College of Arts and Sciences
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY
Minutes November 15, 2011
Oakland Room, Oakland Center

Members absent: Clason, Dulio, Howell, Kerrigan, Lombardo, Naser, Rosenthall, Roth
Ex-officio present: Stewart, Sudol

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dean Sudol at 3:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes, October 18, 2011

The minutes from the Assembly meeting of October 18, 2011 were approved (Eis, Russell).

3. Resolution: Rename the Center for International Programs to International Studies Program

Dean Sudol introduced the topic of the name change of the Center for International Programs to International Studies Program. A motion was passed to substitute the previous motion still on the floor regarding this name change to the above wording (Nugent, Graves). Mr. Sudol said that the proposed name change accurately reflects what the International Studies program is and does. Mr. Grossman asked what all will change with this name change. Mr. Sudol said that the word ‘Center’ implies research on this campus, or else an actual geographical place. Neither is true for the International Studies program. The new name is a way of expanding on the international scope of this program. He emphasized that it is just a name change, and the International Studies Program will have the same director and so on.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice, first reading

Jay Meehan and Amanda Burgess-Proctor were present to introduce the proposal. Mr. Meehan said that for years there has been an interdisciplinary minor in Criminal Justice. Over the years the students have wanted a major, but the time was not right until now.

The program goals are to provide in-depth study of criminology and the criminal justice system, with a theoretical grounding. Basic program requirements are summarized in the proposal, with courses and an internship. Specializations go along with projected job growth in the USA. Two niche areas of Homeland Security and Information and Security Assurance are particularly interesting and challenging these days, and this program will make OU students stand out. In essence, the program is interdisciplinary, has an internship and a capstone course. There will be a broad array of interdisciplinary
requirements. Also, there will be an administrative professional who will help coordinate the internships. The capstone course is also distinctive because it will be a policy paper that will link research and theory. Students will be required to make an oral presentation. The current concentration will become a minor. The minor will not have an internship.

Mr. Meehan expressed his excitement for two national partnerships in particular: the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in NYC (the Academy of Critical Incident Analysis), and the Center for Homeland Security and Defense in Monterey, CA. The latter is a particularly exciting connection. In addition, local partnerships will continue.

Regarding student interest, Mr. Meehan said that they predict steady growth, with Year 1 having 50 majors, growing to 225 majors by Year 5.

With regards to the budget, there will be a mix of full- and part-time faculty, with a proposal for five new faculty positions over the first four years and an AP position in Year 1. Mr. Meehan said that this is an important new program, and a game changer, and so the new faculty positions are necessary.

Ms. Jhashi complimented Mr. Meehan on an excellent proposal, and said the she likes many things about it, such as the capstone course. However, she was still concerned about the proposal for five faculty members, and asked how these were projected. Mr. Meehan said that this was based upon the number of sections projected. The program will be offered both on campus at OU, and also at the Anton/Frankel Center in Macomb, so the faculty are needed. Also, they are doing both the internship and the capstone. Two faculty members will be in statistics, and with the number of courses that students will need to take, five faculty members are needed. In addition, Mr. Meehan said that his department does not want to get swamped like they did with the Social Work program.

Sandy Dykstra asked how many students are in the concentration. Mr. Meehan replied that there are about 100. These students start with the major in sociology. He pointed out that there may be double majors with this as well. In addition, there are students who leave OU to get a job in criminal justice.

Mr. Stewart asked if there will still be a 2 + 2 agreement with OCC. Mr. Meehan said they will have to revisit how those agreements will work. Mr. Berven asked if some of the new hires will teach exclusively at the Macomb campus. Mr. Meehan said no, they will rotate the teachers around. There will be a lot of students from Macomb (1/3 of the projected student base), and so if there is a full program presence, it will make an impact.

Mr. Grossman said that the internship sounds like a good idea. He asked whether it will be optional for minors, or if it would be just for majors. Ms. Burgess-Proctor replied that the first responsibility will be for majors, but they will try to facilitate minors.

Mr. Sudol commented that the CAS has been happy with enrollments at the Anton/Frankel Center, so this will be a good addition. Also, the facility is right across the street from the courthouse.

Mr. Sudol then observed that there will be no Assembly meeting in December. A motion was passed to waive the second reading (Eis, Hawkins). Mr. Grossman then asked if the Dean supports the proposal, and asked whether there will be resources for the faculty. Mr. Sudol said that there is a grace period for new programs and said that we have had good success with new programs. Enrollment projections err on the side of fewer, not more. The history of new programs is excellent, so prospects are good for this one, and he does support it. Mr. Berven observed that they will be offering a major in two places, and so he asked what would happen if the numbers in the two places are not
equal. Mr. Meehan said that they would play that by ear, but they expect it to be similar at both sites. Also, there are interdisciplinary electives, so there will be migration between campuses. Mr. Stewart suggested it will be necessary to watch to see that they do not repeat among themselves. Mr. Sudol said that there is community support at the Anton/Frankel Center in the town. Also, there is the incentive program for off-site locations. They will not be hiring people to be site-specific—all hires are hired to the Oakland University campus, but it will be an incentive to go to this site.

The motion to approve the BA in Criminal Justice passed unanimously.

5. College Updates

Mr. Sudol said that his office is deeply involved in proposals for space for the CAS. A complex plan is emerging for new construction south of Varner and connected to Varner. There would be a proscenium of 200 theatre seats, and in the future, an independent project for a new concert hall that would seat 1000 people. By using the existing foundations of Varner Hall, the architects can save $25 million. Varner Hall will be completely redesigned for the new purposes.

He said there is also a need for a social sciences building. In the future, O’Dowd will be for languages and humanities. Initial meetings indicate that the next building will be for the CAS. The arguments for the new space are very strong.

Mr. Russell asked how the CAS will compete with the School of Medicine when it comes to support for the privately funded concert hall. Mr. Sudol said that philanthropists are inclined to want to support either one or the other. Mr. Berven asked if there were any news on the vacated space in Hannah Hall. Mr. Sudol said that he has made his request, but the SOM has a voracious appetite for space.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven