College of Letters and Science Academic Planning Council  (approved May 7)
Meeting Date:  Tuesday, April 16, 2013
Meeting Time:  1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Location:  101 South Hall (Dean’s Conference Room)

Chair: Gary Sandefur
Members present:  Harry Brighouse, Jan Edwards, John Hawks, Clark Johnson, Maria Muniagurria, Jennifer Noyes, Matt Turner
Observers: Marianne Bird-Bear, Maria Cancian, Gery Essenmacher, Anne Gunther, Elaine Klein, Lucy Mathiak, Nancy Westphal-Johnson, Sue Zaeske, Kimbrin Cornelius
Guests: Helen Kinsella and Scott Mobly (for Political Science discussion)
Absent: Kate Bartlett, Tom Givnish, Diane Gooding, Tom Broman

1. Academic Program Change: (a) Political Science: Request to Create New Online Education Program:
Post-Baccalaureate Capstone Certificate in “International Politics and Practice.” Professor Helen Kinsella and Scott Mobly (Grad Assistant) attended from the Political Science department, and MC led discussion. The proposed program is designed to educate a new population currently working in the international field, in the military and other areas. The program will be self-supporting through its generated revenue, and will provide opportunities for faculty to share expertise and research with the International Relations community. Courses will be online, post-baccalaureate versions of concurrently offered brick-and-mortar undergraduate courses (and taught by the same faculty member). Course offerings will start Summer 2013, with admissions starting at a later date. The proposal is supported by the LaFollette School and Economics department and has received initial review at the graduate school and campus level, and conforms to Capstone Certificates requirements. Members discussed if International Security should be in the name. HK replied that International Security is only one component of International Relations; faculty aim to bring a multidisciplinary perspective that goes beyond the relatively narrow field of security. Members asked about work to convert courses to an online format. HK reported three of the online courses have been created and the Department of Continuing Education will provide support. Members also commented that the assessment plan was excellent and broad in scope. A motion to approve the proposal was passed unanimously.

2. Announcements. (a) NWJ announced an upcoming Conference: LEAP 2.0: Integrating Liberal Education into a Changing Landscape, May 30-31, Pyle Center. (b) GS announced the APC Dinner, which will be held on May 21, 2013, 6:00 p.m, at the Madison Club. (c) GS provided an update on the Dean’s Search; it is on track to have the next dean appointed before Chancellor Ward’s departure. (d) GS announced on May 1, L&S will be honoring members of our community who have been singled out for awards. L&S Advising awards: Karen Thompson (Spanish & Portuguese), and Melanie Manion (LaFollette School & Political Science); L&S Academic Staff Awards: Laura Halverson Monahan (Zoology), Dorothea Salo (SLIS), Chad Wilkinson (Chemistry), Melanie Jones (Psychology), Daniel Den Hartog (Physics), Jennifer Tishler (Center for Russia, East Europe and Central Asia), Matthew Sanders (Chemistry); L&S Classified Staff Excellence Awards: Bill Bach - Department of Classics, Ann Harris - Institute for Research in the Humanities, John Koger - Department of Psychology, Betty Harwood - Department of Chemistry, Billy Gates - Department of Physics. (e) GS announced that L&S faculty and staff have won many other [Type text]
awards in recent weeks: William Aylward (Classics), Seth Blair (Zoology), Stefania Buccini (French & Italian), Rajiv Rao (Spanish & Portuguese), Karyn Riddle (Journalism), Jane Tibbetts Schulenberg (History), Ned Sibert (Chemistry) and Tehshik Yoon (Chemistry) have all been honored with distinguished teaching awards; 3 of 6 “Educational Innovations” Sabbaticals – congratulations to Wei-Yin Loh (Statistics), Marisa Otegui (Botany), and Ned Sibert (Chemistry); Campus-level Academic Staff Excellence Awards honor Danielle Benden (Anthropology) and Ilia Guzei (Chemistry).

3. Notes for the April 2, 2013 were not available in time for the council’s consideration; they will be available at the next meeting.

4. Request for Comment. (a) Notice of Intent: UW-Superior: BA in Writing. GS noted the English department provided him with concerns about the impact of this focused program on the English major at UW-Superior, and governance concerns. Members agreed these comments were outside of the intended scope for comments, which are those related to to overlap and collaboration, and L&S should not to forward these comments to Superior.

5. Request to Name. (a) School of Social Work: Request to Name a Room after Dean Schneck, former Director of Field Education. GS noted multiple accomplishments of Dean Schneck. A motion to approve the request was passed unanimously.

6. Academic Program Review (a) Certificate Program Review: Undergraduate Certificate in Medieval Studies. SZ led the discussion. SZ had several notes: (1) The program seems to have a lack of resources compared to the amount of complexity, with a faculty member doing timetable work. (2) The review indicates limited data; more would helpful. However, data does show about half of the students that enroll in the certificate do not complete it. (3) The review discusses graduate certificate, but again, resources are limited. (4) There is no assessment plan, they should create one that is achievable given their limited resources. EMK noted that all L&S programs must submit an assessment plan by May. Members discussed the issue of timetable support. The modest resources that were available to it while it was housed in the Department of English seem no longer to be provided now that it is in the Department of History. Members agreed a permanent home (or multiple homes) for interdisciplinary certificates should be required, and departments held accountable to that. SZ summarized that she would request an updated report that addressed (1) Reporting of additional data (2) investigation of potential reasons for attrition (3) ideas for addressing the timetabling/support issue, and (4) assessment of student outcomes.

7. Consultations of the Dean. (a) Cancellation of Senate Meeting. GS noted no substantive business that calls for assembling the Senate. Motion to approve cancellation of Senate Meeting passed unanimously. (b) Proposed College of the Arts. GS updated the committee that the School of Music will be meeting to vote on the CoTA in May. After they vote, the APC will also meet and vote. (c) Update on Division of International Studies. GS updated the committee the Provost appointed a committee to address identified concerns; a report is underway but likely won’t be ready until next Fall.

Meeting adjourned 2:13 pm  
Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, Curriculum Administration Specialist