Minutes
College of Design Faculty Assembly
Thursday, December 11, 2008
9:30 – 11:00
Room 32 McNeal


Regrets: Marilyn Bruin, Marilyn DeLong, Leslie Van Duzer

Staff: Kathy Witherow

I. Meeting called to order at 9:05 by Julia Robinson, Faculty Assembly Chair

II. Report from Senators: No Senators were present.

III. Report from the Dean: Tom Fisher shared updates regarding the state budget forecast and potential implications for the College of Design. While there is no firm directive, colleges need to be prepared to respond decisions regarding both FY09 and FY10 cuts. President Bruininks has asked all units to model a 10% budget cut. The President suggested he would make cuts across the board, but reallocate differentially through investments. CDes is already addressing the budget issues and is working to “right size” administration through attrition. Attrition challenges include:

1. We can’t cut positions to the point of dysfunction
2. We can’t control which positions become vacant
3. Attrition has slowed down because there are fewer jobs available for employees to consider.

At the same time, Tom Fisher reported that administrators are paying attention to language around a potential stimulus package proposed by the Obama administration. Senator Klobuchar reportedly informed President Bruininks that she would ask that a stimulus package to retrofit schools also include higher education. Also to consider is the likelihood of a large influx of transfer students and applicants to public universities because it appears that the private institutions are more affected by the current recession than public institutions.

It was suggested that open/discussion time be scheduled in to future Faculty Assembly meetings because the response to the budget cuts will require creative thinking, and the involvement of all faculty. The Faculty Assembly is viewed as an essential forum for vetting ideas. Also suggested was the idea that the Faculty Consultative Committee hold meetings and forums dedicated to discussion.

IV. Report from the Curriculum Committee

It was observed that two of the academic departments were poorly represented at today’s meeting. One faculty member insisted that no business could take place at today’s meeting because there was not a quorum present. There was also strong sentiment that the business of the College needed to move forward. There were several suggestions regarding ways to generate
interest, including charging the deans and governance leadership with getting the message out as to the importance of faculty attendance and involvement.

The following section of the Constitution was read to those who remained at the meeting:

IV.4.6. Each member of the Faculty Assembly shall have one vote. Adoption of official policy shall pass by a majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present or a majority taken by mail or email vote by the noted deadline. Ordinary business of the assembly, including amendments to proposals may be ruled on by a majority of those attending the meeting.

It was determined that recommendations from the Curriculum Committee on courses already reviewed by other college curriculum committees are considered to be ordinary business. The following recommendations were presented by Missy Bye and Leon Satkowski, members of the Curriculum Committee.

A. Recommendation to adopt the Proposal on Course and Curriculum. This recommendation was postponed until a future meeting.

B. Recommendation to approve the following degree program proposals:

1. To change the name of the program in Clothing Design to Apparel Design effective Fall 2010.
2. To change the name of the degree earned through the program in Graphic Design from Bachelor of Science to Bachelor of Fine Art effective Fall 2010.
3. To confirm the establishment of the Design Minor.

These recommendations were approved by voice vote.

C. Recommendation to approve the remapping of course designators in the following areas:
   1. From DHA to program specific course designators, effective Fall 2010.
   2. From DESI to DES, effective Fall 2009.

These recommendations were approved by voice vote.

D. Recommendation to approve dropping the following courses:
   DESI 3121: Topics in Interdisciplinary Design
   DESI 4041: Innovating
   DESI 4050: Design Institute Seminar
   DESI 4120: Topics in Interdisciplinary Design
   DESI 5100: Design Institute Directed Study

These recommendations were approved by voice vote.

E. Recommendation to approve the following new or changed course proposals:
   ARCH 5468: Constructing Sacred Space
   ARCH 5515: Technology One: Building Materials and Construction Systems
   ARCH 5516: Technology Two: Luminous and Thermal Design
ARCH 5517: Structural Systems
ARCH 5521: Material Investigation: Concrete
ARCH 5523: Material Investigation: Steel and Glass
ARCH 5770: Field Studies in Urban Design
DES 3351: The Phenomenon of Design in Everyday Life
DES 3361: The History of Modern Design

These recommendations were approved by voice vote.

F. The committee has approved the following courses under special authority granted to it at the 31 October 2008 meeting of the faculty assembly:

ARCH 5110: Architecture as Catalyst
ARCH 5241: Principles of Design Programming
ARCH 5452: Architecture: Design, Form, Order, and Meaning
ARCH 5527: Material Investigation: Stone and Water

The approval of these courses was confirmed by voice vote.

V. Constitution & By-Law Revisions: This agenda item was tabled until a future meeting

VI. Future of the Design Institute: Member of the assembly discussed at length ideas surrounding the future of the Design Institute. Comments include:

- Is it possible to use this as a “think tank?” The Strategic Positioning task force report should be revisited because its members saw a role for that kind of activity.
- Archival issues are important to capture the work that was done.
- Need to look at the entire college and the context of what is needed within budget realities.
- Look at the issue in terms of both physical and virtual, and make better use of faculty.
- Any new entity needs to be issue driven, not personality driven.
- It is important that faculty drive any new entity. Need to look more holistically and for opportunities for interdisciplinary design.
- Need a grass roots approach, not an “on-high” approach.
- This doesn’t necessarily need to be a formal entity.

A motion was made by Hokanson, seconded by Yust that Kate Solomonson name a team to put out a call for participation. An ideation session should be scheduled, and ideas generated should be brought to a future Faculty Assembly meeting. Motion passed.

VII. Meeting Schedule: The next meeting will be scheduled at a time that minimally disrupts teaching. If possible, remote participation will be available and encouraged. It was suggested that the invitation to the next meeting include language from IV.4.6 of the bylaws, clearly informing faculty that ordinary business will be conducted by those who attend the meeting.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned at 10:45

Minutes submitted 12/11/08
Kathy Witherow