

Vitalization Work Group 8
Meeting Minutes 1/30/17, 2:00pm
2116 Blair Hall

Members present: Jeff-Stowell (Chair), Nora Small, Britto Nathan, Renee Kidd-Marshall, Kimberly Kuspa, Samantha Boomgarden, Kelly Miller, Amy Rosenstein, Peter Liu, and Ryan Hendrickson

Dr. Stowell brought the meeting to order and announced that two visitors would be attending and presenting at the meeting.

Dr. Stowell introduced the first presenter, Dr. Linda Simpson, from Family Consumer Science who was attending in order to talk about financial literacy. She wanted to add to the discussion about financial literacy from the previous meeting.

Packets of information about the financial literacy courses and experiences currently available through family consumer science and the LIFE center were given to each person in attendance. This packet included information about Curriculum launched in fall of 2016 (see handout).

Dr. Simpson presented information about a the Concentration (that currently has 2 students) in the Department of Family Consumer Science and the Minor, also in Family Consumer Science, that is available for anyone in the university to complete. Dr. Simpson noted that there is a concentrations and a minor currently available as a part of their program, but marketing needs to be put in place so people know about it. Dr. Simpson felt these 2 options aligned with workgroup 8# objectives.

Dr. Kidd-Marshall said she saw possible connections to health economics and life span development. She said over time it could be seen as a signature program to increase enrollment.

Dr. Stowell shifted the conversation to the second presenter, Dr. Kathlene Shank

Dr. Shank told the group she was present to discuss the fully on-line Master's in Special Education program (see handouts). She discussed the process for how the face-to-face program had progressed and would begin as a fully on-line program in Fall 2017. She discussed the current status of courses and gave a handout on Learning Behavior Specialist II . She discussed the need for this degree program and the current limitations for those seeking this degree in the state. There is currently no fully on-line master's degree in special education program offered in the state. Of the master's degree programs offered in a traditional format only 4 offer one of the options our program offers (EIU is one of 4 schools that offers a Director of Special Education endorsement). Enrollment has a good base. Prospective needs and program needs across the state make it a high needs area. SPE has to create the program list and get them approved through executive action.

Workgroup agreed to add this to recommended new programs.

Dr. Stowell turned the meeting back to financial literacy offered through other avenues at EIU. Dr. Simpson presented information on the LIFE Center. The LIFE center began as a project received an initial grant of support (\$40,000 over 3 years) and since then it has also received \$50,000 donations. The original grant ended in 2016 so the new donation is being used.

Dr. Simpson highlighted some information about the LIFE Center. She noted it encourages financial responsibility, participates in research activities such as the 2015 National Council of Graduate Studies (survey of evaluation included in handouts), and offers opportunity for participation in and presentations at the National Council on Graduate Studies/tiaa cref conferences. She noted an award she received for the LIFE center. She stated that it was now involved in study with the Ohio State University.

The workgroup asked what action Dr. Simpson would like the workgroup to take and she responded that she felt the workgroup could consider the discussion when making recommendations for any of the areas relative to signature programs, new programs, or micro-degrees.

Dr. Stowell then turned the conversation to workgroup activities in progress. He relayed information from campus members who had responded to the workgroups request for feedback on our draft report and suggestions to be considered.

Jennifer Smith communicated via email that she was excited about OT fields, sports media relations minor, and financial literacy. Eric Davidson communicated his thoughts on health promotion and other minors including construction management and engineering technology. As a student and parent of an EIU student, he is interested in skills related to Microsoft excel and core programming skills. Mr. Davidson is in finance and technology.

Dr. Nathan extended the conversation to add that there are deficits we need to fill. Dr. Liu noted programs (management information systems in the school of business) and new programs (computer and information technology in the school of technology) that are available. If more specific programing is needed, then students can major in computer science. In the discipline, there are programs evolving that include financial engineering. It has a tech focus on data analysis and is most commonly used for banking.

Currently, the Curriculum Committee in Lumpkin is calling it a minor in business innovations and combines simple excel with more sophisticated data mining. – look for agenda for college committee agenda.

A decision was made by the workgroup to hold the town hall meeting using a round table discussion format. This will take place on Feb 2nd 3:30-4:30 grand ballroom (3-5). Dr. Rosenstein will recruit students from her collaborative consultation class to facilitate the table discussions.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15pm.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Amy Rosenstein