

Meeting Minutes

Urban Design & Planning

Department Meeting

January 18, 2017 *****NOTE NEW DAY*****

Noon - 1:20 Gould 100

Agenda items

12:00 - 12:05	Approval of 1/04/17 minutes	Campbell
12:05 - 12:15	MUP application numbers and review	Siembor
12:15 - 12:30	MUP admissions policy change discussion	Campbell
12:30 - 12:45	Faculty Senate representative nomination and vote	Campbell
12:45 - 12:55	Real Estate Update – announcement of faculty vote to secede from the Department of Urban Design and Planning. Resolution to support.	Campbell
12:55 – 1:00	Edgar From Advancement	Gonzalez

Additional information

Green Dot training Feb 8 sign up is in the Chairs note email as a shared doc.

Potential dates for PC and Faculty dinner (hosted by PC) are Thu. Feb 16 OR Wed Feb 23. Quick poll which will work best for faculty?

DAP is this Friday in Gould Court

Present:

Qing Shen, Larissa Maziak, Christopher Campbell, Simon Stevenson, Sofia Dermisi, David Blum, Himanshu Grover, Bob Mugerauer, Diana Siembor, Branden Born, Rachel Berney, Manish Chalana (late arrival Phil Hurvitz)

Absent: Marina Alberti, Christine Bae

1. Approval of Jan 4 meeting minutes:

Qing moves Bob second

Yes 7

No 0

Abstain 1

2. MUP Applications: Numbers and review

We have received 207 applications this year, which is down from 220-230 received over the last couple years.

We don't have all the demographics yet but there are fewer international students, which is on par with other planning programs, and fewer women applicants than men.

We have to admit the same number of applicants - our target is a class of 35-40 students.

We will begin reviewing applicants soon

As in past years, the faculty will be divided into teams of 2 responsible for reviewing 40 students per group

3. MUP Admission Policy Change: Discussion and Vote

Proposal: The Chair, in consultation with Diana, proposes to eliminate winter quarter admissions and instead direct these students to the GNM program.

Rational:

The intention of winter admissions was to help create a larger class size but the number of students who apply and actually come winter quarter is very low (Diana provided some numbers in a handout)

Winter quarter is only feasible for local students, which means the pool of potential applicants is also small.

Winter quarter enrollment puts the students out of sequence in the MUP curriculum and can lead to falling behind. Students miss critical first quarter courses and must take them instead in their second year when other members of their cohort are taking studios and elective courses.

In our experience, the path from GNM tends to be a better fit. Students can “test” the program and gain credits, then apply in fall and begin in sequence but already ahead in credits. About 50% of GNM students go on to enroll in the full MUP degree.

Discussion

GNM is a good way to assess students and see if they are ready for the program

One disadvantage really is that GNM is only feasible for local residence.... The program only allows for local students

Removing the winter quarter admission may be a disadvantage for International students

Seems like the data is there.... but can we look at a couple of cycles and come back to this??

Diana has agreed to keep track of how many requests for winter quarter she receives over the next couple of years.

Vote:

Bob M moves to accept that we no longer admit winter quarter applicants.

Branden seconds

5 yes

4 abstain

0 no

4. Allowing MUP students to be a part the MUP admissions process: Discussion and vote

Proposal: The Chair received a request from current MUP students via Diana to explore the possibility of adding 2nd year MUP students to the MUP admissions process. The proposal would be to include MUP students in the review process for the purposes of 1) increasing the engagement of MUP students in the program; 2) bringing a student perspective to the review process, and 3) bringing greater diversity to the review process.

There are several models for including students:

1. A student can be assigned to each 2-person faculty review committee and provide scores that would be included in the applicant totals.
2. A student could be added to the finals committee to help review the final scores.
3. A combination of 1 & 2.

Diana noted that, according to the Graduate School, students are permitted to serve on admissions committees. In this case, if we were to include students, we would use second year students only to lessen the possibility that they were reviewing the materials of their future peers.

The Chair noted that CEP has successfully used students on their admissions committee since the inception of the major.

Discussion:

Many years ago, the MUP program did include students on the admissions committee.

At what point would students get involved?

The initial review process requires a large time commitment. Would students have the time?

The Dept of Landscape Architecture has student votes but they don't necessarily apply the votes
Students could provide comments but not have votes. We could give students a vote or not give them a vote
Including students may add an additional hurdle in the process but won't necessarily produce a better batch of students admitted to the program.
To be responsive to this request from the students, could they be part of the final decision but not be part of the review teams?
To bring students in the final phase of the admissions process is not as a good idea; they should really be a part of the entire process if we are going to use them.
We should try to provide a positive response to the students and their request
How about including students in the second round....we can see how their scores compare to the faculty?

[The original minutes end here without a clear resolution. At the March 1 departmental meeting, members of the faculty made clear that MUP students should not be permitted to review applicants at any point during the admissions process. This was contrary to what other members heard, including the Chair and program adviser, who heard that we continue to explore the use of students by inviting one student to join a review team and submit scores. These scores would then be compared to the faculty scores during the final admissions committee meeting.]

Vote:

No formal motion was made or vote taken.

5. College Committee Nominations

- Faculty Senate Representative nomination
Jan Whittington is our current representative but we need to find a replacement while she is on sabbatical
Faculty nominates Mark Purcell
Vote TBD by email vote
- College curriculum committee nomination
Jan Whittington is our current representative but we need to find a replacement while she is on sabbatical
Faculty nominates Christine Bae
Vote TBD by email vote
- We also need a replacement on the PhD Committee
Manish volunteers to be on the committee

6. Real Estate Update: Real Estate faculty voted to secede from the Department of Urban Design and Planning so they may form their own department.

The department has read the letter from the Dean

The department acknowledges the vote of the Real Estate secession from UDP

7. Announcements:

Dinner date for PC and Faculty either Feb 16 or Feb 22

Green Dot training is happening February 8

Safer Zone by the Q center training is Jan 30

DAP this Friday

MUP alum Diana Sugimura is this year's distinguished deans lecture speaker Feb 7

8. Edgar from Advancement

Faculty, staff and retirees are encouraged to engage in the UW giving campaign.