

Committee on Academic Policy and Procedure / Minutes
Monday, October 8, 2012
4-5:30 pm, Julian 372

Present: Carroll Bible and Natasha Oliver (student representatives), Nicole Brockmann, Nahyan Fancy, Tim Good, David Harvey (VPAA), Mark McCoy (Dean of SoM), Marnie McInnes (recorder), Alex Puga, Fred Soster (chair)

1. Minutes (with time emendation: we met until 5:30 pm) were approved from CAPP meeting on September 24, 2012.
2. Next CAPP meetings: Monday, Oct. 22 and Oct. 29, 2012, 4-5:30 pm.
3. FGSC met on Friday 9/28/12. President Casey briefed the committee on his idea of a different model for advising and the “class Dean” concept for improving retention. VP Christopher Wells will work with SLAAC to develop a model and decide what additional steps to take to implement the model.
4. At our meeting on Oct. 22, Carol Bible will brief us about variable-credit internship proposal for students who wish to work in the local community.
5. We approved the latest draft of our letter to the chairs. Alex Puga will represent CAPP at the Chairs Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 11, 2012.
6. WT Proposal (to give WT credit to students who do off-campus internships) may raise problems for the School of Music. David Harvey will provide clarification and we'll discuss this again later.
7. CAPP met with Dan Meyer, Vice President for Admission and Financial Aid (4:15 – 5:00 pm).
 - a. Admission criteria: The central question Admission asks is whether the student has the potential to graduate. Many factors contribute to the decision: Course selection and GPA (together 70%), standardized tests, letters of reference, extracurricular activities. For various reasons, we do admit some students who are below our general standards. “Conditional acceptance” doesn’t work, as it will not allow the student to qualify for state financial aid.
 - b. Comparison of enrollment for past five years: We need to expand applicant pool but make sure applicants are well-qualified. 5500 is goal for the coming year, with 55% admission rate. For marginal students (generally about 120 of

them), we need to bring them to campus for a full 45 minute interview, during which we measure whether the student is serious about academics and ready for DePauw. Of the 120 marginal students admitted this year, only 30 enrolled. The past five classes have been similar. GPA is not a good measure because of grade inflation. in 2008 and 2009, we had a larger yield than in 2010, 2011, 2012, but also a much higher discount rate. Numbers, quality, diversity, net revenue: the four factors that must be balanced in Admission. This year, we'll start with a revenue goal and decide which of several ways we'll use to get there. Can we, for example, push the discount rate down a bit, or not?

Special programs: Management Fellows numbers have gotten very high (not sure this is desired); SRF has fluctuated the most; Honor Scholars have stayed about 30-35. Others have been about the same for the past five years.

- c. Goal: admit 50% of applicants; increase standards for students in lowest 20% of applicant pool; increase TOEFL scores gradually for international students. NB. Students with lower entering GPAs graduate at a significantly lower rate than those with gpas of 3.5+.
- d. New Admission building is beautiful and spacious. We used to send lots of letters and brochures. Now there's a uniform look to the mailings; we've streamlined the messages and made them more consistent. Mailings are reinforced by materials on web and by changes in the way we work with families: we no longer lead with financial aid. We used to be negotiators, car salesmen, doing things backwards. We've moved away from merit-focused to need-based scholarship. Merit standards used to be ridiculously low; now they are higher, and we want to keep pushing these standards up (awards go from \$5,000 to \$20,000.). Rector scholars (top 2% of applicants) earn full tuition.
- e. Of the 47 million we allocate for aid, 30 million should go to need-based aid. National trend is to bring discount rate up; we're going in the opposite direction. Class of 2013 had 100 more students than current class, but brought in less revenue; this is not sustainable. Students who are not needy: family income of \$150,000+. Needy: FAFSA form determines whether students qualify for federal aid, generally income of <\$50,000. We're not able to meet all of our students' need. Campaign will help, but will not fill the gap; this will take twenty years or so.
- f. Dan's questions for CAPP: Can we help generate faculty interest in doing multiple interviews of the marginal applicants? How might the faculty and students react to a test-optional admission? (ACT and SAT don't tell us much.)

A better measure is what the students did in high school. We'd put more emphasis on curricular expectations: eg., 4 years of math, Academic Diploma in Indiana, essays.)

- g. Tim Good will be liaison between CAPP and Admission.