

Of The Meeting

Of

THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 23, 1979

1:00 p.m.

Room 2067, Cushwa Hall

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| Present: Dr. Baldino | Dr. Khawaja |
| Dr. Edgar | Dr. Kougl |
| Dr. Hahn | Dr. Munro |
| Dr. Hill | Dr. Richley |
| Dr. Hovey | Dr. Scriven |

*All Present

ACTIONS

1. The minutes of the last meeting, October 16, were placed on the table for consideration. Dr. Hill told committee members to be advised that there are typographical errors. Then, Dr. Hill questioned about Dr. Khawaja's statement on page two of the minutes. Dr. Khawaja confirmed that the word "evolution" was correct as recorded. Dr. Baldino moved that the minutes be approved and Dr. Kougl seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

2. Dr. McCracken was introduced to those members of the committee whom he did not know.

Dr. Hill asked him to convey a brief overview about the Proposal.

Dr. Khawaja asked what he wants from the committee.

Dr. McCracken said he wants its approval and endorsement. He also said one of his concerns is that if approval is given and if it is funded, is there some precedent being set here in the absence of guidelines for handling pilot proposals.

Dr. Khawaja asked if it was correct that the proposal will go onto other agencies.

Dr. McCracken said, yes.

Dr. McCracken made known that the deadline for the NEH Proposal is November 15, 1979. He said they have corresponded and it has been asked that the budget for the proposal be cut back to \$50,000.

Dr. Baldino questioned about an earlier point. He asked if the paramount thinking that he is involved in is to investigate procedures.

Dr. McCracken said he wants mainly to get credit for any students who come into this program. He said his only request is for a trial-- not an accreditation.

Dr. Edgar said, what you are asking for is credit in general education areas.

Dr. McCracken referred to page ten for a breakdown of proposed credits in three areas.

Dr. Khawaja asked about the area requirements not being specifically related to courses.

Dr. McCracken said his task and the task of his committee was to work up courses and curriculum, only.

Dr. Scriven said that is a point that hasn't been made clear--that courses count toward credit. It needs to be put down on paper that there is an area requirement fulfillment.

Dr. McCracken then said, the proposal has to be expanded; the expansion of range of credit and how it fits into the weekend education must also be done. He said, this will be done.

Dr. Richley asked for a very brief overview of the proposed program and its purpose.

Dr. McCracken said, we are attempting to combine three areas of study. We will have eight instructors working part time in the program to enable students to have some basic sciences, social science, history, and humanities. It is truly an interdisciplinary program. Forty-five is the number of students chosen because it amounts to the desired 15 per group.

Dr. Richley then said the question he asks himself is can the University be assured that the program is of sufficiently high quality.

He also made comment about the ACT screening core in math. Then, he referred to page 6, which contains the program format pretest for reading, writing, and math skills. He said, math seems to be identified as important for people who fit the program. No faculty member from math was represented.

Dr. McCracken said they just wanted them to have general math computation skills.

Dr. Hill asked if a student could be a full-time student and take this program.

Dr. McCracken said, it would be very difficult.

Dr. Hill said that if this included Veterans they would probably have to take at least 12 hours. He said, suppose this program were in place similar to the way you have it; do you anticipate any problems with students receiving proper credit?

Dr. McCracken said he is meeting with the Curriculum Committee; he does not anticipate any problems.

Dr. McCracken said he is not clear as to how credit is to be given.

Dr. Scriven added, the answers to those last questions would probably be determined by the write up of the University Curriculum Committee.

Dr. McCracken commented on the sample core and mini course pages of the proposal. (These pages are not included in the condensed proposals received by committee members.)

Dr. Scriven said, perhaps the titles are not specific enough.

Dr. McCracken referred to the part on page 6 which is the program format. He said, other courses are fixed, but the mini courses are not; that is what will determine the difference in area requirements among students.

Dr. Khawaja suggested housing courses in the existing departments. He asked why other courses were not included and why there was no input from other sciences. He felt that geology and chemistry would benefit as support.

Dr. McCracken said listing would not be practical for the Pilot Program, at least.

Dr. Khawaja said, it would be mainly to satisfy the committees, for approval sake.

Dr. Hovey questioned why the Honors Program could not serve as a model for the program. He does not see why a similar program could not be set up.

Dr. Richley asked another question. He said it is not clear that these are not remedial courses.

Dr. Baldino questioned about the fact that the credit may be applied to any baccalaureate or ^{assoc.} graduate degree.

Dr. Scriven said he was not sure you can use the ACT as a cutoff on the criteria for entering.

Dr. McCracken said that it needs to be clarified.

Dr. Hill suggested developing their own test.

Dr. Munro said, might that not scare away the people who might be likely to enroll?

Dr. Hill asked when the funding was expected to occur.

Dr. McCracken said he believed it is the month of March.

Dr. Hill asked what would be done between November 15 and March.

Dr. McCracken said they would go through the approval procedure even if it ended up not getting funded. He said, it may be possible next year to go through with it without the funding.

Dr. Hill said he thinks a critical part of the proposal is to get departments to agree to area credits for students, should the program fail at some point. He suggested to bring it to the Senate as a tentative program, asking for authorization for a year's trial, assuming that a student will get credit in proper areas if the program is discontinued.

Dr. Richley made the point that the courses would be given credit for even though they do not appear in the catalog.

Dr. Hahn made a comment that it seems that if you put the number of hours in each of the areas you will avoid a lot of trouble when transcripts are evaluated.

Dr. Khawaja said that there should be very clear statement from this group that if tentative approval is given, clear steps toward permanent approval should be spelled out.

Dr. Scriven said it seemed to him that with this experiment program, the committee is suggesting that some very high hurdles be jumped before McCracken can proceed. He wondered if we should be expecting such authority now at this time, rather than afterwards.

Dr. Hill said that it is necessary to be sure that students don't have a problem later.

Dr. Khawaja indicated that minimum details need to be stated clearly, such as housing, articulation with other programs, etc. This would help--not be a mechanism to stifle.

Dr. McCracken indicated that the discussion had been useful. He indicated, also, that he planned to follow up on suggestions.

Upon inquiry from Dr. Hill, the committee generally indicated support of the nature of the proposed program.

Dr. Khawaja recommended two statements; one for the agency and one to Tom indicating constraints and future procedures. The committee agreed to consider this.

3. The agenda and time for the next meeting were discussed. It was agreed to meet at 12:30.
4. Dr. Richley moved, Dr. Baldino seconded, and adjournment was unanimously approved.