

## Minutes

Meeting of the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay University Committee

October 31, 2012

Cofrin Library 750

3:00 - 4:50 pm

Attendance: Greg Davis, Derek Jeffreys (chair), Mimi Kubsch, Ryan Martin, Steve Meyer (recording), Leif Nelson (Academic Staff Rep), Bryan Vescio, Heba Mohammad (student representative)

Guests: Brian Sutton, Provost Wallace

Meeting called to order at 3:00 pm

- I. Approval of the Minutes of the October 17, 2012 UC meeting: approved as submitted
- II. Meeting with Brian Sutton of discuss Flexible Degree Committee meeting.
  - a. Brian Sutton provided a comprehensive report on the meeting of faculty representatives who met October 26 in Madison.
  - b. The funds needed to develop the Flexible Degree will be met through new money, not through budget cuts (Governor Walker will provide "costs to continue" existing operations plus the funding needed for the Flexible Degree program).
  - c. It appears the initial programs developed for Flexible Degree will target Business Management, Health Care, and IT. Several of our sister institutions have already begun the process of developing assessment of competencies in individual courses.
  - d. UW-Colleges is working on a Flexible Degree option for the Associates degree.
  - e. UW System's vision for the Flexible Degree program is to offer entire degrees through the program, not just courses. According to System, to just convert courses for competency testing would be a failure, they are looking to convert entire degrees to the Flexible Degree model. One unnamed 4-year UW school is already considering a Flexible degree.
  - f. The UC wanted to make sure that competency assessments would not be Pass/No Pass (as they reportedly are at Western Governors University). We would push for the need for gradation in competency assessment.
  - g. Assuming faculty will be developing the assessment tools to evaluate competency, the question arose from the UC regarding how faculty would be compensated for the assessment building and evaluation process. How will this factor into workload?
  - h. The UC still has strong concern over general education, especially after hearing that UW-Colleges is working on a Flexible Associates Degree. The UC feels strongly that we need to protect the academic integrity of UWGB. The UC is concern that acceptance of a Flexible Associates Degree would be forced upon us.
- III. Discussion of the Adult Degree Program
  - a. This discussion actually blended into the meeting with the Provost (see item IV below).

- IV. Meeting with the Provost to discuss the Adult Degree Program
  - a. Dialogue began with a discussion of how the relationship between Adult Degree and Traditional Degree has evolved over time. For example, perhaps 10 years ago:
    - i. More of an “Us” vs. “Them” mentality.
    - ii. Are they really the same degree?
    - iii. Keeping Adult Degree courses and traditional courses separate...were they really the same caliber?
    - iv. Very different thinking or mindset, different ways of teaching Adult Degree students.
  - b. Dialogue continued with how different Adult Degree is today:
    - i. Adult Degree program is much more blended or integrated with the Traditional Degree.
    - ii. Course prefixes are all the same, so there’s more control over the curriculum.
    - iii. With the common course prefixes, there is vetting of instructors.
    - iv. With the common course prefixes there should be no difference in the courses and, therefore, no difference in the degrees.
    - v. All courses are transcribed the same way.
    - vi. Although Adult Degree students are probably more comfortable with Adult Degree advisors, should Adult Degree students be advised by regular faculty advisors?
  - c. Various concerns over the financial aspect:
    - i. Faculty being paid more to teach a course on overload for Adult Degree vs. Traditional Degree is causing concern (some faculty are trying to find creative ways of trying to teach more Adult Degree courses and less Traditional Degree courses)
    - ii. The current budget model is creating resource shifting; as such there needs to be more clarity in the budget models.
    - iii. No out-of-state tuition difference.
    - iv. Resident student taking all Adult Degree classes and not paying segregated fees.
  - d. It was decided that the UC would extend an invitation to Steve Vanden Avond and Christina Trombley to continue the dialogue regarding Adult Degree at a future UC meeting.
- V. Meeting with Kaoime Malloy (Chair of the AAC)
  - a. Kaoime called in sick today and could not be with us.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Meyer