BRIEF NOTES – approved 12/17/2019
L&S Academic Planning Council
Tuesday, December 3, 2019, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., 55 Bascom Hall

Chair: Eric Wilcots, Dean
Members attending:  Rebecca Dunn, Seth Blair, Susan Ridgely, Cecile Ane, Heather Allen, Jana Valeo, Jeanne Hamers, Steven Kantrowitz, Kristi Slack
Members Absent: Kris Olds
Observers: Kimbrin Cornelius, Cal Bergman, Elaine Klein, Greg Downey, Jennifer Noyes, Sue Zaeske, Gloria Mari-Beffa, Kristin Eschenfelder, Jennifer Noyes

1. Announcements. (None.)

2. Consent Agenda a. Approval of notes, November 19, 2019 b. Request for Comment or Support (i.) UW-Madison, College of Engineering, proposed program name change: from MS-Signal Processing and Machine Learning” to “Machine Learning and Signal Processing” (ii) UW System, UW-Milwaukee, proposed Undergraduate Major, BS American Sign Language / English Interpreting. Notes were removed from agenda (they were not circulated before the meeting). Members approved the other consent agenda items.

3. Request to Name: School of Social Work. The School of Social of Work proposed to rename to school to the Sandra Rosenbaum School of Social Work, to recognize a recent $25 million gift to the school. KS noted the gift is relatively unrestricted, which has been allowed the school has to be able to address some of their highest priorities. Members approved the request to rename the program.

4. Academic Program Policy Discussion (a) Low Award Programs: and Proposed Edits to UW System Policy. EMK noted the new UW System policy covers all program and no longer includes automatic exceptions for some types of programs. UW-Madison (and L&S) can still make an argument that a low enrollment program should be able to persist with low numbers. In conversation, members noted that L&S review of low enrollment programs should consider effort and resources required to maintain the program, the outcomes of students in the program, and the ‘right size’ of a program given the job market and faculty size. Low award numbers on their own don’t necessarily indicate resources and effort are out of line with program size. L&S should use some of their own more discerning metrics, budget information and data as well when considering low enrollment programs.

5. Reports: (a) UW Language Institute Annual Report https://go.wisc.edu/81237v Guest: Dianna Murphy, Director, Language Institute. DM provided an overview of the report. Highlights included: the number of languages (about 40) taught on campus; work in supporting excellence in language teaching (e.g. professional development, testing certification, pedagogical workshops); the recent of an addition of the Korean Flagship program and ongoing excellence of the Russian Flagship program; and K-17 outreach, including recently working with Wisconsin Dept of Public Instruction and Economic Development Corporation on “The Wisconsin Language Roadmap: Investing in Language Education for Wisconsin’s Future.”


Meeting adjourned at 2:20

Notes submitted by Kimbrin Cornelius, L&S Curriculum Administration Specialist