

Department Faculty Meeting

April 7, 2015

Noon – 1:20 Gould 208J

Agenda items

12:05 — 12:10	Vote: Professor Yu Yang, Visiting Scholar	Purcell/Shen
12:10 — 12:15	Vote: Professor He Zhongyu, Visiting Scholar	Purcell/Shen
12:15 — 12:35	Discussion: Peer Evaluation of Teaching	Purcell
12:35 — 12:55	Discussion: Faculty Merit Reviews	Purcell
12:55 — 1:15	Discussion: MUP Pre-requisites	Abramson
1:15 — 1:20	Updates: Other business	Purcell/others

Additional information

Present: Larissa Maziak, Mark Purcell, Dan Abramson, Christine Bae, Kelly Hostetler, Sofia Dermisi, Phil Hurvitz, Bob Mugerauer, Fritz Wagner, Branden Born, Don Miller, Qing Shen, Himanshu Grover, Bob Freitag, Manish Chalana, Anne Moudon

Visiting Scholar: Morten Nicolaisen

UDP student rep: Jacob Brett

CEP student reps: Mihai Baltatescu, Dat Nguyen

Vote on Visiting Scholar Professor Yang

Discussion on Professor Yu Yang:

Qing is committed to support Professor Yang

Dan A moves Bob M seconds

Yes 9 0 No, 0 Abstentions

Vote on Visiting Scholar Professor He

Discussion on Professor He

Qing is committed to support Professor He

Bob M motions, Don M seconds

Yes 9 0 No, 0 Abstentions

Peer evaluation discussion

Traditionally, the department has been doing them on a series of different scales. The expectation from beyond the department is that we should do them more frequently.

One question: Are we happy with our current format?

How do want these to be, how are they to be carried out?

Qing points out that the department policy was created not that long ago.

Bob suggests having a meeting with the person you are reviewing.

Are people frank in their evaluations?

People should be honest and constructive...go in with good intentions but negative comments should be noted if negative observation's found

When you critique, are you looking at it from the teaching objective or learning objectives?

These reviews are important to truly gauge how instructors are doing in the classroom. With student's we like to focus on improvement...what's wrong with giving faculty a chance to improve?

What do we expect of the person being reviewed. For some...teaching is not their strong suit.

There is an evaluation form that we adopted from UW Landscape Architecture, faculty may use this or not.

These are due May 1!

Merit Reviews discussion:

Merit reviews are due May 29.

In order to do these, FAR's need to be turned in early May so we can do reviews during the May faculty meeting.

It's a laborious process but it's something that needs to be done.

Emails will come soon reminding faculty to turn in FAR's and CV's to Larissa ASAP

Prereqs Discussion: Dan Abramson

There are three prereqs the department requires to get into the program. If they don't meet these requirements, they are expected to complete before graduations

- Diversity
- Math
- Economics
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If we can get rid of these that would be ideal, so we either agree that we get rid of them and fold these items into the current curriculum or come up with another alternative.

Christopher wondered if we could make more inclusion of diversity in general

On the basis of all this the committee recommends to get rid of the diversity prereqs

Economic and math are currently needed for some courses but does every student getting a MUP require economics and math to complete the degree?

The current prereq system is hard to enforce...but how do we work these into the core?

Our peer universities do not require prereq's but they do offer some of these in their core. Do we have room in our curriculum to beef up our core that would offer more math, economics?

Making prereqs for math and econ may not be the best idea...but what are the core competencies which we provide?

Let's look at BA curriculum in general at UW...what are their math, econ requirements. At UW the math/econ requirement is VERY broad.

How much is it necessary to define something as narrowly defined as econ as something that is absolutely necessary to become a planner

What can they not be a planner without?? That should be our core.

We don't really have answers for what makes a planner! It's a very diverse notion.

Our default definition is our core curriculum...Folding these into the first year core would be ideal.

The curriculum committee is looking for the faculty to take on, roll the prereqs into their courses

Prereq Vote (Economics Specifically)

Dan recommends that we replace the prereq of diversity with diversity content in our core, required courses, building on the current diversity knowledge that incoming students already have

Don moves Ann seconds

9 Yes 0 No 0 Abstentions

Next step is to have a conversation with the curriculum committee that the faculty came to a consensus.

Faculty search:

Applications are coming in but there needs to be a stronger search