

MAFS Executive Board Minutes 11/2/16

| Agenda Item | Notes |
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| Attendance | Present: Ermek Nurkhaidarov, Kendra Sites, Somjit Barat, Hanifiah Harvey, Dan Dandy. Absent: Dr. Achampong, Mike Doncheski |
| Meeting called to order 12:20 | Chair Ermek Nurkhaidarov called meeting to order at 12:20pm |
| New PSU MA Website | Chair Ermek opened the meeting with a discussion of the new Mont Alto Website. Feedback from those in attendance was favorable: there are a number of useful tools and links on the new website that were not available heretofore. It is believed that Staci Grimes is to attend the next MAFS meeting for either a presentation or a Q & A session. |
| Psychology Degree Draft Update | Mike Doncheski emailed Ermek an update on the approval process for this draft. This email noted that it has been approved at UP and now needs to be approved by the Curriculum Committee. This should occur over the next week. |
| Committee Reports | <p>Diversity Committee: Somjit Barat reported that the monthly diversity-based meals at the Mill is progressing on course. There are a number of stakeholders involved, thus the process of coordinating these parties is not a rapid one. Nevertheless, confirmation of the dates and events should be soon forthcoming. Several members of the campus theme committee are working as part of this process.</p> <p>The Campus Climate Committee will be meeting on 11/8/16.</p> <p>Campus Planning Committee continues to meet monthly on Tuesday mornings.</p> <p>Campus Theme Committee: Dan Dandy to meet with Staci Grimes to facilitate a 'space' for posting campus theme activities. More information should be available by the next executive board meeting.</p> <p>The Athletic committee will be reporting progress and plans for upcoming Faculty / Staff Appreciation Events at the next MAFS meeting</p> <p>Diversity committee, IT committee did report during the last MAFS meeting.</p> <p>Curricular Affairs is going to report at the next meeting. Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs Committees did not have a report for Chair Ermek at the time of this executive board meeting</p> |
| November MASF Agenda | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The HDFS Club will present their initiative to use the "Nittany Nose" as a fund raising tool. 2. Stacy (New Athletic Director) will report on the successful seasons a number of PSU MA teams enjoyed this fall 3. Deb Mirdamadi emailed the Diversity Committee to suggest that the Chapel on campus, which is underutilized, be used as the student's spiritual center. Deb Mirdamadi's email included some history regarding an attempt some years ago to achieve this goal. It included changing the entry process to the Chapel from a key to a card swipe system. While funding for that process was approved, concerns related to student safety caused the final decision to be vetoed. <p>The committee discussed a wide array benefits to using the Chapel, spiritual and otherwise. It was concluded that Sher-ron Laud, staff member assigned to oversee and facilitate spiritual activities on campus, be informed of this revisiting of the Chapel. Further, the committee would like to see this opportunity be revisited. To that end, Somjit is to contact Deb Mirdamadi to ask her to discuss this proposal, its relevant history and rationale as well as to identify the necessary steps required to allow for this transition.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Staci Grimes may attend for either a presentation or a Q & A session regarding the new PSU MA Website. |

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| <p>MAFS and Exec Board Spring Schedule</p> | <p>MAFS general meetings for Spring 2017: Sci/Tech Room 204. 12:20 – 1:10 Wednesday 1/25. Wednesday 2/22. Monday 3/20. Monday 4/24. Executive Board meetings for Spring 2017: Conklin Room 105. 12:20 – 1:10 Friday 1/20. Wednesday 2/13. Friday 3/17. Monday 4/17. Note: It was suggested that light, yet invigorating refreshments be made available during the executive board meetings; i.e., coffee, tea, cookies.</p> |
| <p>Miscellaneous</p> | <p>Kendra Sites opened a discussion for the possibility of a mid-semester social event for faculty and staff. Past activities were shared; the possibility of a bon fire was suggested. A retirement party for those leaving the MA family at the end of June 2017 was also brought to the table. A challenge for a retirement party may be that those who have chosen to retire may not want to be identified at this point. Both of this social agenda items were held in abeyance at this time.</p> |
| <p>Adjournment</p> | <p>Chair Ermek adjourned the meeting at 1:00pm</p> |