

CAB Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2018, 12:00 – 1:50 pm, SSC 122/124

Present: Chris Nichols (Chair), Sarah Anderson, Charlene Armitage, Gary Braun, Jason Clower, Laird Easton, Diana Flannery, Christine Goulding, Nicol Gray, Kate McCarthy, Kelly McGregor, Rachel Middleman, Don Miller, Kent Sandoe, Zanja Yudell

1. Announcements

- Kaitlyn gave an update on the student accident this morning at Butte Hall and provided information on counseling and other resources that are available.

2. Approval of Minutes from 3/7/18

- Approved after explanation of item 6b regarding Biology wanting to only offer non-W version of ENVL 105

3. 5-year review discussion, continued from previous meeting.

- Updated version of report provided which includes:
 - Student focus group results
 - Typos fixed
 - Chart showing how 17% students with minor satisfied the requirement
 - Removed department identities and combined all comments
 - Assessment conclusions—removed reference to transfer students having better results (in Written Communication) due to fact that white students were a larger percentage of transfer students.
- Return to discussion of Pathways and Laird's e-mail in support of eliminating Pathway minors. Highlights:
 - We could be missing good GE courses because they don't fit into the PW categories.
 - Students are choosing courses that double-count and are not coming in to upper division courses with a foundation from lower division.
 - Is there too much double counting? Students can't receive a minor with the same name as their degree, but they can get a GE PW minor by double counting closely-related courses. Do PW minors negatively affect "real" minors?
 - Students don't understand the program even if they think they do. Student feedback in focus groups and survey could be simply giving CAB the answers they think it wants to hear.
 - What is the educational value of the PW minor? (Check with Career Center on value of the minor—do they mean anything?) Seems to be agreement that there is little to no educational value to the minor.
 - Important to note that the 17% of students who completed the minor in Chris's analysis does not take into account students who weren't eligible to complete a minor (high unit majors, ADT students, etc.). It could be closer to 25-30% of those who could have done one.

- Before eliminating PW minors think about why they were created and whether they have been given a fair chance to succeed. When Loren Blanchard from the Chancellor's Office was here he spoke favorably of the Pathways. But is that a reason to keep them?
- If the minors are eliminated what would the GE structure be? The PW designations could be removed from LD while keeping the UD "theme"—still call it a Pathway, but closer to the old GE program.
- If PW minors are removed then departments could design minors using GE courses; for example three UD PW courses and LD of their own choosing. This would potentially be more cohesive and less of a "grab bag".
- Faculty communities would be smaller and easier to coordinate if UD only.
- Discussion of questions 4 and 5: number of GE courses, frequency of offerings, process for adding/removing courses. Highlights:
 - Approximately 90% of the program has remained the same and there has never been more than 4% of courses not offered.
 - Have an annual invitation to withdraw courses from GE. This is included in the e-mail soliciting applications, but could be made more noticeable.
 - Should there be more than three courses per stone? Courses have to fit in to an available spot within a PW which can be difficult. This has led to "slashed" courses, which also have issues.
 - Reason for limiting to three was that there were too many GE courses, but it didn't end up being much of a reduction. If the three-course limit was eliminated would that help the cohesion problem or make it worse? Could still limit courses but not set a specific number. CAB could review applications and allow in on case-by-case basis.
 - Currently there are some courses in more than one PW. Should they be limited to one PW like in the old "theme" system?
 - Should courses have to justify their existence in their PW at certain points—every five years or so? Now they are only removed if a department requests it. If the course has changed since its original approval into GE should it be removed? But asking for justification may result in answers CAB wants to hear. Will need to be willing to take action and remove courses if this route is taken.

4. Other

- Next meeting there will be applications to discuss as well as starting the process for Pathway Coordinator elections. There are six Pathway Coordinator openings and four college representative positions for next year.

5. Adjourn