Undergraduate Curriculum Forum

Thursday, October 11, 2018


Guest: Provost R. Prezant

I. Call to order - 9:40 a.m. – quorum reached by 9:40 a.m.

II. Announcements
   • Oct. 11 is national coming out day. SAGE and Women’s Studies are hosting a day long event.
   • The Addams Family final weekend at Lyman Auditorium is this weekend.
   • Nov. 6 is the statewide general election
   • There is a university election going on. Check e-mail for ballot, due Oct. 16.
   • Masih Alinijad, an Iranian American journalist and author, will speak on Oct. 22 at 1:10 p.m. in EN A120. The event is hosted by the departments of Judaic Studies, Women’s Studies, Journalism and English.

III. Approval of UCF minutes of September 27, 2018

   Minutes approved unanimously

IV. Standing Committee Reports
   a. NMC–Notifications Management Committee

   Revised course proposals
   EXS 308 – Essentials of Strength and Conditioning
   EXS 383 – Biomechanics
   EXS 384 – Exercise Physiology
   EXS 411 – General Medical Perspectives
   JRN 370 – Drone Journalism
   PCH 345 – Health Promotion Interventions I. → PCH 456 – Health Promotion Strategies
   PCH 346 – Health Promotion Interventions II → PCH 457 – Public Health Communication
   PCH 363 – Program Planning → PCH 458 – Program Planning

   Motion to approve all revised courses passed unanimously.

   Revised Program Proposal
   BS in Public Health
   Motion to approve all revised programs passed unanimously.
NMC Announcements: Deadlines for proposals is listed on the UCF website. Nov. 1 is deadline for revised programs and minors, and new LEP courses.

Because of the transition to Degree Works, the Revised Program Proposal form directions will be updated with new instructions for running a test degree evaluation.

b. WACC–Writing Across the Curriculum Committee

_W-Course proposals_
Rex Gilliland, PHI 222: The Creative Process  
Rex Gilliland, PHI 297: Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy: Augustine to Machiavelli  
Rex Gilliland, PHI 306: The Age of Reason: Galileo to Kant  
Rex Gilliland, PHI 307: 19th Century Philosophy: Fichte to Bradley  
Rex Gilliland, PHI 408: Phenomenology and Existentialism  

Approved unanimously.

Faculty Senate on Wednesday, Oct. 10 approved the revised bylaws for WACC, making it an appointed committee of UCF. This decision changes the past practice of electing WACC members by university-wide ballot.

c. UWIC – University Wide Impact Committee
Committee is bringing motion forward to change GPA requirements for those completing double majors. Vote under New Business.

d. PRAC/StAR
The committee’s first meeting is Monday, Oct. 15. There are seven members from UCF signed up, and nine members from Graduate Council. More committee members are welcome to join. The committee will be reviewing the Interdisciplinary Studies (IDS) assessment report.

e. LEPC–Liberal Education Program Committee
The committee finished its survey about department restrictions on LEP courses, and distributed to chairs. Ten responses have already come in.

LEPC will be discussing course caps, and solicited any input from departments.

f. Special Topics courses – UCF Chair (None)
None.

V. UCF Chair report

Faculty Senate approved WACC.

A meeting between UCF, Faculty Senate and deans -- facilitated by the Provost -- will be held to discuss concerns about the pilot program eliminating SCCs and questions about dean/faculty roles in new interdisciplinary degree programs and the selection of program directors.

Chair congratulated those who received promotion and tenure this year.
The special ballot includes 11 positions open on the Promotion and Tenure committee now that department chairs are not eligible to serve. All tenured faculty encouraged to nominate themselves for election to this important committee.

VI. Updates from:
1. Writing Center Director Dr. Marie McDaniel (HIS)

Students looking for W-waivers should e-mail WACC@southernct.edu or Marie McDaniel as the website doesn’t have the proper form.

Sit down and write meetings will be held at the Buley Library on Mondays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 12 to 2 p.m. The idea is to have a working cooperative for writing.

Full day graduate writing retreat will be held on Oct. 27. The Writing Center is having a larger conversation with Graduate Council and the graduate dean to find more ways to support graduate writing.

Contact Marie McDaniel if you want an embedded tutor in writing class next semester. This semester there are 11. The goal is to have 20 next semester.

More than half of the W-Courses being offered next semester are not currently listed in the UCF tracker. W-Course approval is by course and instructor, so they cannot be listed as “staff” on the schedule. Departments need to submit paperwork to correct this issue.

2. LEP co-directors– Dr. Terri Bennett (MAT) transfer and policy issues; Dr. Karen Cummings (PHY) assessment and scheduling.

Reminder that the Tier III prerequisite requirements start in the Fall, and so advisors should inform students about requirement to finish all Tier I courses in time to take their Tier III.

Terri Bennett met with Norwalk Community College last week to discussing Liberal Arts and Sciences degree agreements with Norwalk and Naugatuck. The goal is to bring that to LEPC in the coming weeks.

Karen Cummings discussed portfolios as a method of assessing the LEP program. She is seeking items to add to a “bragging portfolio” that can showcase assignments that accomplish the goals of the LEP.

3. TAP – Dr. Terri Bennett

Reminder: Ken Klucznik, co-manager for TAP at the CSCU level, will be coming to Southern to talk about TAP on Oct. 15. All departments have received Save the Date announcement.

TAP Biochemistry degree was approved by UCF last year. TAP is still looking at a Geography TAP pathway. That proposal will come to UCF after approval from the department.

VII. Old Business (None)
VIII. New Business

a. **Motion 1 (From UWIC): For students pursuing a BA/BS double baccalaureate the cumulative entry and maintenance GPA will be changed from 3.33 to 3.0.**

   **Approved unanimously.**

b. Guest speaker–Provost Robert Prezant

Provost Prezant spoke about making new connections between Southern and the community colleges, in particular Naugatuck and Norwalk community colleges. He said he has an eye on a memo of understanding with the aquarium in Norwalk, where Southern could have an exhibit.

A faculty question was raised about governance of interdisciplinary programs, noting that in some cases decisions have come under the deans’ or provost’s office, which takes faculty out of the process. Provost Prezant said he saw the UCF document related to the topic, and agreed that it was black-and-white, and he had indicated this to the deans.

Provost Prezant was urged to work with deans to ensure due process is followed regarding interdisciplinary programs and the pilot program eliminating the SCCs.

Provost Prezant said he has been communicating with the deans regarding the concerns. They represent the schools, and so changes to the SCC are a big deal to them. Deans need to have meaning on campus. They carry a great deal of experience and should garner respect.

Faculty members stressed the reasons behind the pilot program (expediency) and the concern that this experiment was rendered ineffective by lack of support from deans.

Other faculty comments included a note about needing conversations about the connection between resources and curriculum development. Deans control the resources and can help conversations about curriculum development as a result.

UCF chair noted the body would like to continue the conversation on lowering the course cap on W-courses from 22 to 21.

IX. Adjournment - 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:
Jodie Mozdzer Gil