

**March 16, 2016**

324 Outreach Building, Innovation Park

10:30 a.m.

Minutes

Attendees: Jared Hammond, Martha Jordan, Leslie Laing, Sonya Leitzell, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Brooke Repine, Michele Rice, Renee Thornton-Roop, and Judy Wills, recorder

Joined by Polycom: Francis Achampong, Chair; Kelly Austin, Jo Anne Carrick, Sandy Feather Albert Lozano, and Terry Speicher

Guests: Diana Gruendler, College of the Liberal Arts, Faculty-in-charge of Letters, Arts, and Sciences; Law and Society World Campus programs; Ryan Fisher, College of the Liberal Arts, Education Program Associate; and Lee Juarez, Graduate Assistant, Adult Learner Programs and Services and Outreach and Online Education Academic Affairs

Unable to attend: Christian Brady, Jamie Campbell, Pete Forster, Daad Rizk, and Ken Thigpen

1. Dr. Francis Achampong called the meeting to order. Members approved minutes of February 17, 2016, as submitted.
  - a. University-wide updates on Adult Learner initiatives

Martha Jordan distributed copies of the Adult Student Aid Recipients 2014-15 Profile Report received from Anna Griswold and shared comparison of increased unmet need over 2013-14. Both reports are available on the secured section of the Commission's web site.

Michele Rice distributed copies of the updated PLA brochure. Copies were mailed to campus Adult Enrollment Coordinators (AECs) and Rice also provided AECs with a one-page resource document. Rice is working with a group to develop the planned PLA web site, target date for the site to be live is by fall 2016.

Sandy Feather noted that, following Mont Alto's lead, Penn State Worthington-Scranton is organizing an all-campus group to help serve and mentor veteran and military students. Campus reps there met with the area rep for the Military-Friendly services group.

2. Integrated Social Sciences Degree (ISOSC) Overview--Diana Gruendler, Lead Faculty, College of Liberal Arts, and Ryan Fisher, Education Program Associate

The program launches one week from today. Presentation slides will be shared with draft minutes.

Overview of the curriculum and requirements were reviewed. As an interdisciplinary major, a specified number of credits can count as requirements for the major and general education, freeing up credits that students may use for electives, which results in greater ability to utilize transfer credits.

LA 201W and LA 496 must be completed at Penn State. LA 496 is a capstone requirement. LA 201W is intended to help students create a learning portfolio and prepares students who wish to consider submitting applications for PLA credit by portfolio assessment. Two students have successfully already obtained PLA credit. Students can also post their portfolio to Scholarsphere when applying for jobs after graduating.

When developing the program, the need for students to feel valued and recognized for work already completed was central. The program is based on discipline, not course-based, to allow flexibility. Program advisors are key to this effort due to the unique nature of the program.

Question was raised whether the program can be taken in residence. This program was not planned that way. Additional questions can be directed to Ryan Fisher, [rpf5029@psu.edu](mailto:rpf5029@psu.edu). Albert Lozano invited Gruendler and Fisher to consider returning to provide an update during the 2016-17 meeting year.

3. Candidate slate for 2017-18--The presentation of the slate is postponed until the April 20 meeting.
4. Business items and Committee reports
  - a. Faculty Senate Liaison update-Beth Seymour

The GenEd reform was passed. The Senate is in the process of creating a subcommittee in curricular affairs to handle details, with target time frame to allow units to submit courses by summer. Then a five-year review process for every GenEd course will begin.

- b. Hendrick Conference and Award- Judy Wills

Dr. Achampong created a message to share with stakeholders announcing the cancellation of the 2016 Hendrick Conference. This went out to members, sponsors, and AECs. The Hendrick family was notified of the cancellation separately. Dr. Cuseo, the invited keynote speaker, is open to rescheduling his planned sessions when we are able to reschedule.

The committee met to consider the program plans in light of the cancellation of the May 12 event.

The student success stories will be gathered and shared on the Commission and Hendrick conference web site as slideshow and possible video.

The group contacted the organizers of the fall Enrollment Management conference and DUS conference and both were open to consider including the sessions or offer an adult learner track. Four breakout sessions were recommended.

All service partners were notified of the cancellation, and none imposed cancellation penalty.

The University's Campus and Community Affairs Office has issued invitations to the Faculty/Staff Awards Reception to be held April 21. The Shirley Hendrick Award will be presented at the reception. Ken Thigpen, Awards Selections Committee Chair, and Martha Jordan, University Liaison to the Commission, will attend. Dr. Achampong has a calendar conflict and cannot attend.

c. Military and Veteran Support Services

Renee Thornton-Roop distributed drafts and shared updates on the proposals made to Dr. Barron at our February meeting.

Short-term absence policy recommendation--This was modeled based on the Florida State University policy. Formal request for the policy change would need Faculty Senate and administrative approval. Suggestion was also made to check with ARSSA.

One-page process document on how to implement VA work study programs--Thornton-Roop will disseminate final version to commonwealth campuses. Brooke Repine requested also to post this onto the Veterans Services web site, so that the Work Study page in Office of Student Aid can link to it. Thornton-Roop agreed and will notify Repine when the post is live. Also, it was recommended to attach a copy of as a template for the AEC list when completing their request form for VA Work Study positions.

d. Prior Learning Assessment –No report.

e. Task force—Albert Lozano reported that the group is gathering data on part-time enrollment revenue and expects to have information by the end of April

5. Achampong adjourned the meeting at 11:49 p.m.

Next meeting: April 20, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 241 Outreach Building and by Polycom.

Submitted by Judy Wills