Notes MPA May 28th Program Meeting

Doreen Swetkis, Amy Gould, Wenhong Wang, Marcia Zitzelman, Mike Craw, Cali Ellis, Puanani Nihoa, Meghan Doughty, Dhara Katz, Lucky Anguelov, Larry Geri, Eric Trevan

Mike – please have your students fill out the Student Survey, due June 7th.

Congratulations to Lucky Anguelov on his successful application for conversion to permanent faculty!

Summer symposium summary-who should we invite? Maybe service learning partners could be invited. Amy will send Mike those names. In O Drive for grad studies, Excel MPA Alumni Pierce county list, some don’t have their names as confidential so that could be an invitation list.

MPA Retreat – Tuesday Sept 15th Virtual, Separate morning and afternoon sessions. 10-12/1:30-4pm

Agenda planning

Phase two of curriculum redesign scheduling

Farmhouse virtual background

MPA Hooding Ceremony summary – explained some technical difference between zoom and webinar. Rehearsal Tuesday June 9th at 1:30 pm please participate. Please encourage your students to sign into the webinar at 9:30 am on June 12th. Mike shared the program. Discussed Faculty Regalia-bookstore not renting to Faculty this year. If you’re missing regalia, please don’t worry. Your presence will be what is important for students. We were thinking of doing a pre program slide show. Cali has some fun photos and messages. Mike can coordinate that.

Marcia shared the alumni engagement card and t-shirts. We would like to work with bookstore to get ongoing MPA t-shirts in the bookstore. Engagement card - Please keep us updated with your latest email addresses. Marcia reported on Graduate Virtual Fair success-25 students came and had 5 interested students.

Dhara updated us on The Alumni Newsletter and on the Capstone blog

Puanani-we had 8 new applications since the grad fair

42PNAPP

13TG

8 applications are missing pieces

Looks like we have 55 coming in with 8 new apps and 8 in process

We’re having some troubles with getting transcripts because of the virtual environment but we’re giving people until Fall to get these to us. (Have you checked with mail services?)

Recruitment: Mike suggested faculty visit campuses. It’s important that we align with Evergreen on this. We need to position ourselves in a public service mindset and align with the government, individuals, etc. There’s a lot of synergy with community stakeholders. Developing relationships with political science career counselors and associations are good for building relationships with faculty at other colleges. Cali is willing to go visit Seattle Universities and Colleges. Seattle Central would be great one to visit. Would be good to target women’s study departments. Mike will reach out to NW Political Science Association. Mike will put together a list of undergraduate directors and we can revisit this in the Fall. Amy would like to do a symposium with Cali in Seattle. Amy wants us to use our Alumni base for recruiting. Invite Alumni and ask to bring a friend to these. Please ensure that we get Alumni updated email addresses. We need to tap into our community involvements like soccer league, network. ASPA has Ron Simms. We could use their leadership to invite to our symposiums. Good to ask people with big social networks to use their social media accounts to publicize our recruiting events.

Cali and Doreen have volunteered to serve on the Presidential search committee. [Committee has not been finalized yet].

Larry joined the meeting:

Thanks for all of your work on the curriculum changes in terms of what our students need and how to move the program forward. Jen is trying to employ a disciplined approach in terms of updating our models. She has an implementation model with a feasibility study in terms of investment and how it meshes with the undergrad program.

We’ve lost a lot of people in the past year. Students have been reporting difficulties with contacting our departments right now. We don’t need a full-scale study like MIT did however we will need some report on how this will work with undergrad. We just want to ensure we will be able to work through roadblocks ahead of time.

Eric: What are your overall thoughts about our model, Larry?

Larry: It makes sense in terms of looking at how the needs of our students have evolved. It would mean some big changes in Tribal Governance. We also have to look at how this effects Tacoma. We are also looking a graduate school with a Dean in charge of that school with program directors. We have to think through what our growth strategy is. UW Tacoma comes up with new programs every year and we need to offer more to our students.

Amy: We’ve been working on this for three years and I’m not a fan of you referring to this as a proposal or suggesting a feasibility study. This was presented as a decision.

Larry: My boss will have to answer to the State funders and I think you’ve likely already done a lot of the feasibility study, and we should be able to move it through to implementation fairly easily however, the provost is insisting on it.

Cali: Adding another Tacoma as a cohort is just not possible because we don’t have enough faculty to support that.

Larry: Yes, if we did that, we would have to add additional lines. We have some interesting proposals in terms of climate, and computer design on the undergraduate level. We just want to make sure that certain items have been considered before we move it forward.

Doreen: In Fall 2019 the administration came to Mike and asked us to do another cohort in Tacoma without a feasibility study during our pilot. Doreen doesn’t feel that what was relevant for MIT is relevant for us. We go off to Summer in two weeks. Part of our Sept retreat is to plan for this implementation in 2021. Our redesign mirrors really well, the new Tuition Waiver policy that works better with a 4 credit core. We’ve had a huge recruitment number drop off in the last 3 rounds of student recruitment efforts. Any delay to our implementation could be to the permanent detriment of our MPA Program. We have already thoroughly investigated our data.

Larry: Will work with Mike and Amy Betz before June 12th to try to move this forward significantly before then.

Cali: What kind of pushback might we expect?

Larry: Goal is for a couple of us talking with Amy Betz about implications for the rest of the college before June 12th. We’re under tremendous financial pressures. This group will write up a short document to go along with your decision and then we will present this to the Academic group and then we will send it to the Provost and then hopefully move it along before July 13th. I can understand where you’re frustrated because it wasn’t communicated that this would have to happen at the end of your curriculum redesign. We want to show the world we’re going to be making big changes and then not follow through, as we really need to take action on building our reputation up.

Eric: We went through a variety of implications and from various viewpoints. We put something together that was very good. We are trying to fix our program and we need your help on this, Larry. Please tell us what forms we need to fill out now and what we need to do so we can expedite this.