

Research, Scholarship, Creative Expression Council Meeting

March 4th, 2022

12:15-1:15

Present: Debbie Mohammed (co-chair), Tom Fallace, Kate Boschert, Jan Pinkston, David Williams, Andrey Kretinin, Babita Srivastava

Tom Fallace volunteered to take notes.

- I. Call to order. Motion by Fallace seconded by Boschert to approve minutes. Minutes approved.
- II. Motion by Fallace, seconded by Williams, to approve agenda. Agenda approved
- III. Provost Lincoln charged Council to respond to NSSE/FSSE report recommending that WPU adopt high impact practice of increasing faculty/student research
- IV. New Business- Recommendations to increase research/scholarship among undergraduates
 - a) Discussion of Introduction of Capstone. Kretinin said that his Analytics program already has a Capstone research project and that the students don't see the value of research. Fallace said that his Masters of Teaching (MAT) program also has a capstone research project, but that education accreditors and state credentialing agencies do not value student-research so the project is difficult to justify. Mohammed said that nurses do not need to do research and that science majors at WPU do it already. Consensus was that a Capstone did not make sense in the professional majors (nursing, education, business) but may make sense in the liberal arts and sciences. Need to discuss again when the representatives from those colleges are present.
 - b) Publication of research in an online format by the library. Williams said that some professors already publish with students. Kretinin said that his Analytics program has (had?) a requirement that students submit their paper to a regional conference or publication. Consensus was that student-faculty collaborative research that was already taking place needed to be hi-lighted more.
 - c) Explorations- Best research project by College/Department. Pinkston suggested that the best *Explorations* student paper/presentation in each college be awarded. Kretinin stated that the earliest a student would be prepared to do a research project would be the 3rd year. Boschert suggested that graduate students present their research to undergraduates as inspiration. Fallace mentioned that independent studies, research assistantships, Fulbright-Hayes grants, had already been employed towards student research. Kretinin suggests that students be surveyed for interest in engaging in research. Fallace said that WPU student interest was irrelevant because NSSE had already identified student research as a high impact practice. Fallace suggested that a UCC Area be created/added in student research. Pinkston shared that a pilot study for Honor students was being tried including a 1-credit research project. Perhaps this opportunity could be expanded?

The Council agreed to make two recommendations:

1. Follow up on the Honors' student research pilot program and determine whether this could be expanded to more or all WPU students

2. Explore the possibility of adding/expanding UCC to include student research
- V. Next meeting: Friday, April 1, at noon.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Fallace