**Academic Assembly**
April 7, 2014
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

**MINUTES**

Present: Jeffrey Anderson, David Arnesen, Brady Carlson, Brooke Coleman, Karen Cowgill, Isiaah Crawford, Tito Cruz, Lynn Deeken, Bill Ehmann, Terry Foster, Christian Halliburton, Caity Hoover, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Erik Olsen, Katherine Raichle, Roshanak Roshandel, Heath Spencer, John Strait

*Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes*

**I.** Meeting Process
- A. Sean McDowell will lead the meeting in Rob Rutherford's absence

**II.** Review of 3-17-14 Minutes
- A. In items II.A.1.d. and II.A.3.b., change determinative to co-determinative
- B. Minutes approved with two abstentions and above edit

**III.** Preliminary Discussion of Proposal to Create a New School
- A. Proposal for the School for New and Continuing Studies will come forward at April 21 AcA meeting (AcA will receive proposal materials via email after today's meeting)
  1. Advisory body of 15 people to develop the proposal
  2. Authored by Rick Fehrenbacher, Bob Dullea, and Heather Geiger
  3. Deans' Council reviewed the proposal, added feedback, and endorsed unanimously
  4. If proposal is approved, AY2014-15 will be used to hire faculty, build out curriculum, develop infrastructure, etc.
- B. Context
  1. The Academic Strategic Action Plan included the development of programming to appeal to undergraduates pursuing studies on a part time basis
  2. Two outside consultants did market analysis for non-traditional age students pursuing degree completion in our region that would consider SU for this purpose and independently concluded there is a substantial market (approximately 700,000 people)
  3. Defining features
     a. Emphasis on Jesuit Catholic, liberal arts tradition of SU
     b. Hybrid of traditional course delivery and online is most desirable format
     c. Competitive price point in regional market
- C. Highlights of proposal
  1. New degrees offered for non-traditional students to pursue completion of baccalaureate studies
  2. Speaks to why adult learners need a separate academic unit specifically tailored to their needs with dedicated expertise
- D. Discussion
  1. Faculty
     a. Those who have demonstrated expertise in online education and adult learners
     b. Seems to be overlap between faculty in areas of new school and faculty in corresponding departments across campus
     c. Colleges and schools will determine how they will contribute to related fields

2. Degrees
    a. Web Development Certificate (already approved)
    b. New degrees will not duplicate degrees already offered
    c. Focus on development of degrees that currently exist at other institutions that appeal to the identified market
    d. Specifics of curriculum would still come through university approval process, including AcA
    e. Structure allows for colleges and schools to help develop degree completion programs that would be potential funnels to graduate programs
3. Students
    a. Defining component will be student who wants to pursue studies on a part-time basis
    b. Traditional students would only be able to take these courses on a part time basis, would not follow traditional undergraduate experience

**IV.** Reports from Committees

A. Faculty Handbook Revision Committee
    1. Resuming weekly meetings this week and hope to complete draft by the end of April
        a. Draft will go to Provost for review, and then to faculty for an extended review period into the fall
        b. Comments and issues that arise will return to FHRC
        c. Draft incorporating faculty feedback will be presented to AcA
        d. Final draft will go to the President to present to the Board of Trustees meeting, hopefully in November

**V.** Program Termination Guidelines

A. Process document modeled on new program proposal guidelines
B. Discussion
    1. Termination can be proposed by the department or the school/college leadership
    2. According to approvals chart, the approval of the dean (not curriculum committee) would count for the approval of the school/college
    3. Form requires signatures of department chair, chair of school curriculum committee, Core director (if applicable), and dean before submission
C. Edits
    1. Change “Associate Dean” to “Dean’s Designee”
    2. Change “two-three” to “two to three” in final paragraph
    3. Change from second to third person in paragraph two to maintain consistency
D. Approved with no opposition or abstentions

**VI.** University Sponsored Academic Programs Proposal

A. Postpone to future meeting

**VII.** Executive Session