
METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY of DENVER
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 28, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman of the Academic and Student Affairs (ASA) Committee, Trustee Marissa Molina, called the ASA Committee meeting to order at 2:58 p.m.

Board of Trustees Present: Trustee Marissa Molina, Trustee Barb Grogan, Trustee Russell Noles, Trustee Albus Brooks, Trustee Mario Carrera, Trustee Mike Johnston, Trustee Kristin Hultquist, Faculty Senate Representative Bethany Fleck, and Student Representative, Alaura Ward.

Dr. Alfred Tatum was welcomed and introduced as MSU Denver's incoming Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Tatum will join MSU Denver on March 16, 2021.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of September 3, 2020 Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes - Trustee Carrera **moved for approval** of the September 3, 2020 ASA Committee meeting minutes, with a **second** by Albus Brooks.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Change in Presidential Authority over Personnel Matters Policy – Sabbaticals – Bill Henry, Interim Provost

The current process of approving sabbatical applicants includes final approval by the President and Board of Trustees. The change would remove subsection III.A.2.h. "the power to grant sabbatical leaves" from the Presidential Authority Personnel Policy. The change to the Faculty Employment Handbook would delegate the final authority to approve or deny sabbatical applications to the Provost. Academic Affairs would continue to report on sabbaticals to the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Carrera **moved to recommend approval** to the Board of Trustees of the change to the Presidential Authority over Personnel Matters Policy, with a **second** by Trustee Brooks.

Approval of New Programs – Shaun Schafer, AVP/Vice Provost

- Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, School of Education
- Bachelor of Arts in Public Health, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Bachelor of Science in Real Estate, College of Business
- Real Estate Minors, College of Business
- Public Relations Certificate, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Sociology of Tourism Certificate, School of Hospitality
- Strategic Communication Certificate, College of Health and Applied Sciences

Dr. Schafer outlined the advantages of adding the new programs to the catalog. The Trustees discussed the Real Estate major; the program will require a new full-time faculty member. The money needs to be available for the position before the new major can begin. Dean Ann Murphy will return to the March ASA Committee Meeting to update the Trustees on the funding.

Trustee Hultquist moved to **recommend approval** to the Board of Trustees of the new programs, with a **second** by Trustee Carrera.

Approval of Discontinued Programs – Shaun Schafer, AVP/Vice Provost

- Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
- Bachelor of Arts in Recreation Professions, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Childhood Communication Concentration, Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences
Major, B.A., College of Health and Applied Sciences

- Commercial Music Performance Concentration, Commercial Music Songwriting, Music Industry Studies Concentration, Music Major, B.A., College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
- Communications Concentration, Computer Engineering Technology Concentration, Power and Control Systems Concentration, Electrical Engineering Technology Major, B.S., College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Criminalistics Concentration, Chemistry Major, B.S., College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
- Travel and Tourism Management Concentration, Hospitality Major, B.S., School of Hospitality
- Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway (ISPP) Certificate, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
- Bachelor of Arts in Recreation Professions, College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Childhood Communication Concentration, Speech, Language, Hearing Sciences Major, B.A., College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Commercial Music Performance Concentration, Commercial Music Songwriting, Music Industry Studies Concentration, Music Major, B.A., College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
- Communications Concentration, Computer Engineering Technology Concentration, Power and Control Systems Concentration, Electrical Engineering Technology Major, B.S., College of Health and Applied Sciences
- Criminalistics Concentration, Chemistry Major, B.S., College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences
- Travel and Tourism Management Concentration, Hospitality Major, B.S., School of Hospitality
- Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway (ISPP) Certificate, College of Health and Applied Sciences

The Trustees reviewed the list of discontinued programs.

Trustee Noles moved to **recommend approval** to the Board of Trustees of the discontinued programs, with a **second** by Trustee Carrera.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Academic Program Review: Executive Summaries (2019-20), One-Year Follow Ups (2018-19), and Schedule (2020-22) – Shaun Schafer, Interim Vice Provost, AVP Curriculum & Policy Development

The outside consultants have confirmed that the programs that were reviewed last year had the common theme of standing up to academic rigor. More faculty are needed, but MSU Denver continues to be a highly-valued institution; there are needs that are not able to be met due to financial constraints.

The fall of 2019 introduced an additional step to the program review process with a tool called a 2-Year Program Progress Report, which is designed to help guide and capture assessment and improvement activities during the six-year interim between each scheduled review. This creates a living document with a one-year follow up.

Engineering and Engineering Technology have undergone significant transformation since their last review. Three new programs were added as well as creating and modifying over 100 courses. There is continued growth in the Fire and Emergency Response Administration and Human Services. There is significant need in this program and they are reaching a point of maximizing their resources. As community colleges are authorized to have four-year degrees, the Baccalaureate Registered Nurse Option (BRNCO) has suffered with the competition.

Programs currently undergoing review are Aviation and Aerospace Science, Criminal Justice and Criminology, Health Professions, Psychological Sciences, and Social Work. Programs scheduled for review in 2021-22 are Communication Studies, English, Modern Languages, Philosophy, Journalism and Media Production, Nutrition, and Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

Faculty Scholarship & Service Spotlight – Cynthia Erickson, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience)

Dr. Bill Henry highlighted the transformative work that our faculty do outside of the lecture hall. Dr. Erickson is an expert in Neuroscience and frequently integrates students into her lab to assist in the research. In comparison with larger institutions, students can see the project through from start to completion, which gives students the opportunity for skill building and personal growth.

Cassie Gobs is the President of the Psychological Research Club and gave the Trustees an overview of what Dr. Erickson's program has done for her. Graduate student Marlene Ventura told the Trustees about her experience at MSU Denver. Thanks to Dr. Erickson, Marlene was able to prepare four research presentations during her time at the institution. The experience has given the students experience in applying for grants and presenting research.

Student Success Initiative Spotlight – Will Simpkins, VP for Student Affairs

The Center for Multicultural Excellence and Inclusion (CMEI) went through a large restructuring process last year. Student Activities and the Multi-Cultural Center were combined to give the center the resources that they need to do their work.

Thanh Nguyen, Director of the CMEI, Amina Bouayad and Lance Tsosie, Graduate Assistants, gave the Trustees an overview of the Center and how the Graduate Assistant Program fosters a culture of advising, mentoring and building community. The Graduate Assistants guide students to their identity-based program coordinators.

The CMEI has accomplished increased equality, intentional student-centered programs that include students that are not traditionally recognized. Students collaborate with other institutions and host programs and virtual gatherings.

Student Achievement Spotlight – Will Simpkins, VP for Student Affairs, Emanuel Walker, CIS Student
Emanuel Walker presented an overview of his journey that started with his birth in Liberia, coming to the United States on a lottery pick, and his community college, MSU Denver, and community achievements. After obtaining a Puksta Scholarship, he chose MSU Denver because the university prioritizes students. He is currently majoring in Computer Information Systems and has an internship with Lockheed-Martin.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the ASA Committee was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee Members

Marissa Molina, Chair
Barb Grogan
Russell Noles
Albus Brooks
Kristin Hultquist
Mike Johnston