Call to Order: 12:07 p.m.

Communication Officer's Report:
Approved Minutes of 12/04/2014: https://ritdml.rit.edu/handle/1850/17418
[If you experience any difficulty with the DML links, please email the DML department at: ritscholarworks@rit.edu.]

Executive Committee Report:
None

Proposed B.S. in Digital Humanities and Social Science Program
Full Proposal, Executive Summary and PPt Presentation: https://ritdml.rit.edu/handle/1850/17412

- ICC unanimously approved the proposed Bachelor of Science degree program in Digital Humanities and Social Science from the College of Liberal Arts.
- Michael Laver, chair of the Senate had received three letters from the respective Deans (Lorraine Justice, CIAS Dean; Andrew Sears, GCCIS Dean; Jamie Winebrake, CLA Dean) in strong support of this program.
- Lisa Hermsen, English Language Department Chair presented the power point on this proposal (see link above).
- This is a joint program with three colleges working together: CLA, GCCIS and CIAS.
- A curriculum committee comes from each college that is involved with this program.
- No other institute has this specific degree and finding it down to K-12.
- The marketability is tremendous with over two million hits online in regards to this program.
- There is a working group of 65 people.
- Retention will be exciting.

Discussion/Q&A ensued.

- J. Ettlie: Who are these graduates competing with in the marketplace? Additionally, I am certain that SCB also would have some courses to add to this and faculty who would be interested in this program.
  1) L. Hermsen: This is an entry level program, Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Humanities. There is an entrepreneurial part to this program as well.
- H. Shahmohamad: This is a remarkable program in my opinion. Which of the three colleges has the lead on this and what additional resources are needed?
  1) L. Hermsen: CLA is hosting this and the curriculum will be managed by faculty from all three colleges. In regards to resources, we will need nothing for the first three years. We are already teaching the courses presently being offered.
- W. McKinzie: I, too, compliment you on this. I’m pleased that we are a partner for this degree. When it comes to assigning faculty for this program, how will loans be organized and will there be enough resources?
1) L. Hermsen: There are still some questions we do not have answers to. After three years, we will need to re-assess this, especially looking at the cost model.
2) M. Laver: Our Strategic Plan is calling for these hybrid degrees and possibly the Provost can organize a committee or Academic Senate to work on this.
3) Provost: We have a draft paper on this currently circulating among the Deans on how to administer joint-programs. I will add this to the list.
4) B. Elahi: Lisa Hermsen is being very modest. I think this hurdle has been tackled.
   • C. Sheffield: I commend you on the amazing series of ‘Digital Humanities: Where Text and Code Collide’ lectures that have been sponsored over the past two years. Leading scholars have been brought to campus to highlight the Digital Humanities, and provided an important replacement for the Gannett lecture series that was put on hiatus. My question: Why the conjunction of the Social Sciences with DH? Why not simply DH? What is gained or lost by this conjunction and change of emphasis? How about the U of R’s new building devoted to media and DH? And why has there been no request for additional resources for our library for acquisitions in this area? This seems to me to be naïve and an oversight.
   1) L. Hermsen: Anthropology now plays a big role, and that is what is being gained with Social Sciences joining Digital Humanities. Journalism is also a huge add-in to this program. And when doing a google search on Digital Humanities and Social Sciences, one can see that these two are merging.
   2) In regards to the U of R, this is a research center, not a degree program.
   3) I cannot answer your question in regards to the library, but this program is all open-access online.
   4) S. Bower: I would second Lisa Hermsen’s remarks that electronic editions for most items are the norm in this discipline for standard texts and journals, and we are well-positioned here.
   5) Provost: I would encourage you to go back and review the library resources for this program. This is the appropriate time to consider them for this program and not in the future.

The motion to approve the proposed Digital Humanities and Social Sciences Bachelor of Science degree passes with 1 abstention.

The Long Range Planning and Environment Committee Report
Report and Link to PPT: https://ritdml.rit.edu/handle/1850/17417

Karl Korfmacher, Co-Chair of the LRP&E Committee along with Rennie Bailey presented three charges (charges 2, 4 and 7) which the committee has completed, requesting feedback regarding these charges.

See link above to view the full presentation.

• Charge 2: Campus Cyber Infrastructure Plan was investigated whether it could be modified to take into account big data mining, infrastructure experimentation, protocol design etc.
   1) Two recommendations were made (see link above to view all of the presentation).

• Charge 4:
   1) Explore the mechanisms for the faculty, staff, and students to evaluate the Ombuds office.
   2) Explore whether the Ombuds office is adequately staffed since Lee Twyman (Ombudsperson) noted that there is no longer a mediator on campus. And should additional resources be considered, given the increased demands and importance of this position?
   3) See full presentation of the findings of the LRPE committee in regards to this charge and any recommendations being made.

• Charge 7: The previous Campus Environment Committee determined that the best practice for improving coordination and communication among sustainability-oriented groups and activities on campus, particularly those related to academics where we currently fall short, is to establish a rotating Faculty Fellow in Sustainability.
   1) To that end, the LRPE committee defined the job description and logistical considerations for this position.
   2) Switched from Faculty Fellow to Faculty Associate to give more awareness of sustainability and life on campus (i.e. dorm life etc.).

Comments/Q&A.
• J. Ettlie: In regards to the Ombuds Office charge and recommendations, I am not sure a survey would serve the people. I would recommend some benchmarking data from peer and aspirational institutions and whether we match what we are doing. This way we may have better insight into their staffing needs.

• T. Policano: A couple of functions in the Ombuds Office are not being covered.
  1) The Ombudsperson should have “privilege”, a legal term which means that what is discussed is done so in total confidence in the eyes of the law. This might be addressed by changing the job title for this position.
  2) Suggestion for faculty to have representatives and training them to give assistance when people enter this office seeking assistance. We need this expansion.
    ▪ K. Korfmacher: Yes, doing more outreach is what they want, but they are now maxed out.
  3) We also need to consider mediation.

• B. Barry: It might be useful to ascertain whether there are certain issues that the office would like to address.

Q: What happens when an issue is not appropriate for the Ombudsperson’s skill set?
  ▪ K. Korfmacher: If there is an issue not appropriate for the Ombudsperson, she would recommend the case elsewhere. I will follow-up on this with them.

• H. Yamashita: The survey will play a critical role as a lot of the service by the Ombuds Office is not known. And it would be good to have a workshop and extra services could be shared.
  ▪ K. Korfmacher: Great idea! And the survey would be conducted by the Ombuds office.

Any further feedback to the charges that were presented today can be sent to Karl Korfmacher (kfkscl@rit.edu) and Rennie Bailey (rjb@cs.rit.edu).

Adjournment: 12:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chip Sheffield, Communications Officer
Vivian Gifford, Senior Staff Assistant