

MAFS Executive Board Meeting 03/06/2020
Conklin Hall 105 12:20pm – 1:10 pm

Call to order

Dr. A & Susan by phone; Linghao could not attend

Approval of Minutes from February: No changes

Old Business

- Campus Strategic Planning
 - MAFS Committee Involvement (Academic Affairs & Diversity)
- New charge for Academic Affairs committee
 - Work with Dr. Doncheski to review:
 - Part-time faculty review process
 - Faculty availability/presence on campus
 - Office hours
- CANVAS group for faculty advisors (K Herrmann)
 - Sophia & Megan are now teachers in Canvas site, so they can add material

New Business:

- MAFS Elections - Updates & Review Procedures (held in April 2020)
 - 1 University Faculty Senator -> 4 names so far
 - 3 MAFS Executive Board Members -> 2 names so far
 - 1 University College Faculty Council -> 2 names so far
 - New voting method -> ask Kira for help
 - One volunteer for all three-> Tom will ask to limit to just one
- Common Hour Discussion – (from Kira – see details in agenda)
 - Request for Tu/Th common hours
 - Jeff said it is technically possible, but probably very difficult
 - Physics alone would be very challenging & 7-8 other courses generally offered during 12:05 - 1:20 pm on TR (standard time)
 - Biggest challenge: 100% embracing of common hour
 - Related to standard schedule, but also Nursing clinicals, Forestry labs...
 - It would be great, but pulling out one strand would unweave the whole schedule tapestry
 - Could we make Fridays more functional & schedule more events to encourage attendance?
 - Friday is lightest in general at PSU -> we fall within the university standard
 - Students try to avoid Friday classes, but we could offer more activities
 - Related to Mike's Faculty availability/presence on campus discussion -> Tabled for now
 - Not all Fridays -> Last Friday of Spring -> carnival, bottle launching, petting zoo...
- Academic Awards Discussion – (From Kira – see details in agenda)
 - Kira's concerns -> about timing for nominations
 - We need deadlines in general (some faculty don't like deadlines, though...)
 - No set awards; new awards can be created -> if you create a new award, plan to present it
 - Concerns from last year -> order of presenters (back & forth...)
 - Clearly challenging when last minute presenters change, but awards were alphabetical...
 - Concern: faculty were asked not to speak about students (except 2 special awards)
 - Not fair that some students were extolled whereas nothing was said about others
 - Seemed like more time was spent on introducing faculty/staff than the awards =P

- Mike will communicate with Charlene & Curtis
- It used to be Academic then Leadership -> people leaving & coming (used to be 3 hrs), now down to ~1.5 hrs
- Summer Classes and Campus Activities (Tom)
 - <https://businessofficermagazine.org/features/position-for-strength>
 - Dead summer campus -> bring it more to life (other than camps, NSO...)
 - Academics: summer rules change -> any PSU student can take any course from any campus
 - Generally have many UP students taking online PSMA summer courses
 - Not too many face-to-face... Math 140 & 141, but not too much else (only ~25% face to face in summer -> flips in Fall/Spring)
 - Salary -> Faculty incentive to have a full summer class (generally means online)
 - Summer classes are expensive; new summer \$2,000 award -> 100 across PSU this year
 - Covers a good bit of a 3 credit summer course; For students falling behind a bit
 - Typically ~300 seats in classes (75% online) -> 75 on campus
 - Construction this summer could be challenging...
 - What about for the community instead of just PSMA students?
 - Concerts? Planetarium Shows? -> Will people come?
 - Social Media -> PSMA has 3rd lowest following (Twitter)
 - New marketing director (Courtney) will be working on social media & strategies
 - January planetarium shows better attendance in general
 - > first time to request social media advertisement (might have really helped)
 - Looking into inconsistencies & post cards -> saw gaps & room for improvement
 - Brainstorming at March MAFS meeting? Fairly light agenda -> sure
 - Invite Courtney to MAFS meeting -> introduction & brainstorming

March Agenda additions?

- Academic Festival update -> brief, will be day of proposal deadline
- Coronavirus update -> changing quickly...
- IT committee & teaching with technology?
 - Concern: What percentage of students will have Wifi reliability issues?

Working Agenda for MAFS Meeting 3/20

- Call to Order
- Approval of Meeting Minutes
- Announcements
 - MAFS Chair
 - Chancellor (Dr. Achampong)
 - Chief Academic Officer (Dr. Doncheski)
- University Faculty Senator's Report
- Speakers:
 - Athletic Training / Injury Protocols (Mike Marsh)
- Committee Reports
 - To be given at the meeting or sent by email

Open Discussion / New Business

Adjournment

Next MAFS meeting Monday April 13, 12:20pm-1:10pm, 204 ST.