



**March 18, 2015**

324 Outreach Building, University Park  
Polycom dial-in 440229  
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Minutes

Attended: Ken Thigpen, Chair; Sueann Doran, Martha Jordan, Leslie Laing, Albert Lozano, Bert McBrayer, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Brooke Repine, Sherry Robinson, Pat Shope, Terry Speicher, and Judy Wills, Recorder

Joined by Polycom: Francis Achampong, Kelly Austin, Jo Anne Carrick, Diane Chamberlin

Presenters: Janet Schulenberg, Associate Director, Division of Undergraduate Studies and GenEd Task Force Co-Chair; Renata Engel, Associate Vice Provost for Online Programs

Guests: Daad Rizk, Josh Wymore

Unable to attend: Jamie Campbell, Pete Forster, Apryl Kadish, Sonya Leitzell, Angela Pettitt, Maria Schmidt, and Ken Womack

1. Dr. Kenneth Thigpen called the meeting to order and welcomed Josh Wymore, doctoral candidate Higher Education. Members introduced themselves.

To accommodate members who will represent CAL at the Faculty Staff Awards Reception, the April 15 meeting time and duration will be adjusted. The Executive Committee will meet 9:00-10:00 a.m. and the full Commission will meet 10:00-11:30 a.m. Both meetings will be in 324 Outreach Building, with Polycom videoconferencing available.

The May meeting will be a dinner meeting with our sponsors on Monday, May 11, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Nittany Lion Inn. This is our final meeting of the year. The Hendrick Conference is May 12 at the HUB-Robeson Center, University Park.

2. Janet Schulenberg, Associate Director, Division of Undergraduate Studies and GenEd Task Force Co-Chair

Schulenberg provided an overview of the proposed modifications to the

current Baccalaureate General Education program. A PDF copy of the draft will be emailed with the draft meeting minutes and additional information is available at [gened.psu.edu](http://gened.psu.edu). She acknowledged the work of her co-chairs, Mary Beth Williams and Margaret Slattery, and noted that CAL members Paula Milone-Nuzzo and Ken Womack participated on the task force.

#### Questions and discussion points

Paula Milone-Nuzzo noted that the task force consistently considers how changes will impact World Campus and adult learners regarding access and affordability.

Will outcomes be required to develop rubrics? The implementation team will determine how to meaningfully assess, and any assessment needs to be at aggregate level, not course or instructor level.

How many times will a student be allowed to take a course without attaining a 'C' grade? This is a question for the Lion Path project.

Do any of these have 'citizenship' as a component? The US and IL piece does not yet have a name, Schulenberg will bring this back to the task force as a suggestion.

What is the timeline? The final report is due on Friday. If council agrees, it will be on the April Faculty Senate meeting agenda.

3. Renata Engel, Associate Vice Provost for Online Programs gave an overview of the Enhanced Educational Pathways Committee. The group was charged by Provost Jones in October and is co-chaired by Engel and David Christiansen with cross-University representation. The group will make recommendations and is looking at work that is currently underway. President Barron has made funds available for the initiatives. Engel shared description, target audience, and assessment for each of the initiatives for their first year, which will be sent with draft minutes.

- a. First year programs

#### Student Transitional Experiences Program

This was built out of existing program from one to help students transition from campus to University Park. The program will build in mentoring and familiarity with support services like career services. The Provost is providing \$1000 scholarship for these students toward up to six credits. This program is starting this summer. Engel will

provide a link which provides more information. Advisors will be key contacts for information and the program will be advertised with all summer session materials.

### Student and Family Financial Wellness

This will develop materials that are more easily accessible to expand the reach to more students, particularly at campuses. This would build on what Daad Rizk has developed. Facilitator materials are needed as program grows. Adult learners have particular issues, which is why 'family' is part of the consideration. This may be able to tie in to Gen Ed in the wellness piece.

To address the challenge of how parts fit together, possibilities would be to identify a subset of related courses or work with World Campus to develop Massive Open Credit Courses (MOCCs) to be more structured and offer low- or no-cost options.

Assessment will be most difficult for this program. Conversations are in progress with OPIA to help develop assessment plans for each.

### Pathway to Success/Summer Start

This is for first and second year students during their summers at Hazleton, Brandywine, Schuylkill, Berks, Beaver and Fayette, to give a strong start to students with unresolved academic preparation issues. The program will provide ten to twenty hours of on-campus work while enrolled. The goal is to build more robust opportunities than traditionally available on campus. Budget exists for thirty Pell-eligible students at each location. All campuses will use the same metrics so that results can be evaluated and analyzed.

Embedded tutoring may be used, building on its success of use in World Campus courses.

#### b. Potential second round projects

- World Campus support of select high-demand courses, possibly MOCC type models.

- World Campus expansion of successful supports, e.g. embedded tutors.

- Open-educational resources

- Prior Learning assessment

#### 4. University-wide updates on adult learner initiatives

Bert McBrayer-A group is working on a policy recommendation for how high school graduation is reported. When students file a FAFSA, they self-report high school graduation. Federal guidelines state that a student must follow institution requirements; and currently Penn State requires a high school or GED transcript. The proposed policy change would align with the federal guideline and will improve accessibility across all student populations. Clark Brigger, Executive Director of Undergraduate Admissions will take this to ARISSA, Dr. Pangborn has approved proceeding and will take recommendations to ACUE.

Renata Engel announced that the World Campus has a learning center at the Marine Corps Recruiting Depot (MCRD) in San Diego. The plan is to provide a gateway to the University through World Campus. An admissions counselor and limited face-to-face courses will be available on-site. Four programs will be offered and will be available to military spouses. The office and classroom will be ready for fall 2015.

Sueann Doran-Penn State DuBois arranged assistance specific to veterans at a recent career development workshop.

Francis Achampong, noted that Mont Alto campus is putting together a group including the campus counselor, two faculty with military backgrounds, and SVA officers to serve as a support group for student veterans. Darlene Pasi, the campus counselor, will attend a training workshop at Slippery Rock University on March 25, sponsored by the Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP). The CDP seeks to, among other things, help colleges and universities understand and meet the needs of student veterans. She will in turn train the other members of the group to serve as a resource for veterans. Veterans can talk to a member of the group if the counselor cannot see them right away. Members of the group will refer veterans to other services as necessary.

Martha Jordan noted that the New Student Orientation office will offer a one-day orientation specific to military and adult learners on June 5. This program will be specific to audience, not retrofit of traditional student NSO program.

## 5. Committee, Liaison, and Task Force reports

- a. Faculty Senate Liaison-Angela Pettitt-By written summary from the March Faculty Senate meeting reported there was discussion about the need to instruct students on financial, legal, and healthcare literacy as well as review of the services currently available. President Barron spoke about diversifying the faculty and addressed the increasing ratio of fixed-term to tenure-track faculty. The senate approved a new registration system to be rolled out with Lion Path which will eliminate the current two-step schedule/registration system and replace it with a system that uses a Student Financial Responsibility Statement. The senate approved a motion to create a new standing subcommittee dedicated to dealing with articulation review.
- b. Access and Affordability Task Force -Francis Achampong, building on last month's detailed report of strategies to remove barriers to access and affordability for adult learners along with several recommendations to implement each of the strategies, a narrative must now be crafted around the strategies and recommendations in the form of a draft written report. That draft then needs to be integrated with the first part of the Task Force's work on barriers into a full and complete report. This is the one major study the CAL commissioned this academic year, and the draft will be sent to Commission members before the meeting. Achampong will circulate the draft to task force members a week prior and copy Thigpen and Jordan. Engel would be interested in how the Educational Pathways committee can direct some resources to help with the recommendations.
- c. Awards and Recognition Committee – Diane Chamberlin noted that the University Relations announcement of 2015 Faculty and Staff awards, including the Shirley Hendrick Award, is expected in early April. Thigpen, Jordan, and Chamberlin will join the recipient's administrator, nominators, and personal guests at the President's award reception for the presentation of the award. The award recipient will present accomplishments during the opening session. A list of prior years' recipients and photos is housed on the CAL web site. A video of 2014 recipient Dr. Ann Williams' Hendrick presentation is housed on the Hendrick conference web site.
- d. Hendrick Conference Planning Committee – Judy Wills reported that that online registration opened on March 6. Targeted promotional

emails went out to announce the keynote speaker and a Penn State Today article was published March 17.

- e. Military and Veteran Support Services Committee – Sueann Doran, reported that the committee is continuing work on its two Hendrick sessions. As of March 6, about 300 responses have been received out of 2,500 surveys sent to military and veteran students University-wide. The survey will close this week and Doran will share results when received.
  - f. Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Committee-Pat Shope reported that the committee continued work on its conference presentation on portfolios. In addition to an overview of the process by committee members Shope, Michele Rice, Albert Lozano, and Terry Speicher, Diana Gruendler will provide an overview on the liberal arts portfolio course.
  - g. Nominations Committee-Paula Milone-Nuzzo announced the slate of candidates for 2015-16 Chairperson-elect, who will follow Francis Achampong to become chairperson in 2016-17. The candidates are Kelly Austin and Albert Lozano.
6. 2015-16 Chair Elect voting process-Judy Wills will email the ballot to members and allow a ten-day voting window. Results will be announced at the April 15 meeting.
7. Members approved the minutes of February 18, 2015 as submitted.
8. Thigpen adjourned the meeting at 12:35p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 15, 2015, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in 324 Outreach Building, University Park with Polycom videoconferencing available.

Submitted by Judy Wills