

UAP Meeting
Friday, February 1, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Altgeld 315

Present: Abendroth, Ballantine, Coley, Comber, Cripe, Douglass, Doyle, Gipson, Hogan, Jaekel, Siblik, Subramony, Zack

Guests: Barbara Gonzalez, Chair, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science and Marc Falkoff, Associate Dean, College of Law

1. Announcements

- Mission Review and Revision Working Group feedback is live. Please take a minute to take the survey and give some feedback. About 130 responses so far from faculty, civil services and students. Closing window for the survey is February 8. The link was emailed to you from NIU Today but you can also go to the President's webpage and access the link.

2. 2018 Program Review Findings Report – Carolinda Douglass

- Report provides information on academic programs and centers that were reviewed in 2017-2018 by the Academic Planning Council.
- The report is sent to all of the programs that participated in the review.
- It is shared with different governing councils.
- Presented to the BoT and the IBHE.
- Many programs will come back in eight years for their next Program Review, unless they want to be aligned with their accrediting body.
- If there are any concerns, about assessment it will be included in the report.

3. Review of Assessment Plans and Status Reports

- B.A. in Theatre Studies – Assessment Plan and Status Report
 - There was no representative from the School of Theatre and Dance to discuss the report.
 - Some SLOs were considered not robust enough- as a result, suggestions were made to use active actionable language such as demonstrate, perform etc. in their SLOs.
 - Suggestions for developing SLOs included: consider if the program would like to combine SLO F and G, or if they should be left as separate learning outcomes, could SLO G be an outcome and F be a method.
 - Assessment Methods: suggestions were made to incorporate additional methods to map on to SLOs.
 - Employer and Alumni feedback – needs to be included.
 - No results were included at this time. The UAP voted for this program to present an updated report with results in fall 2020 (AY 2020-2021) so they have time to collect data for current SLOs.
 - **At the recommendation of UAP members, motion was made by Therese Arado to come back in fall 2020-2021 with results to present to the UAP. Seconded by Brad Cripe. Motion passed.**

- M.F.A. in Theatre Arts – Assessment Plan and Status Report
 - There was no representative from the School of Theatre and Dance to discuss the report.
 - SLOs – M.F.A. and the B.F.A. had very similar language. Consider what distinguishes the B.F.A. and the M.F.A.; these programs should have much different SLOs considering one is a baccalaureate level degree and one is a graduate level degree. Even if there is a high degree of collaboration between the two programs, the SLOs for the two need to be different.
 - When using the same tool/rubric for both the B.F.A. and the M.F.A. then the tool needs to be tweaked to show the difference that are required for the two degrees. Presently, the program is using a checklist – consider developing this into a rubric.
 - Methods: clarify what terms such as “progressing” mean so such performance standards are clear to both students and faculty.
 - Why is the annual assessment update data not included in this status report?
 - **At the recommendation of UAP members, motion was made by Therese Arado to come back in fall 2020-2021 with results to present to the UAP. Seconded by David Ballantine. Motion passed.**

- Proposed B.S. in Actuarial Science – Assessment Plan only
 - Barbara Gonzalez, Chair, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science was in attendance to discuss the report.
 - Barbara gave us a brief introduction to the proposed degree and how it is currently a concentration in the Department of Mathematics Sciences and will now be a degree in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science.
 - SLOs – 6 and 7 – certain courses are taught by the program but need to be passed by a B or better for credit from VEE – this can be moved to the Method section.
 - In the Matrix – there is nothing in “C”.
 - Learning outcomes: SLO 4 – could be split into two – oral and written as these skills will be looked at in different ways; could the program clarify the SLOs a little more?
 - IBHE suggests including employer and/or alumni feedback – graduation survey can count as that; internship can be a good place for gathering employer perceptions. The program noted that it plans to start an advisory board.
 - Need to develop rubrics and survey items – AAE can help develop those if needed.

- Proposed B.S. in Statistics – Assessment Plan only
 - Barbara Gonzalez, Chair, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science was in attendance to discuss the report.
 - Barbara gave us a brief introduction to the proposed degree and how it is currently a concentration in the Department of Mathematics Sciences and will now be a degree in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science.
 - SLOs: suggestions to use recommendations for writing SLOs even more clearly.
 - Method – how is entry into graduate programs factoring in as a method – about 90% of students end up in a job in the field or go onto graduate program.

- Proposed Master of Jurisprudence – Assessment Plan only
 - Marc Falkoff, Associate Dean, College of Law was in attendance to discuss the report. Presently, College of Law only offers the JD. The proposed program (MJ) will not allow you to take the BAR exam and practice law, but will give you a better understanding of a certain area of the law. Will be an online program. Credits from the MJ cannot be put towards a JD in the future. It will have three concentrations- Criminal Law, Business Law and Public Administration Law. Although the degree is brand new but the courses are already being taught.
 - SLOs – use the word “understand” a lot – consider how are you doing to demonstrate that? How are you going to measure it? What other actionable words could be used instead? Examples, “demonstrate knowledge of” “demonstrate the ability to interpret, comprehend, analyze, explaining, applying of”.
 - Methods – grades usually aren’t used as a method. Discussion ensued around some options. IBHE requires assessment from employers - might want to do a survey; do you have an advisory board or will you create one? Board of Visitors could be added as a method.
 - May want to add an exit survey to get immediate feedback since it will take a few more years to get data from alumni.

1. Other Business

2. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Next meeting Friday, February 15, 2019, 10:00 a.m. in Altgeld 315