General School ZOOM Meeting
April 30, 2021 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Present: Courtney Angelosante, Susan Bennett-Armistead, Justin Dimmel, Donna Doherty, Janet Fairman, Sara Flanagan, Faith Erhardt, Debra Hogate, Sarah Howorth, Beth Hufnagel, Diane Jackson, Casey Kelly, Rich Kent, Vanessa Klein, Craig Mason, Tammy Mills, Dee Nichols, Eric Pandiscio, Tim Reagan, Deborah Rooks-Ellis, Asli Sezen-Barrie, Bryan Silverman, Valerie Smith, Erin Straine, Vi Thai, Shihfen Tu, Kathie Wing

Call to order – 1:04 p.m.
Approval of the minutes from February’s meeting – Approved
Approval of the Agenda for today’s meeting – Approved

Welcome, Announcements, and Comments

1. News and announcements
   a. Congratulations to Beth Hufnagel and Deborah Rooks-Ellis on receiving tenure and promotion.
   b. Asli Sezen-Barrie has been selected by the National Science Foundation for a temporary 2-year assignment as the Program Director for the DRK-12 Program.
   c. Dee Nichols has received the College’s Faculty Service award.
   d. Camden Bock, STEM-Education Ph.D. student, has won the UMaine Student Symposium Graduate Award 2020-2021 in the Education category.
   e. Faculty/Staff Profile Database: Due May 31
      • Thank you to everyone who has entered their information into the faculty database. This is the second year in a row our school is almost 100% complete.
      • If you haven’t entered or updated your information, please do so. We need it for the annual report.
• The information you provide will be very helpful to the new Dean.
• When entering information for conferences, please indicate if it is national or international.
• Remember to list any committees on which you are serving, including school, college, campus and external committees.

f. Casey Kelly would appreciate it if everyone would update their web page. This is also helpful with fund raising.
g. Brown Bag speakers/presenters are needed for next year

2. Search – Literacy/Reading Recovery – Tim Reagan and Susan Bennett-Armistead
   a. The search has been narrowed down to two finalist.
   b. Virtual meetings will occur on May 10 & 12. There will be two opportunities for everyone to meet with the candidates.

3. Search – Special Ed – Deborah Rooks-Ellis
   a. The request to hire a new Special Ed faculty member was very quickly approved.
   b. Deborah Rooks-Ellis is chair of the Search Committee. The other members are Sarah Howorth, Diane Jackson, Heather Ball, and Alan Cobo-Lewis.
   c. The review process will start after May 17.
   d. Zoom sessions for the finalists will be in June.

4. Program Database and Programs of Study
   a. Thank you to all the advisors and students advisees for filling out the programs of study.
   b. The graduate program relational database is being built now. Literacy, CA&I, MAT, IT Technology, and Special Ed have been included.
   c. Testing is being done now to check for any issues.
   d. We hope to have it ready for this fall.
   e. Special thanks to Danielle Gabrielli, a Literacy Ph.D. student, for helping to gather all the information needed to build the database.

5. Field Experience Advisory Committee – Erin Straine
   a. The committee is comprised of Tammy Mills, Dee Nichols, Erin Straine, local school teachers who mentor students, and representatives from Early Childhood and a KPE Coaching and Training.
   b. They hope to meet for the first time by the end of May.
   c. The purpose of the committee is to provide feedback to improve our field experience and curriculum.

6. Chapter 115 Revision - Sara Flanagan
   a. DOE revision – Chapter 115 is on hold. They need to address other parts of Chapter 115 and statutes.

7. Other Items?
   a. Evan Mooney has a new tenure-track position at Husson University.
b. The new grad certificate - Special Education Leadership: Assistant Special Education Director Graduate is online and accepting applications.
c. Special Education received a Federal Grant to help support tuition and enhance full-time grad student experiences in the Early Intervention/Early Childhood master program.
d. Beth Hufnagel will be replacing Eric Pandiscio as the Program Coordinator of the undergrad programs. We still need to go through with a vote to make it formal.
e. Sabbatical and phased retirement – Provost expects the Peer Committee to do a substantive review.
f. The Administration is working on a Non-Tenure track progression ladder.

Reports and Updates

1. COVID-19 related matters –
   a. If you are fully vaccinated no more testing will be required.
   b. No masks needed if outside and keeping a safe distance from others.
   c. Course instruction modality – It is up to the faculty if they want to deliver multiple modalities. There are no directives that say you have to accommodate all students.
   d. Students like to have options on course delivery.
   e. What can the instructor ask for safety procedures in the classroom such as students needing to wear mask?
   f. University might require vaccinations for students.
   g. Faculty might want to share with each other about teaching modalities and issues.
   h. CITL is going to have workshops on teaching issues involving COVID. You can attend live or watch a recording.
   i. The Administration will determine the policy about fall meetings.

2. Accreditation: CAEP & NECHE
   a. Jim Artesani and Jared Beal attended a meeting with CAEP, and we will not receive the final results until the end of May.
   b. NECHE – No news

3. Faculty Advisory Council (Tim Reagan & Asli Sezen-Barrie)
   a. The council did not meet this month.
   b. Contact Asli or Tim if you have any issues that need to be addressed at the next meeting.

4. Faculty Senate (Dee Nichols, Susan Bennett-Armistead & Asli Sezen-Barrie)
   a. They are stopping the assessment of Gen Eds and will form an Ad Hoc committee/task force to look at pathways for general education.
   b. The Senate is making inquiries about requiring vaccinations.
   c. Data was gathered across campus on the budget and areas of focus.
   d. Survey data on research and scholarship indicated research curtailments due to COVID.
   e. They have started looking at RLE proposals, and they plan on supporting many of them.
f. Looking at the cost to move to R1 Status, and if we have the resources to facilitate research.
g. We need someone to fill Asli’s Senate position.
h. Dee’s Senate term is ending and needs to be filled.

5. Other Committees?
   a. Dean search – Waiting for feedback from people who attended. Monday they will meet about final decision on the Dean candidates.

Old Business

1. Graduate Student Scholarship Committee
   a. Thank you to Beth, Janet, Sara, and Rich for serving on this Ad Hoc committee.
   b. Voted to make this a standing committee.

New Business

No new business

Adjourned: 2:09
Program Structure Discussion: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction (CA&I), and the Undergrad Elementary & Secondary Education

History:
- Eric Pandiscio is the Program Coordinator for the degree cluster of MAT, CA&I, and Elementary/Secondary Ed which is a significant task.
  - Bryan Silverman was the Degree Lead for MAT program
  - Evan Mooney was the Degree Lead for the CA&I program
  - Last year Bryan took over for Evan as the Degree Lead for CA&I

Future:
- Separate the graduate degrees out from the undergrad degrees

Discussion:
- Separating the grad programs from the undergrad programs makes it easier on the Program Coordinator when there is an issue.
- One issue is the MAT is both a graduate and initial certification program
- Involves more work for Bryan with the MAT and CA&I programs.
- CA&I degree programs are the hub involving all other programs – Special Education, Instructional Technology, Literacy, and eventually STEM. Everyone in the school is involved in some way with the program.
- We need to have a clear structure of a governing body for these programs and who makes changes.
  - Who should vote for changes to MAT and CA&I programs? Should it be at the School level?
  - Should we have input from Early Childhood and the RiSE Center?

Decision:
- School will be used to make decisions for the MAT and CA&I programs.
- Beth’s new Program Coordinator role will be for just the undergraduate Teacher Ed.

Adjourned: 2:33 pm