

May 2018 JDC Faculty Meeting

In attendance

- Deni Elliott
- Monica Ancu
- Chris Campbell
- Casey Frechette
- Bahaa Gameel
- Bernardo Motta
- Tony Silvia
- Casey Peterson
- Janet Keeler

Absent

- Mark Walters (Traveling)

Minutes

Undergraduate STEM degree

MA: I've been meeting with folks around campus to discuss this possibility. I also went to a STEM training workshop in Tampa.

For all of these discussions, I can say that the University is only investing in STEM degrees.

DE: For new programs, the strategic emphasis is in STEM.

MA: The new number one item on the todo list is to start with an inventory of STEM degrees on campus.

What does this mean for us? It's up to us to decide. I looked at universities around the state. They seem to be transitioning toward STEM programs. FIU started a BS in multimedia and digital communication, and they gave up their old CIP code (ours). UF doesn't have this one, but they do have digital concentrations.

Seminole State College has a STEM program in digital media / digital arts.

In light of all this, I recommend we convert our existing program to a bachelor's of science in digital communication and multimedia.

CF: Would it help to find other ACEJMC-accredited programs that are STEM degrees? I can do a little research on that.

MA: Yes. But we can move in this direction without making too many adjustments. We do have shift to a more technologically based focused.

DE: This involves a change in CIP, which is a big deal. Why convert as opposed to adding this as a second offering?

MA: I think the reason is a lack of resources to cover all the classes.

DE: What are we losing if we give up the BA, if anything?

DE: We need to coordinate with Tampa as we make a decision on this. They are both supportive of our getting a STEM program and in keeping our ACEJMC accreditation.

TS: I think we need to explore this but be mindful of ACEJMC considerations as we move forward.

BM: My feeling is the new program, in the fall, addresses many concerns. We have to be mindful of how we keep our journalism identity. Let's also think about timing. If we can't get it approved soon, let's see what unfolds as the merger continues.

MA: Bernardo, your point is exactly mine. Our existing program is so close to a STEM, but without the funding and support. If we get this designation, we can get new faculty, staff, technology.

\$2 million were given to programs on this campus alone.

DE: Let's keep exploring and look into accreditation implications. Let's get Mark and Janet to weigh in.

CF: Another advantage is marketing for our students.

BG: I would vote for this change to help us stay ahead of the game.

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Comps

DE: We have now three students taking comps.

CP: The last three...

BM: I got the message from Canvas about a few students taking comps. I thought only one student was taking it so directed it to her area of focus.

DE: They'll be taken online on May 11.

BM: I need to talk to the new students because the questions I've written may or may not apply.

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DE: We're picking up new carpet. Should we get a new projector or a smart screen?

CF, please put together a \$2,500 budget for upgrades in PRW 107 — speakers, smart screen, projector.

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Graduate program

DE: 10 new students joining in the fall.

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Undergraduate program

MA: Due to an error, my found out that independent studies and self-directed courses aren't counting as credits toward their major. Paperwork is being filed to correct this.

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NNB

BM: We started a few long-term partnerships this semester, including one with the American Heart Association. It's a report on health in south St. Petersburg. Working with WUSF, we'll do it every semester.

We're also working on the Black History Database project.

If anyone has a student friendly toward kids and good with video editing, please have them talk to me.

We're creating a Spanish-language reporting group. It's for students who want to work in Spanish in the U.S., or native speakers who want to go back to their countries and perhaps provide training for journalists in Latin America.

It could become a local chapter of NHJA. One thing that we're trying to plan soon enough is a project in Puerto Rico.

The NNB website is becoming a portal that will lead to standalone sites. One is focused on training. Also looking to partner with students learning Spanish to do translations.

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TS: Rob and I have connected about the summer. We have a paid internship with WUSF. Our overall number for the year should be close to 30.

Also, Bailey Moseley, who's done two internships with us, is doing something with CMA in Nashville this summer.

JK: I was over at the MFA this week, and their talking to our internship coordinator. Their marketing director said he heard that maybe they could pay their tuition rather than paying for their work.

TS: It's best if it's facilitated between the two parties.

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Student Research Initiatives

BG: We are in the process of applying for a number of grants that will involve prominent roles for students in researching and producing digital media.

DE: Make sure I have copies of all grant applications.

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CF: Update on ONA.

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Faculty Council

JK: Just came from my last meeting. T&P guidelines was a big project for us. Monica will be stepping in and is set to become committee chair.

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DE: During our first meeting in the fall, you'll receive a "what do you learn from this" meeting in the fall.

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New Business

DE: Marketing is our new item. The way I see us moving forward on this is if someone takes it on an area of service work.

BM: In both NNB and law, students were very concerned that I was the only person I had that was not discouraging them from pursuing journalism.

DE: Nobody should be discouraging people from going into journalism.

JK: How students are perceiving the information they're receiving is also important. Although if this is how they're perceiving it, that's important.

BM: I think it's important to have conversations with students about what they're options really are.

TS: If anyone is actively discouraging anyone from going into the field they want to go into, that's a problem.

DE: Internships are also important; and everyone of us has the interest in marketing our programs and our department. We need to help students understand why they want to be majors in our department.

Updating the website with language that reflects this is important.

JK: ACES is a good place to investigate and connect with job opportunities.

MA: Formalizing some advising and counseling about career opportunities at the beginning of studies is a good way model to think about.