

Faculty Senate
10-14-11

Attendance:

Mintues: Approval of August minutes. No changes.

Child Welfare Curriculum:

A new S600 Child welfare course was approved by the MSW committee and a vote was requested to approve the addition of this course to the curriculum. Gail provided a discussion of this course as originating with Fordham University. The course is being offered throughout the country and there is an on-line trainer of the trainers course which accompanies the course. The administration agreed to offer it in the summer of 2012 in lieu of S632 with approval by the Faculty Senate. The pilot offering is a requirement for participation in the training of the trainer's course.

S633 requests approval for change in objective #7. The change is a word change from evaluate to analyze.

S618 was revised and approved by MSW committee.

All changes in the child welfare concentration were approved by MSW committee. Faculty senate approval for all changed.

Foundation Field:

S555 was reviewed and approved by MSW committee. There needs to be a little tweaking but need approval of course description and objectives. The tweak is a change in numbers. Carol Satre will be tweaking. Chuck asked if this had previously been approved. Jim answered that if it is, this is an update. S555 is the seminar that will go along with the field. It's always been a course. We added 5 seminars with specific assignments. Twelve students will be in each session. Faculty who have field students at foundation level will also responsible for conducting the seminar. Bob W. said no tentured track faculty have an S555 assignment for the spring. An endorsement is requested. There is no change in the objectives or description so no vote of approval is necessary. The course description was not circulated. Lisa moved to endorse plans for the addition of seminars to the S555 practicum pending receipt of formal document. Unanimous vote to approve.

Mental Health Curriculum

Mental health concentration requests all four "elective" course to be required. This is a change from requiring 3 of 4. This change was approved by MSW committee. Jim acknowledges that this will have a ripple effect because it is the largest concentration and will take these students out of other electives. The MH concentration feels that it is a pedagogical issue and is important for the integrity of the concentration. Jim is encouraging changes in the curriculum that may open up objectives down the road. Right now the mental health concentration feels strongly that the scenario of 3 of 4 is cheating the students. Carmen feels that eliminating electives disadvantages students because Indiana is becoming more diverse and we need to meet the needs of the students in the realities of today. Bob reiterated that we need to revise the MSW curriculum and these discussions can begin in the Fall of 2012 after the document for CSWE goes forward. The revisions should help open up objectives. Carol Satre said that the changes may be taking the 4 core courses and putting the content into 3 courses. Bob said a retreat will be helpful in beginning the dialog.

Carol Massat expressed concern on eliminating objectives would be detrimental for students. She is also concerned that it extends the program for smaller campuses such as South Bend. This would also make it necessary for students to take courses after practicum which is in violation of policy.

Ed Fitzgerald said we should start with practitioners what they need if we are trying to build a curriculum that students need. We are sending a message about life long learning. Ed is concerned about putting students in boxes.

Tammy feels that students graduate without all they need. She supports further discussion with practitioners about what students need.

Chuck agrees a retreat might be a good idea.

Irene asked if we are really preparing students for practice. If we have such a retreat we take a look at what is required in agencies for social workers. In many cases social workers have been replaced and are required to do what insurance companies ask them to do. We have an obligation to train them but also what is needed to make changes in society. Let's make sure in those discussions we, as faculty, decide what it is we need to teach.

Jim suggests a core element and then flexibility to meet practice needs. We need flexibility such as one hour specialty courses and to redesign course with creative opportunities such as integrating practice and HBSE.

Ed suggested that the conversation should continue in MSW committee; no need for retreat or special committee.

Irene suggested that we might want a meeting that brings in others who are not in the subcommittees such as the MSW committee. Jim invited anyone to come to the MSW committee for the discussion. He also thinks it's important to bring it to the faculty senate for other opinions.

Kathy B. suggested that questions be added to the field visit including, "what can do to enhance the curriculum to better prepare practitioners? What are the gaps? What do students need?"

Informational, no vote required.

BSW curriculum

Andrea shared a chart. All informational. Name and number changes need approval. The most significant change was to change 300 courses to give them a permanent number. Motion to accept by Vernon. No discussion. Unanimously approved. A revised definition of generalist social work practice will be put into revised application and student handbook.

Potential Merger with Health Sciences

Mike Patchner said social work has been included in Health Sciences group since he came here. Two years ago McRobbie created New Directions Committee. A report came out that was sent out to all of us. One recommendation was to reduce barriers and increase academic alignments among units. Mike provided information and opened discussion on whether social work belongs in health sciences if health sciences campus be established. Social Work would still be an independent school with a different

reporting line. A funding stream would go directly to health and then distributed through a structural entity. We would no longer be reporting to the chancellor but rather the head of this structural entity.

The faculty raised several questions and decided they needed more information on the advantages and disadvantages of moving the school of social work from a separate entity to a school or department under health sciences. There appears to be a strong misconception of who we are among campus administrators. We are perceived as a small, clinical school rather than school with curricula in advocacy, research, etc. It will be up the faculty to make a decision about our future.

Restorations

Sink- bids are out. Faculty/staff lounge will be renovated soon.

New Business

100th anniversary- a week from today. 320 people have registered. The president will be there. Chancellor Bantz will be there. Dinners are \$51/plate. Mike got money from alumni association, Uda's conference fund, \$5000 from a single alum, and the Foundation to offset the cost and make it affordable. A video of the school will be shown. Books will be distributed with the history of the school.

Health insurance is increasing. Letters are coming out this week.

Carol M. announced a reception Monday, Oct 17 from 2-4 to honor Paul Newcomb's retirement.

BSW faculty doing a good job of educating students on the wide field of cw.

Sabrina -Joe Varga was interviewed by the paper on Occupy Wall Street. Was passionate without sounding like a zealot. Did a great job.