**UCUI**

**Minutes**

**October 23, 2013**

**1:00p.m.-3:00p.m.**

**Members Present:** Seong Cho, Steve Shablin, Claudia Grobbel, Stafford Rorke, Kana Taku, Jeff Insko, Jennifer Eastwood, David Kidger, Cindy Hermsen, Amanda Nichols Hess, Adam McChesny, Darrin Hanna, Carolyn O’Mahony

1. S. Crabill called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes of October 9th, 2013--approved
3. Music, Theater, & Dance self-study

* Introduction of Jackie Wiggins and committee members
* Discussion of challenges facing Music, Theater, & Dance
* According to J. Wiggins, the biggest challenge is facilities
  + The board approved an extension onto Varner, which will accommodate music, theater, & dance but also social sciences & other departments. A footprint for a full theater is included (will be considered a “lecture hall”). Funds for the concert hall will need to be raised through fundraising.
  + Current state of facilities has presented potential safety risks for students.
* The second major challenge is governance and structure
  + Integration of music, theater, & dance has been successful at OU and faculty have developed synergy among the disciplines, however the department is much too large to operate under the current departmental structure.
  + The department is understaffed and underfunded.
  + Faculty are taking on administrative roles but not having appropriate representation or compensation.
* The committee asked for clarification why MTD should not break into 3 departments and whether adding another level of administration makes sense J. Wiggins explained that they are working well as a unit and essentially operating as a school already. D. Kidger supported that administrative systems are essentially in place.
* The proposed formation of a school within the college seems to have support from the previous president. However there have been contradicting messages from other levels of administration.
* Committee members voiced concerns about the possibility of the concert hall not being built—this should be addressed in the report.
* The committee emphasized that the role of UCUI is to listen to the issues impacting quality of programs and advocate. UCUI is already advocating for restructuring as a school, faculty issues, and space. The report needs to emphasize that the department is functional, but highly understaffed. All gen. ed courses are delivered by part time faculty, raising a concern for quality of education. The report should include the number of events and productions to document what the department offers the campus and community. The committee agreed that stronger language is needed in the report. D. Hanna will follow up on questions for dance.

4. Credit hour definition

* Zero credit classes are an integral part of the MTD department because non-paying participants are needed to offer majors essential opportunities to learn.
* Other universities handle ensembles in a similar way—the issue is not unique to OU.
* The committee discussed whether a zero credit course could be called something other than a credit or to have a fund to waive tuition. The solution will need to have a mechanism to keep students’ commitment to participate. The committee appointed an ad-hoc group (S. Shablin, C. Hermsen, S. Cho, D. Hanna, & a representative from MTD T.B.A.) to further study the issue.
  + Who is using zero credit courses across campus?
  + How is this done at other universities?
  + How will it be recorded in banner?

1. The committee reviewed the Grad council update policy and discussed differences from the draft revised by UCUI. The committee would like to retain the change to “credit hour” and keep “field work” if possible. A revision was proposed to the final sentence:

“Regardless of their duration, courses contain the same total number of credit hours as if they were scheduled for a 15-week semester.”

6. BDTS Program Modification Update

1. S. Crabill proposed that modifications should be submitted in full so all modifications can be reviewed together. There should be adequate time to make the catalogue deadline.
2. The improvements are helping with accrediting body; the liaison views this as a modification, not new program.
3. The question was raised--is modification a voting item or information item for Senate? This is a unique case with resource implications.

Other business:

1. Florence Dallo, chair of COI will attend next meeting.
2. S. Crabill is working on getting data on the mid-semester evaluations.
3. Will discuss the course withdrawl policy in the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Eastwood