Minutes

Academic Matters Council
Wednesday, December 3, 2014

Linda Shea, Chair


APPROVE MINUTES for November 19, 2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS
M.J. Peterson noted that Stephen Walt's term on the AMC ends this month, and he will not be serving another term because his activity is shifting in a different direction. She thanked him for his excellent service on the course committee.

NEW BUSINESS
Provost Katherine Newman attended the first portion of the meeting and informed us that we just received the Davis Foundation funding for the ExSEL (Excellence through Student Enhanced Learning) program. This is funded for 2 years. Experiment with 5 courses in the Spring 2015 semester (2 chemistry, 1 biology, 1 math, and 1 economics).

Freshman Seminar – All incoming freshmen will take one course that is 19 people & under. This will provide a more intimate experience in a large campus setting (a universal experience). Some courses will be taught by faculty, some by advanced graduate students & post docs. If possible, 2016 start date. Discussion regarding undeclared students. Should they be attached to a college (not major) to provide them with a better landing experience? Have their first year seminars & advisors through chosen college (provide a sense of belonging). Transfer students experience should also be considered.

OLD BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

COURSE (M.J. Peterson)

Microbiology 494E Obesity, Supplements and the Microbiome *removed from agenda

Stockbridge 118 Introduction to the Food and Sustainable Agriculture Major (1 credit) APPROVED*

*with name change to: Introduction to the Sustainable Food and Farming Major

Sociology 424 Sex Work in Global Perspective (4 credit) APPROVED

PROGRAM (Patrick Kelly)

Accelerated Master’s Option in Civil and Environmental Engineering APPROVED (apply 9 credits to Masters programs)

POLICY (Pamela Marsh-Williams)

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday January 21, 2015 @ 12:15 pm, Campus Center 904-908