Convened: Time: 3:40 pm Meier Hall 249E

Attending: Amy Smith, Ryan Fisher, Karen House, Keith Ratner, Kanishkan Sathasivam, Nancy Schultz, David Silva

Guests: Avril Hevey-Doucette, Megan Miller

I. Chair’s Report
   A. Rotating Records and Meeting Schedule
      May 25, 2018 (David Silva recording) – MH249E

   B. Spring Meeting Schedule
      May 25, 2018 – MH249E

      K. House and K. Sathasivam will not be available for 5/25 meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes
   A. Academic Policies Committee 17/18:11
      Motion to approve: K. Sathasivam, seconded by R. Fisher
      No significant discussion.
      Minutes unanimously approved.

   B. Curriculum Committee 17/18:13
      Motion to approve: N. Schultz, seconded by A. Smith
      No significant discussion.
      Minutes unanimously approved.

III. Old Business – None.

IV. New Business
   Avril Hevey-Doucette (Transfer Services) and Megan Miller (Registrar) discussed articulation agreements. Most time spent on Mass Transfer Pathways. Have been faculty-to-faculty conversations.

   First year 6 subject areas
   Second year +10 more
   Third – fourth years 2-3 more

   Future: one more round with Social Work and Nursing. Goal is to reduce articulation agreements; make them uniform (as possible) statewide. Constant revision as needed. Specific agreements still happen as needed.
New: i.e. environmental studies with North Shore (sustainability). Accreditation issues can complicate them or trigger needed review and updates. Can be initiated by state, faculty, individual students who are interested. Solid agreements: 15 in addition to the Pathways.

Discussion: What happens when a department changes curriculum. Makes it tricky - need to communicate to Department of Higher Education (DHE). Salem State University always honors the agreement for students seamlessly (as some longevity is expected) enrolled.

North Shore Community College have official curriculum sheets – have advising pathway sheets – supposedly outlines.

How to take program but doesn’t always match. How many students? Unclear. Tracking more accurate recently, but the numbers seem to be increasing. Advisors at community colleges are all over this, impact may be a few years out. High priority for state.

MA Transfer website has improved a lot; state has put resources behind it. Feeder schools to Salem State are North Shore CC, Bunker Hill CC, Norther Essex CC, Middlesex CC, Massachusetts Bay CC and Roxbury CC.

Ancient history suggests SSU not transfer friendly (no longer true). Trying to overcome perception. Trying to respond to what they are learning from Admissions, etc. especially for fall to spring transfers, for earlier registration.

Looking to see what others are doing (Bridgewater, for example). Transparency.

Has helped with academic relationship building with colleagues elsewhere. SSU will not evaluate transcripts for transfer until after they are admitted.

SSU should continue to work on ways to become more transfer-friendly. Currently, SSU does not evaluate transcripts for transfers until after students are admitted. One idea might be to develop a version of our degree tracker “what if” program that could give students a preliminary sense of what is transferrable. Of course, this would need to have proper disclaimers, but it might help attract students and build enrollment.

Challenge is the “mandatory concentrations” and degree tracker can do more harm than good. Working to mitigate. Other challenge: late receipt of curricular changes in a timely way.

Is there a pot of money to send faculty/departments to the two years to build networks and increase transfers? Is it part of service? Does it have an outcome that justifies the investment?

Cross- fertilization academically.

PKAL kaleidoscope (STEM) meetings twice a year. Primarily public but open to all. Salem State is hosting in June. Four-year institutions pay $55 and community colleges are free. Encouraging the Provosts to encourage disciplines across the state to meet etc. Are there pockets? Maybe. David will take it back to Provosts on June 4.
Motion to adjourn by A. Smith; seconded by K. Sathasivam. Unanimously approved.

R. Fisher and K. Ratner put forward to remain on committee. K. Sathasivam is stepping off.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karen House.