

Report

Faculty Senate Academic Standards & Policies Committee Meeting

April 17, 2019

GSB 215

12:30pm

Members Mary Wu, Edgar Adams, Gokhan Celik, Peter Alfieri, Doug White, Minoo Tehrani (chair)

Guest: Sam Avila, Student Senator

Items on the agenda:

Item A. Motion from the Faculty Senate: That the Academic Standards Committee examine the appropriateness of the now required 10-week internship course (called the Career Planning Seminar) organized by the Center for Career and Professional Development. The course, taught by a staff member, requires 10 weeks of instruction (in either 50-minute or 80-minute sessions). Motion passed.

Comments:

No centralized and homogenized delivery of critical programs that are unique from school to school. This is poorly conceived and without proper consultation with the academic areas. Centralized advisement is also a bad idea and yet time and time again they try to impose it.

There are many issues here that need to be discussed; but to impose this unvetted program on students when every school has unique and distinct models. This is a 19th century solution to a very 21st century problem. The last five years have been marked by more and more centralization when what need to happen is more empowerment of the Schools to implement our shared values.

If departments / colleges want to offer internship courses, they should do so.

Students should not be required to complete curriculum to do an internship. Not all students need to take a 10 week course to learn how to function at work.

There are programs with numerous students with work experience. It imposes a curricular requirement without credit.

Most of the internships are found by students themselves or through connections of the faculty. The Career Services shall concentrate on Career Fairs and creating connections to different business and providing more internship connections rather than teaching courses.

None of this was reviewed by faculty.

The Career Services used to be invited to classrooms for a 2-3 hour workshop to talk about resume, etc. Such workshop could have been completed by students in sessions arranged by the Career Services or completed online. The same system shall stay in place.

Motion 1: A three-hour workshop in consultation with relevant school/program faculty that students can take online or in person before starting the internship if the workshop is needed for that particular program/school. (Motion Passed).

The Standards & Policies Committee would like to table this motion to have a discussion with Steve Cantine, the Associate Dean/Director Center for Career & Prof Development.

The points of discussions:

The new non-credit 10-week course is not going to be implemented while we are discussing the issue with Steve. The topics for discussion:

The internship workshop needs to be flexible, customized according to the needs of different schools, students should be able to take it online or in a three-hour workshop when the internship is secured or before.

Item B. Motion 2. The syllabi of all courses offered by the Study Abroad Universities that part of the programs offered by the Global Center shall be reviewed by the relevant department faculty/ programs before designation of an RWU regular course number. (Motion Passed).

Item C.

- 1. Reiteration of the Approves Senate Policy regarding School's Academic Standards & Petition Committee. Apparently, this approved policy is not observed in all school. Nov 2, 2018:**

The committee members per each school shall be elected by different departments/programs of that school. The committee is then chaired by the person designated by the dean of that school. The committee as a whole reviews and approves/disapproves students' petitions. The approved minutes of the each meeting are distributed to the faculty of the relevant school. (Motion passed)