on 3/2/10 approved Bioinformatics and Deaf and Hard of Hearing requests

New Business

Welcome to Lynne Rumney, Honors Program Director, who now reports to the VPAA.

2011 Peru Study Tour proposal (attachment)-Libby

The proposal was briefly discussed at the last meeting and the materials were emailed for further review and discussion at this meeting. Linda reminded the group that graduate credit is not acceptable, but graduate students can be on the tour. Motion to approve- Conrad; Neil seconded. All approved. Motion carried.

AustraLearn Affiliate Agreement :

Affiliate programs are pre-approved third-party providers that MSU identifies as meeting academic relevance and student requests, and that maintain a high level of educational credibility and commitment to quality. Through affiliate agreements, MSU is able to expand study abroad options, while benefiting from existing expertise in the field. Additional advantages of becoming an affiliate university include:

a. Allows for more effective oversight of the programs students choose

b. Assists education abroad advisors-- streamlines program selection

c. Creates basis for closer collaboration and relationship building

d. Provides basis for negotiation and quality control

There is strong support from the advisory committee for this affiliation. Our obligation will be to advise students to participate in the program. Students can participate if MSU is affiliated for not. But, if we are on the approved list, financial aid can be available. However, these courses would not be counted as in residence and should be made clear to the students. Students would be registered through our "place holder"

The agreement will be reviewed by legal counsel, which is now required for all MSU MOU's, contracts/agreements.

Commencement

This year's theme is Diversity. Two full student speaker nominations (Summa Cum Laude) have been received; one pending. Banner carriers have not yet been selected. There has been a recommendation to have a faculty reader from each college who is capable of speaking clearly and properly articulate the diverse pronunciation of names. CEHS and COB have already provided recommendations.

Graduation applications: Please remind students of the deadlines. Faculty who have not followed through with these will be receiving a memo about the oversight. Dr. Rabe would like this oversight noted in their evaluations.

Admissions Criteria

A recommendation has been received from the committee. This is will presented to Faculty Senate on March 4th and then discussion and voting on March 25th. An open forum is scheduled for March 23rd at 8 and 10 a.m. There will be a provision level of admission-where the student will be limited to the number of credits based on the ACT and GPA. There will be an opportunity for exemption review. Adding a writing piece will also be discussed by this committee.

Senior citizens in the classroom

Kris will chair a committee consisting of Jennifer Sick, Dale Gehring, Ladona Malachowski, and Sharon Johnson to look at the SBHE policy to incorporate and develop an MSU policy.

INT courses in FYE (academic home/assessment process)

Discussion was held on topics of where the academic home should be located, the assessment process, retention, and advising tools. Beth stated the learning community courses must meet a set of learning outcomes and objectives.

Academic websites

Rick Heit will be contacting departments on updating websites

View Book production

Teresa needs stories and students to feature. The book is due out June 15th

Area Reports

Registrar

- Mid-term grades: working on how to better improve responses (general email to all students, sending individual email and Heather Martin will place holds on students with two or more deficiencies, a letter mailed, and advisors will receive a list of their students with email address)
- Degree audit set-up and creation is going well. Hoping to open to students in October

CEL

- Energy Symposium reminder
- New Administrative Assistant is Jessica Zibel

CoB

- COE opportunity in helping existing businesses to grow

CEHS

- COE opportunity with Geriatric Center-collaborating with Trinity
- Let Neil or Warren know if you want a tour of Swain Hall

CETL

- Mini-grants application in teaching learning community will be announced soon
- CETL coffee hour to discuss how to incorporate engagement into their classes is scheduled for March 30th from 10-11 a.m.
- LaTosha is working on recruiting peer mentors and tutors
- Web site will be up soon
- Open house is March 23 from 2-4 p.m.

Honors

- Looking to visit with chairs to discuss honors curriculum; would like feedback on offering an honors program minor

Dates to know

Mar 12	Summer/Fall 2010 Graduation Application due to Advisors
13	Evaluation and goals for all faculty (other than first year & Chairs) due from chairperson to dean
15	Equipment Budget requests due to Business Office from VPAA
15-16	Energy Symposium
15-19	Spring Break
22	Second 8-week classes begin
23	Admissions Criteria Open Forums- 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.-Conference Center
23	CETL Open House
23-24	Summer/Fall 2010 registration for currently enrolled students
24	CLA Academy
25	Assessment Day
26	Summer/Fall 2010 Graduation Applications Due to Registrar's Office
27	MSU at the Mall
April 2	University Closed-Good Friday
5	University Open-No classes
5	Evaluation and goals for all faculty (other than first year & Chairs) due from dean to faculty
11	Faculty load reports for Spring 2010 due from dean to VPAA
14	Faculty Position Description for 2010-2011 due to VPAA
14	Chair evaluations due from Deans to VPAA
17	Evaluation and goals for all faculty (other than first year & Chairs) due from Deans to VPA
22	Earth Day