**College Council Recharge Meeting**

**May 4, 2015**

**RR117 / 8:30-10:00am**

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| Present: Patty Deturk, Mary Collins, Jenelle Vader, Tara Sprehe, Johnney Russ, Kate Gray , Phillip King, John Phelps, Jessica Galvan (ASG guest), Nora Brodnicki, Tami Strawn (recorder) |
| Mary sent an email on Friday about having too many X’s on the grid. The grid needs to be less X heavy.  She explained her thinking in the email:  *Try this. I didn’t add or remove any Xs, just highlighted to call attention to shared traits and diagnostic traits.*  *Verbal form:*  *Councils and Committees have campus-wide representation, and are never satisfied with just a recommendation: they have to enact. You can tell the difference between them by whether they handle predictable topics (committee) or whether they’re expected to handle a broad array of topics (council). (editorial note: Mary thinks this means that Committees are over-equipped, but that’s possibly for communication’s sake because of the broad reach and/or finality of their subject-specific decisions.)*  *Task Forces, Advisory Groups, and Work Groups are always convened by another group or by the managerial structure of the college, and are always expected/equipped (content&membership) to handle a specific topic. They might make small-scope decisions or they might make recommendations of any scope. (well, Work Groups are biased towards action, and are not satisfied with making recommendations.) You can tell the difference between them by how they report out: Task Forces make a single summary report; Work Groups speak when spoken to; and Advisory Groups regularly report or post their minutes.*  *Sub Committees . . . have no diagnostic traits, and therefore don’t exist as a classification. (ask a biologist/taxonomist about classification. This happens all the time. At least, to Linnaeus, now that we have genomes to work with.)*  Mary just highlighted and put borders around some of the information in the grid. We reviewed the grid and made some edits based on what Mary sent and the conversation we had. |
| **CCR started categorizing for recommendations:**   * **Financial Aid** = Advisory group. * **Scholarship** = Advisory group. * **Refund Committee**: Not a council or committee. It’s a workgroup. * **Insurance** – Advisory Group - \* to VP College Services –work group \*periodic   Advisory Group because they advise faculty and staff on insurance. Students not involved. Who are they advising? VP and HR. Major decision been made, time for faculty and staff to give input.   * **Cultural Arts**: Focus on bringing art to the campus. Phillip compares it to STEM. Its campus wide as it promotes arts across the campus. It integrates rather than segregates. STEM is more in the classroom - Cultural Arts is more campus. Not focused just on students. Obtain funding from multiple sources. Broad spectrum of campus represented. They are making their own decisions. Report to College Council. They spend money.   Sue has tried to get students but received no response. Maybe the request has not been sent to ASG. There is a multicultural department in ASG.  Nora: what is college-wide? Depends on how you define college wide decisions. The events are college wide. Cultural Arts make decisions to have events. Promoting culture and arts campus wide.  Is it a work group or committee? Nora - Cultural spreads across campus. Been a committee on campus for twenty plus years. Yes it makes team defined decisions and college wide decisions. They have not posted regular reports. It is ongoing, not temporary. Both subject matter specific and a broad diversity of topics. Doesn’t receive a set amount of money every year.  Kate: Pushing down to a work group? Setting up a hierarchy? Do we have the authority to rename a committee? This group makes recommendations to PC.  This group is struggling where to go. Put back onto Cultural Arts group. Say this is what we are thinking.  Johnney – If we get more information of what the Cultural Arts Committee thinks we can make a better decision. It’s shared governance.  It’s a long standing committee with an effect on the institution. We need to be clearer on some of the definitions. We can work with Sue. Mary would like to formulate the argument to call it a work group.   * **STEM** = workgroup. * **Textbook Committee** was presented by David Mount. Defunct committees should come off the website. OER – would we have any recommendations to Presidents’ Council? John is on the OER committee. Change the title to OER? OER is trying to gain momentum.   Johnney said a student survey about what is most important to students showed that the second on list was textbooks. First is tuition. Textbooks heavily affect students. Should be looking at all resources a student may need.  Should the textbook discussion be swallowed up by ISP? Maybe OER is a subcommittee of ISP? The faculty choose the textbooks. This allows a sense of academic freedom. It’s an academic issue. It’s a department decision.  Does a teacher have to have a required textbook? Not a requirement. Could be a set of materials. Sociology/Psychology – social sciences have their own thing. There are all kinds of ways that learning happens in the classroom. Use a variety of materials in the class – not just textbooks. Mediums to understand the info.     * **Curriculum Committee** = Committee. Primary function is quality of instruction. Heartbeat of us as an institution.   Mary: There’s a gap. The committee has all the representatives it needs but at the same time it is not college wide. It does have a college wide purpose but does not have college wide representation. . What we don’t have on the grid is that the output is that it makes college wide decisions related to instruction. Phillip added to grid - put X on committee. Not every committee will have. Under content – add instruction wide. This guarantees it’s a committee.    Curriculum Committee – looks at outlines. Need time for discussion that are more than just the outlines. Maybe create an Instructional Council? Have a regular review. Curriculum Committee would then have a singular purpose and be attached to the Instructional Council. What does Instructional Council do if assessment and curriculum and ISP are doing the work? Academic honesty. With 4 weeks in a month – ISP, Curriculum Review, Assessment then open meeting. They would be committees. Cut back on some stuff we are doing due to time but still need a space for conversation. Recommendations would go Instructional Council not College Council? Layering, pay attention to time. Not a space to have a conversation about instructional issues. Primary things related to instruction. Not enough time in College Council to get through everything. It would have a singular purpose. A lot of work is done on Curriculum Committee - behind the scenes work and then meeting work. If instructional council, what is different in 5 years? Not sure it’s the right thing to do. Knit activities together for conversation. Quality of instruction – departmental. Larger issue. College needs to give money to PT to attend meetings. All we can do is improve full time faculty. Happens in department not broadly.  Students go to ISP and Curriculum Committee but never feel like they have any input. It’s not the language that is hard to grasp. Jessica went to Curriculum Committee but felt like she couldn’t say anything. They do have not a vote.  ISP turns to students to see how they feel about things but curriculum committee is opposite. Maybe have the students as part of one of the subcommittees? They are seeing the end of the process. Like idea of students being in subcommittee. Would like to see that students get an elected voice in the committees. They feel like they are there as a figure head, not there to help make decisions for the students. They can take notes, but can’t make decisions. It is a struggle to have a student voice on everything. |