

Minutes
Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee
November 5th, 2020 – Via Zoom

Call to Order: R. Wood called the meeting to order at 9:00am via Zoom.

Business:

Presented by Provost Lewis:

Update on Academic Portfolio Review and Ongoing Role of the Academic Affairs Committees in the Portfolio Review Process-

Provost Lewis requested that the UAAC discuss participation options in the Portfolio review Process.

After much discussion, the recommendation was made to bring UAAC and GAAC together to further explore the options since both groups are being asked to participate. A question to consider: Are we the appropriate groups to do this?

- *Provost Lewis brought up a second issue related to racial diversity and inclusion on campus. Dr. Jonathon Smith and Provost Lewis were asked by students to include them on university-wide committees and initiatives. The students also asked that this topic be covered in the courses being offered and taught.*

Ellen Crowell shared with the group that she has been thinking about this very topic in her role as Director of the Core Curriculum. She is considering including representative students on each of the core curriculum committees. She is considering the possibility of forming a Curricular Fellows Program for undergraduate students. There would be a formal application process designed to start in spring 2021 for implementation in fall 2021. Fellows would then work with faculty mentors and meet as a group throughout the program. This program has great potential for eventual expansion.

In terms of UAAC representation, the decision was made that Rob communicate this recommendation with Provost Lewis:

For spring 2021, Provost Lewis and Dr. Smith will select an interim student representative for UAAC to serve until June 30, 2021.

An application process for a formal Undergraduate Curricular Fellows program will be implemented in spring 2021, with appointed students to begin in the AY 2021-2022.

- ***Motion to approve was made by Sean, seconded by Beth. Vote: unanimously approved.***

A scenario brought up would be to select, via a formal application process 10 students to sit on UAAC, GAAC, and Core Committees. These students would receive a stipend for their work provided that they complete the required tasks.

Considering the request that racial diversity and inclusion be incorporated into courses being offered and taught on campus, the question came up as to: How do we adjust the new program proposals to include a provision for addressing racial diversity and inclusion? A suggestion was made that perhaps a question could be added to the form, something to the effect of: How does the program plan to address cultural humility and unconscious bias?

Presented by Rob Wood:

Program Closure Form for BS in Engineering Physics Parks College of Engineering-

- *The subcommittee will make a recommendation on this measure at its Nov. 12 meeting.*

Presented by Rob Wood:

Change line 10 of the Academic Program Closure form to include the Madrid campus, and the overall mission of the University-

- *The committee approved the change.*

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- *October 1st, 2020, 2020 UAAC Meeting Minutes were approved.*

Announcement and Adjournment

Next UAAC Meeting: Thursday, December 3rd 2020 from 9:00 am- 10:30 am via ZOOM. The meeting link will be sent out closer to time.

The meeting was adjourned by Rob Wood.