

MPA Monthly Meeting 11.21.19

Present: Mike, Anna, Puanani, Amy, Meghan, Yoichiro, Cali, Lucky and Dhara (note taker).

Introduction and Announcements:

- Working ground rules posted on board
- Reminder about Cali's December 11 talk at Lord Mansion, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- Textbook orders for winter: overdue, be sure to follow up
- In a recent meeting, Jon Davies from UFE, indicated that faculty could be sanctioned for teaching fewer credit hours than is the practice for his/her program.
- Send Mike AY 2020-2021 preferences by Friday, 11.22.19 (even if preliminary)
- Amy is looking at joining the Board of South Sound YMCA. This would be a four-year commitment. Please let her know if you have any information about this organization.

Director Updates:

ATNI

Mike met with Leonard Forsman, Alan Parker, Ron Allen. Curriculum needs: collaborative governance, policymaking process, economic development, natural resource management.

NASPAA

Mike attended a workshop on accreditation standards and process; new MPA director's session (community engagement), emergency management curriculum.

Centennial Accord

Transition barriers for Native students, need for better coordination on financial aid.

Legislative Professional Training Program

Jeremy Mohn, Larry Geri and Mike met to discuss alternative ways of approaching (graduate certificate program vs. professional certification/continuing education model). Jeremy also met with the Legislature's legislative aides committee and they expressed interest in the professional certification option. Considering next steps.

Transcriptability of Concentrations

Mike had an initial discussion at the graduate program meeting in October. There is a slow-down because of turnover in R&R. The MPA Admissions team (that was created at the MPA retreat in September) will be meeting in January with Amanda Mobbs to go over the Admissions process. Mike, in preparation for this meeting will begin looking at existing models from colleges that also don't use grading systems such as Antioch, Reed and Santa Cruz. Please send Mike any promising templates you might have for this.

Summer Schedule

It's nearly finalized. Mike is still looking for a 2 credit elective.

Assistant Director Updates:

Anna has Info sessions coming up at Department of Ecology and a Latino leadership networking event. We now have texting software to text prospective students. Anna tried it yesterday and had one recipient of the texts, reply. She thinks it may be useful to remind students about deadlines. Student Ambassadors are working on blogs and making calls to prospective students. They also started an MPA Instagram account that they're posting to while Anna monitors it. Send your syllabi for Winter quarter to Anna by Dec. 3rd. Beginning next quarter, please send your syllabi to Dhara. Anna will be sending you a request to rate students for the Merritt award. Graduate Sustainability Fellowships are due at the end of this week. Students interested in sustainability are encouraged to apply for the 2020 Sustainability Fellowships

Puanani has been pulling meaningful MPA data such as "1408 MPA students have gone through the program. Of these 1408 graduates, we have approximately 150 Tribal Governance (TG) graduates. MPA started in 1982 and Tribal Governance started in 2002." She looks forward to continuing to collect empowering numbers for our program. She's also working on building bridges between TG and the PNAPP concentrations while building MPA Tacoma with Olympia concentrations. Recruiting – tomorrow five tribal students are coming into talk with her specifically for TG admissions. Tacoma students are waiting for the Sankofa bird to be on the marketing items before they will buy them. Puanani is addressing this issue/task with Marketing. A question arose from Faculty about supporting TG's enrollment through advising prospective students about funding options. Puanani said to encourage FAFSA. She also said that they need to know if they're offered loans, to be cautioned against accepting all the money they're offered because they will have to pay it back.

Next Steps in Curriculum Review:

Background

MPA program faculty and staff met on November 12 to develop goals for our curriculum review and to give a preliminary review to proposals for curriculum changes. Mike Fraidenburg from the Thurston County Dispute Resolution Center facilitated that meeting. Meeting outputs include 1) a rank ordered set of goals for the review and 2) a preliminary rating from faculty on a set of proposed frameworks for the curriculum based on how well they satisfy these goals. These outputs are included in a forthcoming set of meeting notes.

Decisions

- Majority would like a facilitator at upcoming curriculum meetings (this would need to be approved by administration.)
- Majority approve Mike Fraidenburg being invited back however they would like feedback to be given to him regarding a brief check in and check out time, while also holding the group to a precise meeting end time.
- After Dec. 3rd Curriculum meeting, we will extend these meetings from 1.5 hours to 2 hours.

Next Steps in Curriculum Review (con't):

- Focus for next meeting:
 1. Review cohort framework: Do we keep a cohort model? If so, have we defined the cohorts appropriately?
 2. Look at 4 vs 4+2 models
(Would like to build these models out with the bigger group because only 3 people built the models that were considered at the previous meeting)
 - Format
 - Core content
 - Pre-requisites
 - Concentrations
 3. Look at 2 required concentrations with a 6 credit core as a model (no change for Public Policy but a change for Tribal and PNAPP)

Comments:

- If we go down to 4 credits, we would have to make some courses mandatory in addition to core.
- Recruiting is awkward because our requirements are so inconsistent within our programs.
- Sometimes prospective students have to be guided away from Tribal Governance because of the limited offerings in that program.
- It was suggested that we add the words "Introduction to" in front of our cores because as they currently read, they're misleading to students.

Mike to do:

- i. Do we have to go through NWCCU to review major and minor changes?
- ii. Updates about what's possible with regards to changing teaching time.

AY 2020-2021 Course Offerings

Background: Mike is in the process of developing our curriculum for AY 2020-2021. He would like faculty input on elective course offerings we should plan to offer this year so he can begin to consider appropriate full-time and adjunct faculty to offer those courses. **He is trying to have a rough draft of the next Academic Year timeline by the first week of Dec. Please let him know your ideas as soon as possible.**

Core program: 4 teaching teams needed:

- 1) First Year Olympia PNAPP: Will need 3 Faculty if we are aiming to admit 45 students per usual
- 2) First year TG: Aiming for 30 admissions and so 2 Faculty
- 3) Second year Olympia PNAPP: 2 Faculty (Cali and Wenhong Wang)
- 4) Second year Tacoma PNAPP: 2 Faculty (Doreen and Tyrus Smith)

Policy: Planning to offer Foundations of Public Policy (fall) in Tacoma and Olympia (winter), FAME in Tacoma and ARM in Olympia.

AY 2020-2021 Course Offerings Director Analysis

Analysis assumes a profile similar to this year
(admitting about 75 students, 45 in Olympia, 30 in TG)

Some analysis on elective offerings under alternative workload:

Given faculty line resources from the College (7.75), with a 30-hour workload over the year we can on average offer 8.5 concentration and elective courses (4 hours at 15:1 ratio) per quarter

Goes down by 1 course for every 2 hour drop in workload:

28: 7.5

26: 6.5

24: 5.5

Typically offer between 6.5 and 9 concentration courses per quarter:

Fall 18: 9

Winter 19: 6.5

Spring 19: 8.5

Fall 19: 8

Slack analysis: Between 0 and 2 courses worth of slack on electives and concentration courses

Possible consequences from not meeting demand:

--- More demand for summer courses

--- Students take longer to graduate

AY 2020-2021 Group Discussion

Cali would like to teach a legislative centric policy class next year but she thinks another class needs to be taught in Tacoma. Amy is willing to teach her policy class in Tacoma; Foundations in Olympia with Cali and Foundations in Tacoma with Amy. Amy will offer her Policy class in the Fall in Tacoma. This will give us 2 core classes in Tacoma in the Fall.

We need more 4 credit non-profit classes. We may need adjuncts for non-profit because we only have Doreen who has expertise in this area. Cali can teach process orientated policy, State Policy process (perhaps she will teach this in Spring). Adjuncts would be good topical faculty such as veteran's policy.

Can we do 2 weekends of non-profit to meet student need?

Position elective classes so that they're not competing with budget and finance classes. Schedule budget and finance classes so that students are encouraged to take them.

Some Faculty would like to reduce our reliance on adjuncts. Faculty are the only ones who can take Independent Learning Contracts (ILC) and internships and should be getting to know their students so that they can advise them appropriately.

Mike offered to be available for ILC's if Faculty are too overloaded.

Lacking infrastructure around faculty advising their students, so students often go to Anna and Puanani for their advising needs.

Next MPA Monthly Meeting is Thursday December 12th at 11:30 am in LAB I 3033