

CUPP Report
October 10, 2019

CUPP has met three times since the September 18 Faculty Meeting. CUPP meets Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:30pm.

Since the most recent faculty meeting, the Council has met with representatives from the Presidential Search Committee (Abigail Kerr and Committee Chair Tom Lawrence) to discuss the presidential search process and to communicate the Council's sense to the search committee of the perceived benefits and drawbacks of open, closed, and hybrid searches (searches in which the final candidates meet a group of campus constituents beyond the search committee, but are not publicly announced or made available to meet with all campus constituents). It is the Council's understanding that the Presidential Search Committee is moving forward with a hybrid search model with the hope that the final stage will be open if the finalist candidates are amenable to it.

In the past three weeks, the Council's most urgent work has concerned the Academic Program Review that has been mandated by the Board of Trustees. The Council received draft documents outlining a review process on September 25, at which time, Provost Mark Brodl, Associate Provost Lynda Duke, and Associate Dean Kevin Sullivan met with the Council to discuss the documents. The documents and the review process they outlined were modeled on a process used by McDaniel College. The documents included an overview and timeline, a list of data sets to be used, a document soliciting qualitative and contextualizing information from chairs and directors, a rubric that the review committee would use to assess programs, a list of opportunities for programs and individuals to consider, and a final form that the review committee would complete regarding its final recommendations for each program. At the close of the process, every academic program will be given a recommendation of inactivate, merge/transform, leave as is, or invest/grow.

Since receiving the documents, CUPP has worked with Curriculum Council to provide feedback on the documents to Academic Affairs. With CC, CUPP has recommended that the Academic Review Task Force be comprised of three members of CC and three members of CUPP, and that the recommendations of the ARTF be reviewed by CUPP and then brought before the faculty in accordance with existing *Faculty Handbook* procedures. CUPP and CC have worked to provide specific revisions to the documents so that they better reflect the IWU context and are clearer, simpler, consistent, and more objective. At the time this report was written, those revisions were scheduled to be communicated to Academic Affairs on Friday, October 11. Once Academic Affairs has reviewed these suggestions, a revised version of the documents will be sent to Chairs and Directors for suggestions and questions. After a subsequent revision, the documents will be sent to the faculty for further feedback.

In addition to this work on Academic Program Review, CUPP has solicited nominations for faculty members to serve on the Associate Provost Search Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Robey,
CUPP Chair 2019-2020