**Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

**January 22, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**Student Affairs Topics:**

1. **Update from Student Affairs division – Jeremy Davis**

Jeremy Davis reported that he is the Director for a new unit in Student Affairs, the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership (CSIL). This unit encompasses 10 different student organizations across campus to provide the best experience for student leadership and help build stronger social networks on campus. Davis noted that student involvement impacts student success.

The grand opening for the unit is scheduled for January 31, 3-5 pm, Wyoming Union.

**Other – Kim Chestnut, Dean of Students,** reported on work being done to support students, faculty and staff in circumstances where students become distressed or disruptive, including partnering with Academic Affairs to provide department heads, deans and directors with information about available resources and strategies for preventing and/or responding to difficult situations. Chestnut emphasized the importance in reporting when students are distressed and/or disruptive, and she noted that the Dean of Students Office retains a historical record of these incidences. Chestnut noted that the Student Code of Conduct should be added to each syllabus which outlines the expectations of student behavior, and that they will be accountable for disruptive behavior.

The Dean of Students Office in partnership with UWYO Cares has developed a guide for faculty and staff to assist students who are in crisis. UWYO Cares team meets weekly to discuss these issues.

**Vice President Sean Blackburn** reported the following:

* Furniture is being replaced in the Washakie dining area
* Constructions is under way for a new coffee shop in the Enzi Stem building
* The UW Store and the Copy Center will now be reporting to Student Affairs
* $300k grant has been awarded over the next three years for student suicide prevention
* Moving forward with the Union visioning project
* Waiting on approval for the Panda Express contract to be renewed

**Regulation Review**:

1. **Additional Academic Affairs regulations review process – Tara Evans/Tami Benham-Deal**

Benham-Deal provided a handout of the current Academic Affairs regulations providing their purpose and status of the regulations. Benham-Deal confirmed that the AA/SA Committee would have the opportunity to review feedback provided by the senates (and from online submissions) before final recommendations are made.

1. **Student Affairs regulations in the process – Tara Evans**

Evans reported that the Student Affairs regulations were mostly complete. Once complete, they will come to the AA/SA Committee for review.

1. **UW Regulation Review: 2-2 (former 5-35), Academic Personnel Dispute Resolution 2-6 (former 5-801), and Dismissal of Academic Personnel – Tami Benham-Deal**

Discussion about proposed changes to these regulations was delayed and will be incorporated into an upcoming AA/SA Committee work session.

1. **Potential certificate program streamlining questions and discussion – Trustee Moore/Anne Alexander**

Discussion ensued on how to develop the best degree and certificate program process. Evans suggested to adjust the wording in the current regulation making it shorter and less involved for the certificate program, possibly keeping the regulation with two processes – one for degree programs and one for the certificate program (to include budget and shorter feasibility study). Evans suggested a meeting with Alexander to discuss the process and report back at the February 12 AA/SA Committee meeting.

**Academic Affairs Topics:**

1. **Geography update – Kate Miller**

Miller reported that as of November 1, 2018, a proposal went out to campus to consolidate and reorganize the Geography Department. After 120 days (which is March 1, 2019), the proposal needs to come before the board to weigh in on the proposal as per University Regulation. Miller requested that the deadline for Board consideration be extended to coincide with the March 2019 Board meeting. **It was moved and seconded to take the delay of the proposal to the full Board during their January meeting**. If the Board does not approve the extension, a special Trustees meeting shall be called to address the issue.

Miller confirmed that there will be a teach-out plan for all current students who would be impacted by the elimination of programs, and that no new students are being admitted to programs until a final decision is made by the Board. Miller noted that there is strong campus support to preserve the BS in Geography and she has engaged stakeholders in discussing how this might be achieved using the current resource base.

1. **Geospatial Information Science and Technology (GIST) update – Jeff Hamerlinck**

GIST Program Update on status of the Geospatial Information Science & Technology Curricula Program, and the progress that has been made since the NOI was approved by the Board in June 2018.

Since then a small group of faculty having been working on completing a full feasibility study and accompanying pro forma budgets for on-campus review. We hope to have that study ready for review in the next six weeks and begin circulating for comment.

**Highlights**:

* The program is ambitious, including multiple credentials at both UG and Grad level
* Based on recognition that geospatial technologies and methods have become ubiquitous in society and there is demand from students to acquire these skills and employers to retain employees who possess them
* WyGISC is anticipated home; program will operate like the Life Program with standard core delivered through WyGISC and contributors across colleges and schools and degree programs

**What will be proposed**:

BS in GIST with required minor

* And stackable certificates toward degree in spatial analysis and remote sensing

Masters

* Both traditional thesis (on-ground) masters, and a non-thesis on-line professional degree
* Three online grad certificates – GIS, RS and unmanned aerial systems (drones)

In terms of timeline, report back to this committee in March to discuss the full proposal and bring a Request for Approval to the full board at the May meeting. If this schedule is met, we anticipate a PHASED-IN implementation:

* Fall 2019 - the BS and UG certificates will roll out, as well as some online Masters certificate courses
* Fall 2021 – Masters programs will enroll first cohorts

1. **Gray Associates training report – Trustee Moore**

Gray Associates is a strategy consulting firm focused on higher education. Gray uses rigorous research, proprietary databases and advanced analytical techniques to forecast customer decisions, size-u the competition, and model economics. This analysis helps the client understand the strategic issues their organization(s) need to address. Trustee Moore attended a two-day workshop hosted by Academic Affairs in January where Gray Associates helped Deans, Directors, Department Heads and other stakeholders to better understand the database, and how the market data (including data about Wyoming and surrounding states) can be used to inform decision making. Moore provided a handout to show various degree programs at the University of Wyoming and the student demand using Gray’s analysis.