Western Connecticut State University
University Planning and Budget Committee
Minutes
October 2, 2017 • SC 226 • 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Members present (alphabetical by last name):
Missy Alexander, Emilio Collar, Veronica Kenausis, Sean Loughran, Patty O’Neill, Tom Philbrick, Heather Stone, Linda Warren

Guests (alphabetical by last name):
Mary-Ann Dease, Patti Ivry, George Kain, Jay Murray

Meeting called to order: 2:30 PM

1. Appointment of recording secretary: Emilio Collar

2. Tom Philbrick asked for a moment of silence for the victims of the Las Vegas shooting

3. Patty O’Neill calls for a motion to approve the UPBC minutes from the 09/11/2017 meeting
   a. Tom Philbrick (moved)
   b. No discussion
   c. Vote to approve (unanimously approved)

4. Jay Murray provided an update regarding enrollment
   a. Undergraduate enrollment has decreased by 0.8% compared to last year (this decrease is much smaller compared to the decrease in prior years)
   b. Graduate enrollment has increased by 11.6% compared to last year
   c. Total: Enrollment is down overall by 0.1% compared to last year
   d. We have 830 first-year students; first increase since the 2010-2011 academic year
   e. Growth from out-of-state enrollment from 7 counties
      1) Increase of 238 students, compared to only 67 students from last year
      2) Need to expand to more counties; the number of students coming from Connecticut continues to decline
   f. Success of TAP; TAP can be applied at Western
      1) TAP enables students to keep taking the courses they need
   g. Community colleges in Fall 2017 dropped by 1.5% FTE
      1) Naugatuck dropped by 2.9%
      2) Dutchess Community College has been a very good feeder school for Western due in part to very good collaboration. That is, we are hosted by Dutchess to bring Western representatives and present a case for completing their degree at Dutchess and continuing for their 4-year degree at Western.
   h. Private schools have become really competitive. For example, many private schools offer 50% off tuition for their incoming FY students. They take money from their operating budget to pay for cost.

5. Patty O’Neill asked for a motion to discontinue the MJA program
   a. Veronica (1st)
   b. Tom (2nd)
   c. Discussion led by George Kain
      1) Enrollments are not there
      2) University of New Haven waives tuition for police officers in Connecticut for their program; very difficult to compete with UNH for students
      3) No students in the program remain; final 5 students have graduated
4) We have no choice but to close the program; we could not compete with other schools in the state.

5) Department currently under discussion for alternatives and trying to reconfigure the program. For example, the department discussed a Master of Criminal Justice in Homeland Security.
   i. The expertise we need for such a program is very high
   ii. Resources are scarce
   iii. Cannot conduct this kind of program completely online
   iv. Need specialists to teach specialized courses, such as Digital Forensics

6) The original MJA program started with students predominantly from law enforcement that did not want online programs. These numbers dwindled over time.

7) Patty O’Neill called for a vote to discontinue the MJA
   i. Vote: unanimous to discontinue MJA

6. Introduction of new program in HPX: MS in Nutrition
   a. Patty O’Neill: Calls for a motion to approve the new HPX Program: MS in Nutrition
      1) Veronica (1st)
      2) Linda (2nd)
      3) Discussion led by Patti Ivry
         i. 1st Masters degree for HPX department
         ii. Fastest growing area of interest in this field
         iii. Department is also exploring a future Bachelor degree in Public Health. Western could become one of only 10 schools accredited for Public Health
         iv. The goal is to add one full-time faculty line
         v. Enrollment projection: 15 to 20 students (which is conservative)
         vi. Jay Murray: what is the capacity of the program when it begins? Patti Ivry: we have capacity to start off with 20 to 30 students
         vii. Course delivery: hybrid courses may be effective in this program; we want to keep this program “on the ground” and not go completely online
      4) Patty O’Neill calls for a vote to approve the MS in Nutrition program
         i. Vote: unanimous to approve MS in Nutrition

7. Patty O’Neill calls for a motion to adjourn
   a. Linda (1st)
   b. Veronica (2nd)

Meeting adjourned 3:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Emilio Collar