

Faculty Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2013

In attendance: Deni Elliott, Mark Walters, Casey Peterson, Casey Frechette, Monica Ancu, Tony Silvia

Absent: Paul Wang (Sabbatical), Bob Dardenne

DE: Items for discussion: I've sent draft for two positions. I assume any feedback folks want to convey has been submitted?

Dean really likes theory/community journalism concept for the theory position. As we discussed, we still need to address the law piece.

A justification will need to be supplied for that, though a fully-advertised, national search won't likely be necessary.

TS: If you can bring Snyder on for the maximum amount of time, that seems like a good move. He can teach reporting – he has that background.

MA: He's involved with DJD, as another advantage.

DE: Still waiting for CP's new permanent status to be finalized. Not a problem, but needs to go through the process.

5 Year Double Degree Plan

TS: Bob and I have found five models, documented in the hand out, for how this is done. There are different models, Missouri having one of the most notable ones.

One issue we may need to consider to pull this off is cutting down on the undergrad program, at least somewhat. So we may want to think about what, if anything, we have that we might want to trim.

For Current American University, students can apply in their junior year for a combined program – from anywhere on campus.

Hofstra also has a combined program, though it's complicated. A minor outside the communications school is needed, and there are other considerations. This may be a work of progress.

DE: If we move forward, and it would be good for the College if we do, it would be consistent with what we're doing with the Food Writing program, where students can decide later that credits count toward both the certificate and the DJD degree.

MA: The model of allowing credits to count in both programs seem to make the most sense, since we already offer combined classes.

DE: Depending on when the application came in, GRE would be required, even if you're in the program, if that's a requirement (this could work for either JMS or DJD programs).

TS: Mark, do students at Colombia have the chance to stay another year?

MW: When I was there, it was a 1 year degree, and practitioner-centered.

TS: Maybe there's another model there where the final year is not necessarily course-bound, but practical experience.

TS: As for next steps, we can come up with a proposal or investigate more models...

DE: Let's (TS & BD) come up with a proposal, and CP please investigate what the process will look like.

TS: Part of this is probably an ongoing conversation about requirements for undergraduate program.

DE: Yes, and a different conversation to continue.

MA: If we change undergrad credits, we might explore possibility of changing when students can enter the program, and moving it up earlier. Some classes could be available earlier to work on the journalism courses.

TS: I agree. Moving credits up instead of cutting is another option.

DE: Can MA, TS and BD look at undergrad curriculum with eye toward combined degree?

DE: Moving right along to a related topic – MMC2100. In teaching course this semester, I'm requiring Poynter NewsU language primer. Part of course performance is scoring 80% or higher on the assessment. So one possibility is to have a requirement on the primer – like 80% -- to work as entrance exam.

TS: I like the idea of an Intro to Journalism class (as MMC 2100), as an overview of journalistic writing.

TS: I think MMC should be about all kinds of different writing.

MA: My view is it's the first writing course into the program, with a focus on journalistic writing, but not exclusively.

TS: Students seem to think they're duplicative.

JOU 2100 is more reporting than writing.

MW: I haven't taught it, but knowing how to write, and knowing writing forms, would be important, and then understanding where journalism fits in the context. Mechanics, and forms.

DE: Next meeting, I'd like to write out the learning goals that I have. I'm teaching various kinds of journalistic writing, and using Roy Peter Clark's writing tools.

I can do the same for JOU 2100, and we can use that as a basis.

DE: State has provided guidelines on GE competencies. Please review.

DE: Please also review SLOs, and see if you have any feedback on those. There is a state-mandated component and a USFSP components.

DE: Recommend putting tenure, promotion and reduction guidelines until next time.

CF: *Reviews process for getting assessments posted.*

MA: On September 28, there's an open house, which I'll go to. Some students are taking a lot of credits, but we can't stop them if they do that. Although approval is needed past a certain point.

DE: Not much to say on JMS graduate program. May need to look at combining assistantship opportunities to create better options for some.

In terms of communicating about both programs, we need to make clear that the DJD program is not for folks interested in pursuing a Ph.D.

TS: Is there some simple copy we can get on the website.

TS: The internship program is being recast in terms of student contact. Starting this semester, they need to have a meeting time as a group. We're going to do it monthly – four substantial meetings as a group. For spring, it will be scheduled like a class with a meeting time. Meetings will be biweekly. Trying to build in more accountability and contact between me, them and their supervisors.

DE: We're going to get a federal work study position, though we don't have details yet.

DE: There are some upcoming meetings to look for at Poynter Library.

