Forum: Regional Campus Majors 4/17/15

200 Campbell Hall 9:00-10:30am

An overview of the purpose of the forum by Steve Fink

* Two proposals: Environmental Studies & Emerging Media and the Arts
* This could serve as a model for other regional campuses developing majors.

Presentations by Regional Campus representatives

* Gary Kennedy
  + Two Interdisciplinary Majors will require several concurrences.
  + Other regional campuses have similar ideas.
  + Most tenure track faculty are from Arts and Sciences.
  + Reasons for the proposals
  + Significant number of Mansfield students are non-traditional.
  + Would increase student options. Currently there are only 9 options for a Bachelor’s degree at Mansfield.
  + Many students transfer to other universities. This would provide more opportunities for students to stay at OSU.
  + Could increase overall enrollment at the university. There’s a lot of room for growth at Mansfield. There is an opportunity to have 50% growth without increasing facilities.
  + Utilize the expertise of existing faculty. Most faculty aren’t involved with a specific major.
  + Take advantage of unique features of the campus.
  + Demand from students with interest in these fields.
* Ozeas Costa - BA in Environmental Studies
  + The campus has lots of natural resources
    - About 640 wooded acres worth of outdoor lab space.
    - Species including those that are endangered.
    - Natural wetlands and vernal pools.
  + Faculty in several different departments would offer courses for the major (Anthropology, Earth Sciences, EEOB, Geography, History, Philosophy, Political Science, and Sociology)
  + Planning to make two new hires for the major (one in History and one in Environmental Science)
  + Expanding community partnerships.
    - Plans to collaborate with private donors to establish an EcoLab which would include trails, boardwalks, and outdoor classroom facilities. This will expand teaching and research capabilities that the program could take advantage of.
  + The program allows for flexibility in which students can choose an academic focus. For example, a student could choose to focus more in the natural and mathematical sciences or in the social and behavioral sciences.
* Joseph Fahey - Emerging Media and the Arts (major)
  + The goal is for the students to have the best experience possible for them at their location.
  + Combines the best of Art, English, and Theatre.
  + Meets students’ needs and leverages the strengths of the campus.
  + Needs
  + This program provides one way to begin building on the need for a technology-focused degree.
  + Viable option for place-bound students who do not continue on to Columbus campus. Many students settle for current degree offerings or drop out of school with tremendous debt. This would fill the need for more opportunities at the Mansfield campus.
  + Keep students enrolled which would strengthen their futures and the campus as a whole.
  + Strengths
  + Rich history of partnerships with local and regional institutions and this program could build on those relationships.
    - For example, North Central State College currently sends their 2 year degree students to other campuses.
  + Frequent interdisciplinary collaboration.
  + Active learning/project based instruction
  + Resources like the renovated art studio, digital art lab, art gallery, computer labs, and theatre facility.
  + Students have multiple opportunities to exhibit artwork.
  + The campus is simply asking to formalize a relationship that already exists.

Q&A

* What is the percentage of students that are actually transferring to other universities?
  + Response: No hard numbers to provide. Currently working with someone to get the numbers. Experience of academic advisor:
    - Out of 100, maybe 10 students transfer.
    - Difficult to track if they don’t go to Columbus campus.
    - Each year about 500-600 students are admitted. Only 97 students are graduating this academic year.
  + Follow-up comment: It is imperative to know how many students are going to be affected.
* The title of the program is “Emerging Media and the Arts.” However, the definition of “emerging media” is different than what is actually happening based on the proposal.
  + Response: open to a term that captures what is happening and could provide syllabi that address any concerns.
* What programs are currently offered at the campus like the Emerging Media and the Arts?
  + Minor in Theatre, major in English, and a minor in Art.
* Are there projections about the expected number of students to enroll in these majors? For new proposals projection of enrollments is a required component.
  + Response: a student survey was completed to see what students would like to have offered at the campus and is completed every other year.
    - The capstone component seems to be very faculty labor intensive. It would be very useful to have specific survey information about the potential demand.
      * Response: Current biological/NMS students are already working with faculty members.
      * Another response: In regard to Theatre there is a plan to balance demands by having students peer-mentor younger students.
    - Steve Fink: enrollment planning needs to have coordination between main campus & regional campus.
      * Response: possibility of adding up to 100 new students based on projection. However, enrollments have declined due to decreasing number of high school students graduating. The campus is also increasing off-campus housing.
* Why not include partners from OSU Wooster for the Environmental Studies major?
  + Response: OSU Wooster has been included from the beginning and they are participating in these discussions.
* For the Natural Physical Science requirements approximately 67% are Earth Science courses and 4 of them would be newly developed courses. There is only one faculty member at the Mansfield Campus that is in Earth Sciences. Is it realistic to have that faculty member teaching all of these courses? The proposal does not seem to address adding to staff in Earth Sciences.
  + Response: it is possible to manage the teaching load. All courses would be offered at some point during the 4 years that the students are on campus but not all courses will be offered at the same time.
* The Environmental Studies major proposal states that it is open to all OSU students. If approved, is there a sense of which courses would be offered at other campuses?
  + Response: students should be able to take courses from multiple universities if they find it necessary. There would be very little push back from Mansfield campus if students chose to fulfill course requirements at other campuses.
* Would students be required to finish the degree at the Mansfield campus?
  + Response: there would be no requirements that students finish at Mansfield.
  + If students transferred to OSU main campus there would be no concern in regard to advising with the number of students at the Mansfield campus.
* This is an OSU degree and all majors should have a structure in place that could be applied to any OSU campus. There needs to be a conversation with departments at the main campus to insure that the structure is broad enough to be easily transferred. The title “Environmental Studies” would not be appropriate on the Columbus campus.
* If a student gets 2-3 years into the program and wants to transfer can they complete the program at a different university? Seems as though the program, specifically the Emerging Media in the Arts, is so unique that the students could lose some of the credits.
  + Probably wouldn’t be any different than any of the other programs.
    - Follow-up comment: the transferability of the program needs to be addressed with better articulation of what students would do if they wanted to transfer. We don’t want to have students stuck after 3 years with credits that can’t transfer to other universities.
* Can the area of Mansfield support the number of students getting a degree in Emerging Media in the Arts? Is there demand in the community for these skills?
  + The same concern could be true of those majoring in similar areas.
  + There will be a co-op program with a grant to help launch careers.
* Has there been a credit hour calculation of the prerequisites? There are already 45 credit hours required for the major. Courses at the 1000 level and GE courses cannot count toward the major. Need to consider making the 1000 level courses prerequisites.
  + Response: will need to review and possibly revise.
* Why is it called a Mansfield major instead of just an OSU program?
  + Originally designed to take advantage of the strengths of the faculty and resources at the Mansfield campus.
  + Follow-up question: instead of designing new programs why not use already established OSU programs?
    - There are no programs like these designed at the main campus.
    - Welcome participation of other campuses but the Mansfield campus needs to make sure they can fully offer the program.
* What are the plans for administration? Is there an oversight committee and a committee for assessment?
  + Curriculum committee hasn’t suggested faculty oversight of this yet.
* The coordination between Columbus campus and Mansfield campus is extremely important. All courses at all campuses should be taught the same way with the same expectations. However, this does not always happen and if students transfer to Columbus campus but have not learned specific skills that are built upon at the main campus they could struggle in the remainder of their courses.
* There are not a lot of 4000 level courses in the major. Is there a reason for that?
  + Response: courses were chosen based on those currently offered and maybe there aren’t many 4000 level courses offered at the Mansfield campus.

Panelists from Mansfield campus

Ozeas Costa, Associate Professor of Earth Sciences

Susan Delagrange, Associate Professor of English

Joe Fahey, Associate Professor of Theatre

Steve Gavazzi, Dean & Director of the Mansfield campus and Associate Professor of Music (attended via Carmen Connect from Iowa)

Gary Kennedy, Professor of Mathematics

Kate Shannon, Assistant Professor of Art

Rick Stewart, Academic Advisor

David Tovey, Associate Dean of the Mansfield campus & Associate Professor of Music

In attendance

Janice Aski, French and Italian

Mary Anne Beecher, Design

Caroline Breitenberger, Chemistry/Biochemistry & CLSE

Mallory Buckley, ASCC

Jill Bystydzienski, Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Alexis Collier, Academic Affairs

Peter Craigmile, Statistics

Lesley Ferris, Theatre

Steve Fink, ASC

Elizabeth Freeman, Anthropology

Deborah Haddad, ASC

Kate Hallihan, John Glenn College of Public Affairs

Rebecca Harvey, Art

Danielle Hogle, ASCCAS

Mary Ellen Jenkins, ASC Advising (Columbus)

Norman Johnson, EEOB

Renee Johnston, School of Environment and Natural Resources

Larry Krissek, Earth Sciences

Pok-sang Lam, Economics

Berry Lyons, School of Earth Sciences

Ed McCaul, Engineering

Jennifer Mitzen, Political Science

Debra Moddelmog, English

Steve Neal, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Melissa Newhouse, Academic Affairs

Paul Nini, Design

Shelby Oldroyd, ASCCAS

Maria Palazzi, ACCAD/Design

Bishun Pandey, Marion Campus

Chan E. Park (on behalf of Mark Bender), East Asian Languages and Literatures

Janet Parrott, Theatre

Bradley Peterson, Astronomy

Greg Rose, Marion Campus

Jennifer Schlueter, Theatre

Mark Shanda, ASC Admin

Debbie Smith-Shank**,** Arts Administration, Education & Policy

David L Stetson, EEOB & CLSE

Carmen Taleghani-Nikazm, Germanic Languages and Literatures

Meagan Toohey, ASC Honors

Piers Turner, Philosophy

Harold Vaessin, Molecular Genetics

Kevin van Bladel, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

Bernadette Vankeerbergen, ASCCAS

Mollie Workman, History of Art