

Summary of the meeting of the Uptown/Branch restructuring committee.
March 12, 2009

Jeff Bauer is the new person from Clermont who replaces Linda Long.

The 2 agenda items were becoming specific about the programs and faculty at RWC and Clermont that are part of the restructuring and a report about how faculty-faculty discussions are going.

PROGRAMS

Langmeyer came with a print out of all degree programs offered at RWC, Clermont and McMicken College from the e-review. Don from RWC brought an organizational chart, a description of the academic structure (what departments exist with names) and a breakout of departments with disciplines. Several departments look like disciplines. Most departments have multiple disciplines within them. Some departments have no easily identified disciplines (focused on job/careers).

Don will add the number of bargaining unit/tenure track, non-tenure track but full time and part time for each discipline and department. Jim will make up similar tables for Clermont.

The E-review degrees were identifiable as career oriented 2 year terminal degrees that may or may not have good pathways to a bachelors and both liberal arts and business AA programs that are pathways to bachelors programs. RWC's 2 year terminals seem largely health oriented. Clermont's 2 year terminals seem more business and a few education oriented.

There may be implications for structures/restructures around whether programs are designed as vocational or bachelors. Terminal AA programs perhaps need not be targets of splitting up or disciplinary mergers.

Valerie had accumulated reports from about 6-7 departments that have already started talking but her summary did not get passed around yet. She said things seem to be going well and showing some differences between programs. She is also chair of the CAS/COE subcommittee and reported that most humanity social science people at CAS seem interested to anxious to be brought into A&S disciplines.

We spent a bit of time talking about Business and Clermont. Clermont has a bunch of terminal business programs and also a group of pre-business transfers. We imagined a variety of structures that would allow the pre-business to be a pathway to COB as it probably is now. COB accreditation should not be a problem. Perhaps COB and Clermont business may need assistance in their discussions but they need to have discussions.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

John and Janice produced a 1 page summary of what is if not unique, at least special about the branches that we do not want to lose in the restructuring. How much merging (whether RWC and Clermont is just another space/place) needs careful consideration. What is mostly needed is a common curriculum. Somewhat separate and idiosyncratic cultures may be a good thing. There will be differences in class sizes if for no other reason that there are no very large classrooms in the branches for instance. They both have governance structures, teaching/learning support, etc.

Even if no formal merger of disciplines having branch faculty have the ability and encouragement to be researchers and teach upper division courses and perhaps be part of graduate education could allow for an edge in recruitment

Merging workloads, RPT, equity in salaries, interacting with community, finding space, ordering classes/courses, recruiting students, administrative structures, finances, quite a bit to try to get right.

The next meeting will be Thursday March 19th, 2009 at 7:30am in room 220 Van Wormer.