

MSE PD COUNCIL

January 19, 2012

Present: Ellie Dickmann, Chair; Rick Mason, Facilitator; John Zbikowski, Coordinator; Kelly Witte; Steve Albrechtsen; Nancy Stevens; Pam Clinkenbeard; and Scott Peters. Absent: Edric Johnson.

Ellie distributed the agenda for today's meeting.

Linda said that the minutes of the December 14, 2011 meeting were posted on the web.

The New Academic Initiatives meeting was briefly discussed. Emphasis was on the job market and how it drives education.

John Stone will join the meeting at 9:45 so members of the committee were asked to think about what questions they would like John Stone to address. One of the questions would be to ask John Stone about Professional Learning Communities.

Steve Albrechtsen said the Provost does not want to restrict enrollment in any program because the more students that attend UW-W, the more tuition we receive.

John Zbikowski distributed a MSE PD core course rotation. This will be posted on the web to publicize when courses are being offered. John Zbikowski will see that faculty have a copy of the course rotation for the MSE PD. Kelly Witte suggested that links to the different emphasis areas should also be posted at the same location. It was the consensus of the committee to continue the MSE PD course rotation as it currently is, which is presented in the document John presented. A deadline for the emphasis areas to have their course rotations done will be discussed at the website meeting.

A question arose as to whether or not La Crosse is able to sustain their cohort groups. Steve Albrechtsen said most school districts are too small to support cohort groups.

Scott Peters suggested the committee look at course evaluations to see how students are perceiving their course work, e. g., EDUINDP 724 and EDUINDP 789, and whether the core courses are serving their purpose within the program.

Nancy Stevens asked if there was a possibility of offering a Collegial Study course.

Rick Mason said that the problem today is that everything is in flux right now. There is no incentive for teachers to take more credits because they won't go up on the pay scale in the K-12 area.

A suggestion was made to do more outreach courses but Scott Peters said the cost of outreach courses would be prohibitive. Steve Albrechtsen suggested CESA 2 be contacted about the possibility of teaching outreach courses.

John Zbikowski will be looking at capstone project reports since the start of the MSE-PD to determine what kinds of projects students have been doing , e. g., curriculum development, grant proposals, etc.

John Stone joined the meeting at 9:45. He said he was at a meeting with people from several other universities and they were submitting lots of proposals for new programs. He said that UW-W has added a bachelor of science in computer science and one in environmental science but had only added four programs in the last ten years. Other institutions such as UW-Oshkosh and UW-La Crosse averaged 9-13 new programs in that time. John said he met with the Provost yesterday and she suggested all academic deans submit a five-year plan for new programs.

Ellie asked John Stone about the tension exhibited here with reference to what to tell students who want to go into programs where there is no workforce need. The Provost told John Stone that academic majors are not necessarily focused on the labor market. Students are coming to college to get a well-rounded education, not just to get a job. John Stone said that students who enroll in the graduate programs are more focused on the job market than undergraduate students.

John Zbikowski asked John Stone if he perceives the MSE PD as continuing, given the need to turn efforts now to development of new programs. John Stone said that John Zbikowski would have a better understanding of this than he did.