Minutes: November 2021

Public health governance meeting

Present: Adams, Brewer, Ding, Eagle, Foster, Gardner, Kim, Lartey, Parker

Guest: Audrey Paster

* Sept minutes approved as read with no discussion (Brewer motion, Parker second)
* BSPH report -Grace
  + Updated on annual sustainability report. Numbers comparatively look good although some discussion regarding enrollment came up.
    - Discussion regarding recruitment.
    - Possibly developing intro to public health course. Not wanting to lose colonnade course of personal health though.
    - Renaming or tweaking the personal health course to be more reflective of content (community health).
      * Discussion:
      * Gardner: Question re: transitioning PH 100 from personal health to personal & community health class
      * Lartey: How much revision would need to be done? Have to stay below 50% change for UCC
      * Gardner: The community health aspect is there; the textbook is population focused
      * Lartey: Make minimal changes at a time, like course name first (Community and Personal Health? Personal and Public Health?)
  + Summer schedule: still working on times, dates; waiting on dates/information from outside of program. One issue is low enrollment; need to make sure classes are offered in a way that we don’t shoot ourselves in the foot
  + Curriculum: syllabi/learning outcomes done; competency alignment will come
  + Recruiting activities:
    - Gardner asked if Lartey can share JUMP information at Head for the Hill and other events?
    - Working with transfers from community colleges, especially ones with health programs.
* MPH report – Marilyn
  + PH Faculty/staff lines not included in approved positions; Gardner has asked for clarification on decision-making process and why input was not requested.
  + Syllabi review in assessment folder
    - Reviewed for Bloom’s taxonomy
    - Programs will need to determine thresholds and how to address this assessment.
  + Summer schedule has been updated.
  + Winter schedule: note that despite multiple sessions being offered, students are limited to taking 4 hours—so can only take 1 class.
* PHUGAS
  + Beth had to leave. Nothing major to report.
* KPHA - Grace
  + Recapped last meeting.
  + Students volunteered for leadership positions that were later approved by electronic vote.
  + Gretchen developed a training video to use to help assist leaders.
  + Working on laundry supplies drive for refugees/partnering with International Center.
  + KPHA conference abstract are due in Jan. Encourage students to submit.
* Ongoing business
  + Stakeholders
    - Eagle spoke with Jennifer Kash, community member with strong connections with the Karenni refugee community in Warren County. She said that several Karenni college students are enrolled in Public Health programs. They discussed the challenges refugee college students face and the lack of support they receive at WKU; she views some of the key issues as financial (understanding financial aid and lack of awareness of on campus jobs) which obviously is outside our scope, but they also discussed the problems students have navigating college life as first-generation students with significant family responsibilities.
    - Why Eagle thinks this is worth our attention: we want our majors/MPH students to reflect the diversity of our community; since underrepresented students face significant challenges, it is important to provide, or find ways WKU can provide, support that is tailored to their needs. Eagle sees this as a DIE issue as well. Recruitment of underrepresented/historically excluded students should go hand in hand with support. Partnership with ISEC would be one potential avenue
    - Marilyn-planning stakeholder meeting.
* New business
  + Marilyn – content review and competency alignment forms need to be completed and submitted for each core course by Jan. 5th.
  + Forms attached to the agenda; this will be the last pass before the self-study. For classes that won’t have been taught by then, will have to adjust.
  + Meeting in December: should it be cancelled? Lartey has a conflict. Need at least a check-in, if no meeting in December to make sure the work is on track.
  + Also need MPH curriculum committee meeting since not re-hiring Marina’s position.
* Meeting adjourned (Lartey motioned, Parker seconded).