2/2/2022 MSW Curriculum Committee Meeting Agenda

Attendance of the Meeting:

* Jennifer Becker
* Lixia Zhang
* David Kilmnick
* Matthew Vasquez
* Rebecca Dickinson
* Sei-Young Lee
* Cindy Juby
* Libby Fry
* Ashley Rasmussen

1) Update on faculty search.

1. Currently in the process of scheduling zoom interviews. First one is today, more scheduled for the remainder of the week.
2. Will update as things are progressing. Hoping to have all of them done by next week.
3. Goal is to have something done at the end of February/Beginning of March
4. Application is still open.

2) Update on video project.

1. Distance education is partnering and helping to fund this project
2. Needs to be buy-in to do it. Unsure of the specific amount yet, but talk is to sit down with a production company and discuss what the approximate cost would be at this time.
3. Question was asked if this was something that we wanted to do. Majority of the attendees were interested in the project.
4. Have we ever considered using the interactive digital department? Is there another department internally being used?
   1. We can use the internal department as long as an assignment lands within the classes that are being taught at that time.
   2. If we want something specific for our department it has to come from an external source.
5. Suggestions to start with introducing programs in the in-person classes and at other universities? Outreach still needs to be done so that other students at other universities need to know what we have.
   1. Attempt is to educate the students to let them know what is there.
6. Make video as broad as possible, due to potential curriculum changes.

2) DHS Grant Incentive funds.

1. Still waiting on actual dollar amounts.
2. As an incentive for holding the grant for so long, we get additional funding to support the department.
   1. Money can be used to support expenses related to research, faculty searches, etc.
3. We are currently in the process of trying to get an idea of what is there and available for funding.
   1. If you are looking for funding from special projects, try to look and see if we can use this funding first.
4. Dr. Vasquez or Ashley will work with the programs to ensure that these funds are expendable for the various projects that could potentially use these funds.
5. Incentive Funds requirements will be sent to faculty within the department.

3) Logic model content in foundation MSW curriculum.

1. Jennifer Becker discussed this section.
2. Requirement currently is that the assignment for seminars include a presentation on the agencies and the theory of change within the agencies.
3. We just want to make sure that if we have that as a requirement that it is being taught in their foundation Community and Organizations class.
   1. David Kilmnick confirmed that this was being taught in this class.
4. Suggestions on keeping this as an assignment or changing it:
   1. Suggestion made that students and faculty need to understand the concept.
5. Jennifer Becker will send the assignment to Dr. Kilmnick to examine the changes to these assignments.

4) Outstanding Graduate Research Paper award – Grading in Spring.

1. Jennifer Becker discussed this topic.
2. Award goes to an MSW Student who is chosen for this award.
3. We have moved this class to the Spring, the question arises of whether we are continuing the award and awarding it to alumni or we can do something else with the award.
   1. Make it a different MSW award, take the money to an outstanding student service award, etc.
4. Majority agreed that we can award the award to an alumni student.
5. The recipient of this award is also put forward for the overall graduate college research paper award.
6. Sei-Young will put forward 3 top papers to Dr. Cindy Juby for review for the award.

5) Admissions policy for transfer students.

1. Couple of requests after application deadlines to apply after the deadline by transfer students.
   1. Thought is to make it a rolling admissions process for the transfer students.
   2. Clear policy about how they will be reviewed and accepted into the program.
      1. Contact MSW Director directly with transcripts, director discusses with the student what the plan of study looks like, and talks with the potential transfer student about whether or not they are okay with the plan. Then they would do the official application for the graduate college.
      2. Question would be if we can have the meeting with the MSW Director count as the interview for admission to the graduate program.
   3. Another suggestion would be to leave the rolling application up to 3-4 weeks before the beginning of a semester and the student would begin at the next semester.
2. Feedback was given by other faculty members.
   1. Majority of the faculty members at the meeting were in agreement with the plan.
   2. Suggestion was to add another person or perspective to the interview process of this plan.

Important Dates:

April 11th – MSW Advanced Standing/Foundation Orientation (Zoom)