

MAO Meeting

Oct. 28, 2013

Present: Hebb, Dunne, Berque, Kinney, McCoy, Adams, Kondry, Kirkpatrick

1. Registration System (Adam Hughes, Carol Smith)

Adam and Carol discussed an enhancement to the course registration system. Faculty will be able to issue SPACs with a "use by" date. This will help to address the problem of students holding onto SPACs during the course request period and not using them.

Ken mentioned the possibility of moving to a summer orientation for new students that features live, direct course registration.

2. Courses

A. New Courses: GEOS 300, Writing in the Geosciences (.5 credit)

B. Course Changes

SOC 315, Sociology of Madness. Renumbered from SOC 219.

BIO 156, Advanced Placement in Biology. AP credit for this course rather than BIO 135.

Does not count toward major.

3. Committee updates

ATAC has met twice and is discussing an electronic disruption policy

4. Fall break aligning with Greencastle schools. Tiffany reported on faculty complaints that DePauw's fall break did not align with the Putnam County school's break. DePauw's calendar is set four years in advance and the Putnam County schools have only recently moved to a week-long fall break. So far as we know, there is no formula yet for setting that break. Tiffany will check with a contact in the schools to see what their scheduling process is.

5. Timebank and course scheduling. Ken reported on problems with course scheduling for Spring 2014 and distributed a chart showing the percentage of classes meeting at various times. The main problem was the number of courses scheduled in the 2:20-3:50 MW timebank, which conflicts with the 1:40-2:40 MWF and 2:50-3:50 timebanks. The chart also shows a bunching up of classes around the middle of the day. VPAA Larry Stimpert has asked MAO and the Registrar to consider ways of more evenly distributing classes. Ken has suggested three possibilities for discussion:

1. Eliminate the 8:20-9:50 MW and 2:20-3:50 MW timebanks.
2. Provide departments with a template schedule that distributes courses through the timebanks, taking into account department constraints (e.g., the need to offer lab courses). Departments would enter courses and instructors into this template schedule.

3. Institute a requirement that each faculty member offer a specified number of courses in the 8 o'clock timebanks.

6. Merging MAO and CAPP. Tiffany mentioned the discussions in the Faculty Governance Steering Committee about merging MAO and CAPP into one curriculum committee.