Academic Affairs Committee
October 21, 2022
McCandless Hall Conference Room 300

Meeting called to order 1:16

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Jim America, Chairing meeting, Mr. Mike Underwood, Dr. Timothy Thornton, Dr. Cynthia Lovelace, Professor Pamela Keller, Ms. Laken Smith, Dr. Catherine Wehlburg, Dr. Donna Estill, Mrs. Molly Myhan (in place of Mrs. Robin Moore)

Absent: Senator Arthur Orr, Mrs. Missy Ming Smith, Mr. Jimmy Baker, Mrs. Felicia Mucci, Ms. Rita Wallace, Mr. Ira Lacy, Dr. Phillip Way, Mrs. Robin Moore

Review of previous minutes – no discussion

Motion to approve – Dr. Adam Lewis
Second – Dr. Estill

New Business

Introductions and Welcome
- Dr. Dave Ragsdale, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
- New Committee Members
- New Faculty at Athens State (Handout) – majority have been replacements
  Two of our Faculty, Dr. Katia Maxwell and Dr. Shannon Pittman, have received the awards of Teaching Excellence and Distinguished Research/Creative Works, respectively.

New Programs Scheduled for Fall 2023 Implementation

- M.Ed. – Training and Development
  As there are no other programs, such as this in our state, a high need has been identified. This will be a 33-hour online course with new courses; no new faculty are required.

- M.F.A. – considered a terminal degree in the Arts
  Not only is will this be the only M.F.A in our service area, it is the only one to offer certain technologies in ceramics. This program will offer media and digital arts, such as graphic design, painting/drawing and ceramics.

The program will start with 1 – 2 courses each semester with advising. Additional resources will be required, depending on enrollment:

       Year 1 – half/time
       Year 3 – additional half/time

Presently, there are seven students interested in the program. Professor Keller suggested limiting the number to ten students per academic year.

The National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) is the accrediting association for the M.F.A and B.F.A. Accreditation for these programs is a two-year process.

- Undergraduate Certificate – Fundamentals of Software Development (12 hrs.)
  This certificate is targeted towards a non-degree student who may not have a background in software development but wishes to acquire the programming skills required to become a software developer.

- Undergraduate Certificate – Advanced Software Development (12 hrs.)
  This certificate is targeted towards either a non-degree seeking student or potential graduate student who needs the background in computer science theory and software development in preparation for future study in the field.   The target audience for this certificate is a person who has a degree in information technology, information systems or related degree who wishes to pursue graduate study in the computing field.

  As each certificate combines exiting courses, no additional resources are required.

College of Arts and Sciences Spotlight

Dr. Adam Lewis highlighted both the undergraduate and graduate computing-related degrees offered at Athens State. He provided handouts to emphasize his key points. We offer nationally accredited programs in Computer Science and Information Technology, which are tailored for student's goals past graduation. Our students receive a strong foundation in software engineering and information systems, and gain deep problem-solving skills and experiential learning.

Old Business
There was none.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15