

Grand Rapids Community College
Curriculum Leadership Team
January 18, 2011
Multipurpose Room, Sneden Hall
3:15 – 4:45 PM
Highlights

Present: Aleta Anderson, Nick Antonakis, Janice Balyeat, Jennifer Batten, Becky Brinks, Frank Conner, John Cowles, David Dye, Glen Gelderloos, Ron Higgins, Mike Kiss, Amy Koning, Mike Light, Robert Long, Deb Nordman, Paul Phifer, Shelley Richter, Randy Sahadjack, Alejandro Saldivar, Anne Sherman, Eve Sidney, Paula Sullivan, Ric Underhile, Mike Vargo, Karen Walker, Penni Weninger, George Zeeff, Fred Zomer

3:15 PM, 108 Sneden Hall on the Devos Campus (light snacks will be provided)

1. Welcome back: Ric Underhile
2. Minutes from the November 16, 2010 meeting were adopted.
3. Faculty Accomplishments and Updates: All
John Cowles: Emily Nicely graduated with her Ph.D. in Psychology
Nick Antonakis: Photography student show is opening in the Collins Gallery
Robin VanRooyen is exhibiting in the DeVos Center for Arts and Worship Downtown
Nick and Robin are traveling to France to design the set for the US Pastry Competition in which Chef Gilles and team are entered.
Paula Sullivan thanked the group for their efforts in adjunct recruitment which helped to hire about 60 new adjuncts. There are now 22% minorities in Arts and Sciences and 21% in Workforce.
Karen Walker - Health programs have been invited by the Public Museum of Grand Rapids to provide information on health professional careers in conjunction with their Bodies Revealed Exhibit. Date: March 3.
Mike Light – The Race & Ethnicity Conference is Scheduled for April 7. The keynote speaker Isabel Wilkerson, Pulitzer Prize winner for “The Warmth of Other Suns.”
Randy Sahadjack – GRCC’s Ice carving team is competing all over the state. Derek Maxfield appeared on the Food Channel with his chess set. “Cold as Ice” on You Tube Video. Luba Petrash will compete in Anchorage, Alaska ice carving competition.
Aleta Anderson – Chiarascuro Foreign Film series has begun Sunday afternoons at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts. Free admission, wine and hors d’oeuvres, sponsored by GRCC and other area colleges. The next is on January 30th.
Alejandro Saldivar – Math Department is offering monthly seminars. Next week: How Bar Codes Work. Topics change each month.
Janice Balyeat – English Department is offering its second adjunct rubric training on January 27.
Glen Gelderloos – Business is sponsoring an ongoing series from Amway around innovation and entrepreneurship.
Ric Underhile – Center for Teaching Excellence is offering a number of faculty professional development events which can be found at www.grcc.edu/ctecurrentlearning.
4. Review of December 2010 Academic Governing Council proceedings:

- a. New Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs) were approved.
- b. Athletic Oversight Committee charge/purpose was approved as proposed
- c. AGC endorsed the continuation of the development of a sustainability curriculum as well as the Climate Action Plan that commits the institution to become carbon neutral.
- d. AQIP presentations on the state of the Distance Learning Program and the AGC project to improve the adjunct experience.
- e. AGC endorsed the Internationalizing the Curriculum team's proposal to do a capacity study and reconceptualize what internationalization means for GRCC. This team is creating a small group of college-wide representation to establish a process for Study Away. A procedures document is in process.

AGC actions are posted on the Provost's Website, along with Dean's Council and Directory of Academic Departments, listing administrators and ESPs.

5. Perspectives on the issue of new start/end times for classes: Michael Vargo
 Mike and his team were charged to look at common start times for college. The primary reason was to pull the 15-minute slot from 7:45 AM to 8:00AM for all courses meeting two hours or longer with the goal of saving time and more efficient use of space.

Mike Kiss offered the history of the 7:45 AM start time: in 2005, ALT (Academic Leadership Team) determined that some instructors were not getting breaks. The change was implemented and due for review in a year but was not reviewed. It was discovered that a 3-hour class became 3:15 and still without a break. Necessity and time efficiency were assessed. ALT's recommendation for common start times was not implemented. Currently, our significant growth has caused a dearth in classroom space and a need to look creatively at space utilization.

Support	Opposed
More efficient use of classrooms. The model has worked in Main and Cook buildings.	Sciences and labs would have to be reviewed again. Various programs and departments have various needs that will not necessarily fit into a common start time.
Zero pass time should not be an issue. Students should be responsible for planning their own schedules.	Zero pass time leaves no travel time for students, especially with multiple locations and no transportation between them. Students will ignore these time constraints and then will expect to be allowed to be late.
Faculty association memo reason 1) An 8 a.m. start time would put us soundly into the contract that provides that faculty not be scheduled before 8 a.m. without faculty consent. An 8 a.m. start time would make it less likely that there will ever be a problem with the pre-8 a.m. start times.	No one has ever been forced to teach a class during a time they did not desire. Evening classes also fall outside of parameters. Does that mean we can't teach them?
2) We think that 15 minutes before class	We are giving too much voice to too few

starts in the morning are more valuable to students and staff than later in the day.	people.
3) We could think of no reason why 7:45 is a better start time than 8 a.m.	There has been no formal motion from Faculty Association to support this position
	Doesn't respect the work of colleagues who have already put so much work in to this

Robert Long moved to retain 7:45AM start time; David Dye seconded.
 By show of hands, 21 approved 8 opposed 1 abstained
 The motion to retain the 7:45AM start time was carried.

6. Overlapping schedules vs. Blocking

Schedulers think it would be easy to block; we used to do it. Culinary blocked with ease; so did CSS (Becky). Worked well for Computer Apps and Chemistry but Biology has 9 different start times, and Dental has various schedules. Twelve hundred students take BI 101 per semester; two rooms are dedicated to that class only.

Viability for students: Zero pass time becomes faculty's problem, since by that time there are no options for students to change schedules. If they have to drop it could affect their Financial Aid. There is often more concern about zero pass time than 15 minutes where students think they can get from here to there, but cannot, particularly at night when buses run less frequently. We do have a responsibility to present a viable schedule. Also, need transportation between more transportation on Fridays and to MTEC in general. One of our goals is to mirror industry, which is very tough on attendance. Lateness shouldn't be an option. Passing times vary; most 15 minutes; Education is 1/2 hour. Mike bigger issue in PM than AM because less buses running. More coverage needed on Friday. There are no buses at all running between the Main Campus and the MTEC.

Paula noted that students with these issues and complaints should be referred to the Associate Deans to handle.

Consensus: It is too late to try to implement this change for Fall 2011. We should look at a possible change for the 2012 year. If we submitted our times, could we run tests and determine room utilization? If you take option A and option B, put in system, could look at how many rooms utilizing, and then run student schedules. We know we have construction and other delays, let's try it and re-evaluate. IT is looking at PeopleSoft's capability to flag non-viable scheduling. Members will work exchanging ideas via email.

Summary: the issue needs to be examined systematically. It's about time management, tardiness policy, assuring a bus schedule in harmony with class schedule and traffic flow. As we move components around our properties, are we considering class schedule? All pieces have to be considered.

7. Other items

Mike Light moved to recommend to President Ender that we work with the City of Grand Rapids to get the right to clear streets between the Main and DeVos Campuses Frank Conner seconded; motion carried unanimously. Ric will draft a letter to the President.

Our Academic Program Review process is being reviewed for clarity. Patti Trepkowski is working on this.

Items tabled:

Assessment of student learning - sunset of the GLOs and implementation of ILOs

Printing of Class Schedules

Next meeting February 15, 2011 at 3:15 PM in the Student Center Multipurpose Room.

Ric proposes a mini worksession focusing on how veterans use tricks of the trade and can share with newer members.

Adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Penni Weninger