

Committee: APARC

Date: February 15, 2022

Time: 3-5pm

Place: Zoom

In attendance: Emily Acosta-Lewis, Puspa Amri, Sandy Ayala, Stacey Bosick, Megan Burke (minutes), Catherine Fonseca, Christina Gomez, Laura Lupei, Marissa Minch, Mike Ogg, Heather Smith, Merith Weisman, Vivi Yang (Academic Planning)

Guest: Melinda Mulligan

Chair Updates

EPC extended online tags for the full academic year

At last Senate Meeting: Department name changes were approved, charge was approved

Academic Affairs Updates (S. Bosick)

- Panetta Congressional Fellowship (sends a student to Congress to do political work) will have a committee vetting applications this year
- GE Revision— Working to navigate AB-928 (Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act of 2021) in practice this will likely mean a loss of 3 units in Area C and the loss of Area E

ATISS Updates (S. Ayala)

- IT is undergoing reorganization, and ATISS started reviewing accessibility in IT
- A review of classrooms was done (17 classrooms need to be reviewed, but won't likely be done until the summer due to time/labor constraints)
- Sandy recruited 10 faculty doing a 1-1 training with faculty during the semester to address accessibility in Canvas course builds
- Criteria for pilots—what is our criteria for tech/software re: accessibility?
- Securing outdoor spaces for outdoor learning—what are the accessibility needs and how/when do we meet them?

UPRS Updates (C. Fonseca)

Questions about how to treat the Library in terms of review in future cycles—instead of treating it as a program review, should it be treated as a unit review?

Campus Planning Updates (M. Ogg)

None

Excess/Low Enrollment

Return to fall 2021 discussions about excess enrollment

Given budget we also need to continue low-enrollment courses

Emily: What should do about low enrollment from a budget and equity-lens— how do we balance budget issues due to low-enrollment with making equity-based decisions across campus re: workload?

Puspa: We need to be careful about how to gauge low enrollment; If we are to talk about benchmarks then we have to consider majors in a given program

Christina: need to create transparency for students so they are not negatively impacted

Heather: we should not assume dynamics that exist, e.g. just because there is a large department doesn't mean courses are not experiencing low-enrollment

Emily: Where do we want to go with the low-enrollment policy?

Vivi: We could consider giving students multiple rounds of messaging around classes that are low-enrolled

Megan: There are factors beyond numbers to consider in terms of whether a class gets run or not, e.g. How new is the course? The faculty? Etc.

Heather: Can we/how can we keep track of contract units, e.g. Independent Study?

Multiyear Scheduling (M. Mulligan)

- Aiming to get 12 program reviews completed for the year
- There are 14 program— 9 that are not externally accredited, 5 that are externally accredited— that could potentially need to be reviewed next year
- Next year there are 5 programs starting self-studies, so there will be a lull in the review cycle, but it will pick back up. 2024-2025 there will be more pressure on UPRS
- UPRS is hosting a program review workshop for programs who will be undergoing review — this raises a data issue with regard to gathering the kind of data needed for program review. The process for data gathering is still being considered.
- Campus should pilot how to assist programs with their data needs in the review process
- Wants to revise guidelines for programs under review who are externally accredited — need a document that spells out more specifically what UPRS wants those programs to have (this would just be a UPRS document)
- Annual Report process template—needs to be considered again (will pass through APARC), template keep programs on track during the review process

Stacey: Given the workload, would it make sense to have an additional member on APARC for just one year?

Melinda: Experience in membership, as opposed to sheer number on UPRS, and making sure process is streamlined will keep up the pace

Emily: Structures and Functions is now considering release time and it might be prudent to present that committee with a recommendation that some of the UPRS committee has release time

Catherine/Melinda: Issue is how to allocate who gets assigned time given how the committee operates

Hiring Plan

Begin brainstorming ideas for a university hiring plan as a way to assist with planning and budget

Catherine: Given program review, UPRS should play a role in making a recommendations for hiring, department need for hires, etc.

Stacey: There are quantitative metrics for comparing across programs, but we need to consider qualitative considerations. We have to take seriously what kind of hires are important to our identity as a university

Heather: Large departments may experience sacrifices in quality of offerings given the burden they carry with sheer volume of students